

Meeting - November 2, 2005
West-Wide Energy Corridor Peis Public Scoping Meeting

WEST-WIDE ENERGY CORRIDOR
PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

COPY

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF MEETING

On Wednesday, November 2, 2005

At 2:03 p.m.

At Tuscany Suites Hotel

Las Vegas, Nevada

Reported by: Deborah Ann Hines, CCR #473, RPR

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1 has your name, first and last spelled properly.

2 KRIS HOHENSHELT: Good afternoon. My name
3 is Chris Hohenshelt. I'm the manager of Land and
4 Environment for Kern River Gas Transmission Company.

5 Kern River Gas Transmission Company owns and
6 operates 1,679 miles of interstate natural gas
7 pipeline through the states of Wyoming, Utah, Nevada
8 and California. Approximately 850 miles are located
9 on federally managed lands. Kern River transports a
10 design capacity of 1.7 billion cubic feet of natural
11 gas per day.

12 Kern River appreciates the opportunity to
13 participate in this important endeavor being
14 undertaken as mandated in the Energy Policy Act of
15 2005.

16 The study, hopefully resulting in the
17 establishment of better defined and expanded energy
18 corridors, is critical to the economy and well being
19 of the western United States.

20 I spoke in Salt Lake City, presented some
21 comments regarding some of the principles that we
22 would hope to be used in looking at corridors,
23 establishing corridors and I will not repeat those
24 comments today.

25 The proposed Programmatic Environmental

1 Impact Statement should assess corridors with
2 traditional multiple use principles and evaluate any
3 constraints or restrictions that could impede this
4 initiative. More specifically many corridors are
5 restricted by competing land use designations. Here
6 in the Las Vegas area there is a corridor that is
7 used for electric transmission through the Sunrise
8 Mountain Instant Study Area. This area supposedly
9 has the same protections as a Wilderness Study Area,
10 but through congressional actions electric
11 transmission has been allowed through the Sunrise
12 Mountain Instant Study Area. This corridor can only
13 accommodate what congress has specifically allowed.
14 This position has been affirmed by the Department of
15 Interior's Solicitor through correspondence with the
16 Bureau of Land Management and Kern River.

17 The Programmatic EIS should specifically
18 address this situation and hopefully through ultimate
19 approval of the corridor PEIS, specific congressional
20 action will no longer be necessary. Kern River
21 supports the actions the Bureau of Land Management
22 has taken to date. The BLM, through its Resource
23 Management Plan, EIS and Record of Decision
24 identified the need for a corridor through the
25 Sunrise Mountain Instant Study Area and recommended

1 it to be utilized as a multiple use corridor.

2 However the BLM also recognizes that congressional
3 action is necessary before its resource management
4 plan proposal can be implemented.

5 It is essential that a multiple use corridor
6 be established in this area for energy transportation
7 through the Las Vegas metropolitan area. Kern River
8 supplies approximately 75 percent of the natural
9 consumed in the Las Vegas area and nearly 25 percent
10 of the natural gas that enters the state of
11 California, and that's through its existing pipeline
12 system. Expansion of energy transportation systems
13 to meet the growing natural gas demands in these
14 areas becomes more difficult without the
15 establishment of effective corridors. The opening of
16 the Sunrise Mountain corridor will allow growth and
17 supply of Rocky Mountain natural gas as well as other
18 energy sources to Las Vegas and California.

19 As we all know, the Las Vegas Valley is
20 rapidly being developed to the point that placement
21 of interstate energy transmission systems is a
22 challenging proposition. Kern River has studied
23 numerous corridor scenarios in this area and has
24 concluded that city infrastructure and the Red Rock
25 National Conservation Area to the west are

1 constraints that must be overcome if a corridor is
2 not developed to the east of Las Vegas in the area of
3 the Sunrise Mountain Instant Study Area.

4 In closing, Kern River supports your efforts
5 in studying and hopefully establishing effective
6 energy corridors in the west and would specifically
7 urge you to address the Sunrise Mountain corridor
8 issue.

9 JERRY PELL: Thank you very much.

10 KRIS HOHENSHELT: Thank you.

11 JERRY PELL: I appreciate your remarks.
12 We'll certainly consider them. And I also want to
13 thank you for giving us a written copy of your
14 remarks. And if there are any additional remarks you
15 care to submit in writing, we'd certainly appreciate
16 that.

17 KRIS HOHENSHELT: Kern River will submit
18 formal copies.

19 JERRY PELL: Thank you. I'd now like to
20 call on our second preregistered speaker, Pat Arons
21 of Southern California Edison. And, Ms. Arons, I'd
22 like to ask you, I had as a preregistrant Nat Nguyen.
23 Are you replacing Nat Nguyen this afternoon?

24 PATRICIA ARONS: Yes, I am.

25 JERRY PELL: Okay. Thank you. Miss Arons,

Kris R. Hohenshelt
Kern River Gas Transmission Company
Scoping Comments
Salt Lake City October 26, 2005

Good Afternoon, My name is Kris Hohenshelt I am the manager of Land & Environment for Kern River Gas Transmission Company.

