

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Corridor Designation
EIS Scoping Process
Public Meeting

Thursday, November 3, 2005
2:00 p.m.

Hilton Garden Inn
4000 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85012

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

driver *and* **nix**
COURT REPORTERS

COPY

Deborah L. Moreash, RPR
Certified Court Reporter #50294

365 E. CORONADO ROAD, SUITE 150
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85004
(602) 266-6525
FAX (602) 266-4303
1-800-488-DEPO(3376)
www.drivernix.com

1 Beck of Tucson Electric Power. When you do come up, please
2 be kind enough to give your name and affiliation and spell
3 it for our court reporter so that she can get it straight
4 in the transcript. AZ01

5 MR. ED BECK: Hi, my name is Ed Beck, E-D,
6 B-E-C-K, and I represent Tucson Electric Power Company. I
7 want to thank you for this opportunity to speak on the
8 corridor process and your EIS that you're developing.

9 First of all, we praise the efforts that the
10 federal departments are putting together to try and create
11 this programmatic agreement for corridors. And TEP fully
12 supports the process and have been a part of the process in
13 the west since the early '70s, starting with the Western
14 Utility Group efforts that created reports in '86, '92, and
15 then more recently there's been some efforts through the
16 BLM to kind of reevaluate those corridors and revalidate
17 them.

18 It's critical in the west due to the large
19 federal ownership that the federal agencies be a part of
20 the process, and it's very important relative to the long
21 distances between load and generation that corridors be
22 developed for use. We would like to offer several
23 suggestions and recommendations for this process.

24 First of all, corridors should be designated on
25 a regional network basis and incorporate the input of the

1 various regional planning groups that are developing plans
2 in particular for the electric energy industry. The
3 starting point for the process should also be the Western
4 Utility Group efforts of the past. There has been some
5 good documentation and good reports written with
6 information on what a corridor should be and how it should
7 be developed and, in fact, various corridors have been
8 identified on maps, which I believe are already on some of
9 your maps that are outside this room.

10 All land use plans should incorporate the
11 designated corridors. Whatever comes out of this effort,
12 the next step, the next level of effort needs to be
13 incorporating the results in all of the local
14 jurisdictional planning processes, whether they be the
15 zoning codes for cities or counties or the state siting
16 agencies that get involved. All parties need to be aware
17 of the corridors and keep them alive going forward. That's
18 been one of the problems we've seen in the past, was with
19 the Western Utility Group efforts, the corridors were
20 developed and then the process got dropped and they were
21 lost as we moved forward.

22 One other comment relative to the corridor
23 width. TEP supports the concepts that were laid out in the
24 Western Regional Corridor Study that identified a width of
25 two miles to up to five miles, depending on whether there

1 were existing facilities or no existing facilities. In the
2 case where no existing facilities were present, the Western
3 Utility Group had kind of proposed a five-mile-wide
4 corridor be used; if there were existing facilities, it
5 could drop down to two miles. And the width is critical
6 for the flexibility required when a specific project is
7 actually identified and moved forward in the process. This
8 process should end up clearly delineating what procedures
9 will be required for use of designated corridors. When a
10 utility needs to use a corridor going forward, it needs to
11 be clear what they need to do for the next steps and what
12 the streamlined process will be.

13 And lastly, I would like to suggest that
14 whatever process, as you go through your process here, that
15 some input be from the NEPA Congressional Task Force that
16 has been developed and is reviewing NEPA issues because I
17 think, through some of those comments received in that
18 process, they can help you move your process forward in a
19 workable fashion.

20 Again, I would like to thank you for this
21 chance to speak and we will be submitting written comments
22 and actual corridor proposals by the end of the month.

23 DR. PELL: Very good. Thank you, Mr. Beck,
24 appreciate your thoughts and certainly enter them into the
25 record and consider them. I'm especially interested in

1 hearing suggestions on corridor width because this is one
2 of the issues we will have to address and has been raised
by others. So whatever rationale you care to bring on the
subject, whatever light you can shed with a reason for why
5 a certain corridor width should be taken will assist us
6 tremendously.

I was remiss in starting with Mr. Beck without
8 first asking whether there were in fact anybody here from
the elected governments, federal, state, or local, that
10 wishes to speak. Any elected officials? Any Indian tribal
11 officials or representatives that would like to speak this
12 afternoon? Okay. Thank you. We'll move on then to
13 Mr. Paul Herndon of the Arizona Public Service Company.

14 Welcome, Mr. Herndon.

AZ02

15 MR. PAUL HERNDON: Good afternoon. My name is
16 Paul Herndon, the spelling is H-E-R-N-D-0-N. I'm here
17 representing and on behalf of Arizona Public Service
18 Company, also known as APS. For the record, APS is a
19 subsidiary of Pinnacle West Capital Corporation. We're the
20 largest electric utility company in the state of Arizona,
21 serving over a million customers and 11 of the 15 counties
22 within the state.

23 We'd like to say that we appreciate the
24 opportunity to speak here today. We've got a number of
25 points that we would like to make and we'll try to be