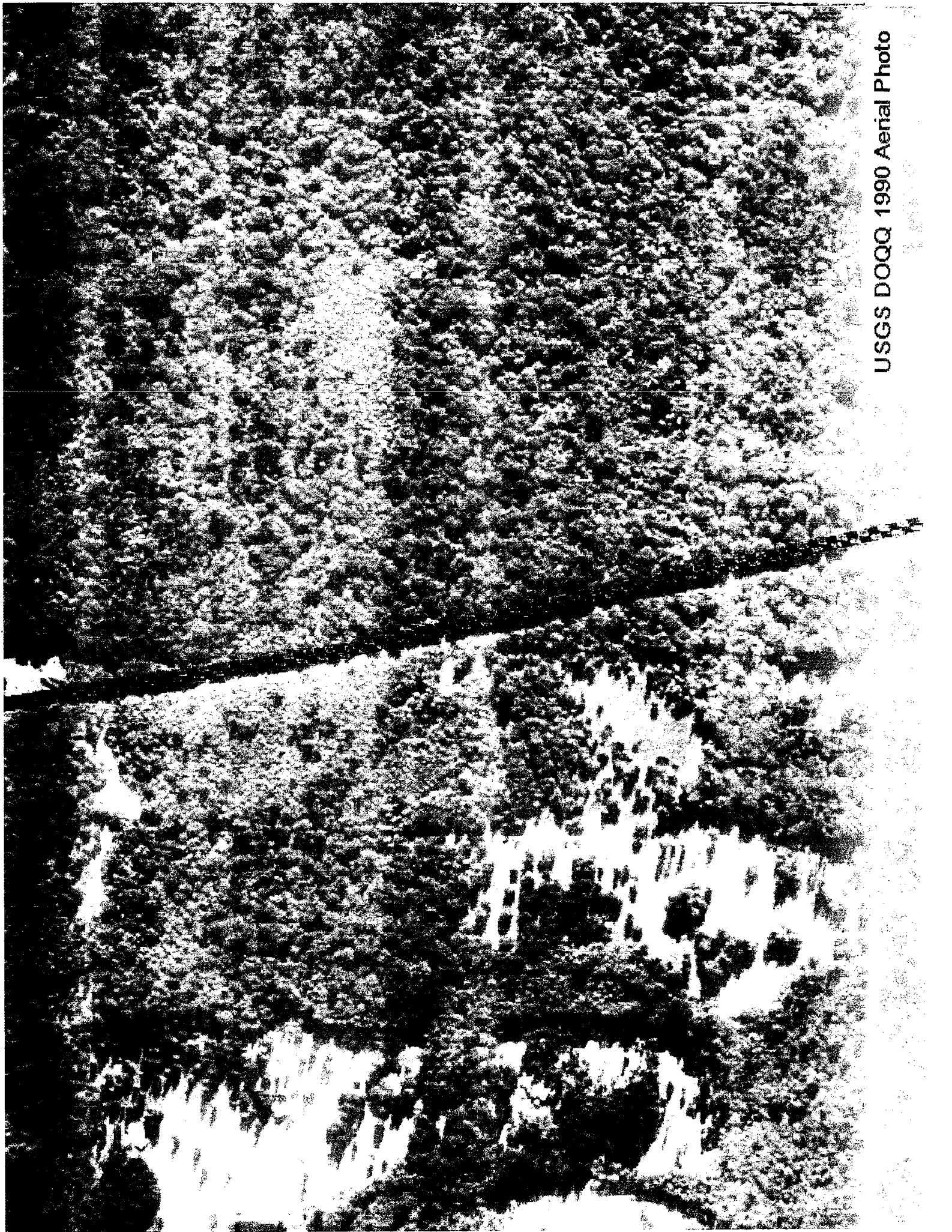
Kern River Gas Transmission Company owns and operates 1,679 miles of interstate natural gas pipeline through the states of Wyoming, Utah, Nevada and California. Approximately 850 miles are located on federally managed lands. Kern River transports a design capacity of 1.7 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas.

Kern River appreciates the opportunity to participate in this important endeavor being undertaken as mandated in the Energy Policy Act.

The study, hopefully resulting in the establishment of better defined and expanded energy corridors, is critical to the economy and well being of the western United States.

The proposed Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement should assess corridors with traditional multiple use principles – corridors that will accommodate not only electric transmission lines, but pipelines and other energy infrastructures as well. Corridors should also be established to accommodate not only multiple uses but also multiple numbers of facilities.

Some energy corridors have been established through land use planning documents on federal lands for years, but an intrinsic flaw in the process excludes corridor establishment on private, state and local lands. The Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement should address the establishment of contiguous corridors on a regional basis taking into account lands that are not federally managed. City and County governments must be involved and become firm stakeholders in the process. All too often energy interests are directed and counseled to utilize established corridors to then realize the fate that eventually the corridor does not exist when federal land interfaces with state, local and private urban development.



USGS DOQQ 1990 Aerial Photo

NGA 2002 Aerial Photo

