

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

Page 1

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

1 have. Of course I like the fact that you have
2 somebody that talks about designating a corridor.
3 And through the Ely area there's a lot of mines, a
4 lot of caves, a lot of state parks. And I think
5 hopefully you've taken those into consideration when
6 you're doing that.

7 Also Sunrise Mountain was an old dumpsite,
8 and hopefully you know that. But I think that the
9 corridor is needed and that we need to proceed with
10 it as quickly as possible because the growth in the
11 area has been so tremendous.

12 But I thank you for having the comment
13 period. Thank you.

14 JERRY PELL: Thank you.

15 Who else would like to join us this
16 afternoon with some remarks? This is your chance to
17 be heard, folks. We came a long way, some of us from
18 D.C. to be with you so don't hesitate to please, as
19 this gentleman is doing, take advantage of the
20 opportunity. NV05

21 JUAN PALMA: For the record my name is Juan
22 Palma, spelled J-u-a-n, P-a-l-m-a. I am the field
23 manager for the Las Vegas field office here in Las
24 Vegas.

25 JERRY PELL: I'm sorry, the field office of?

1 JUAN PALMA: Field office manager for the
2 BLM here in Las Vegas.

3 JERRY PELL: Thank you.

4 JUAN PALMA: I was supposed to be here
5 earlier but the traffic was a little terrible. Just
6 when I thought I was going to be on time, I got cut
7 off in traffic. But welcome to Las Vegas. Welcome
8 to this part of the country.

9 A couple of comments that I'd like to make
10 on the conversation thus far is we consider this
11 corridor and right-of-way is a tremendous workload
12 for us in Las Vegas. We have literally hundreds and
13 hundreds of right-of-ways. Right now on deck we have
14 about 1300 right-of-ways of different sizes, maybe
15 not as big as what we're talking about here for Las
16 Vegas.

17 We have tremendous workload in our BLM field
18 office when it comes to RPP leases, which is called
19 recreation public purposes leases. As we consider
20 the larger right-of-ways, the larger right-of-ways
21 that we're talking about here, I would like for the
22 group and the body to consider also our wilderness
23 areas to make sure that those corridors in the
24 wilderness areas are accounted for.

25 The second thing is what we in the BLM call

1 the areas of critical environmental concern, or ACECs
2 for short. You probably ought to consider where
3 those things may be. We have those ACECs, and
4 especially on the Sunrise Mountain area and other
5 parts of the BLM. So we probably ought to consider
6 some of those areas as well as we're looking at the
7 map and looking at the corridors.

8 Those are some of the comments I have. Our
9 recreation areas, we, the BLM, serve a broad spectrum
10 of public. And one of those public that we serve is
11 our recreationists out there. BLM is continuing to
12 expand our recreation programs. Whatever we do in
13 terms of corridors, I think we need to account for
14 the services that we provide to our recreationists
15 out there on the BLM lands, especially a lot of our
16 recreationists use the right-of-ways. They actually
17 use the roads under the power lines for their
18 recreation activities. So keep that in mind as well.

19 We continue to expand the city, especially
20 Las Vegas. As the city continues to expand, then we
21 continue to encroach on some of the recreational
22 sites that many people have used for years. Perhaps
23 we can marry up some of those right-of-ways with some
24 recreational activities. I think that would be a
25 good thing to have.

1 Always continue to look for ways that we can
2 provide recreational sites for our clients and
3 customers. So keep that in mind as you consider the
4 various widths of the right-of-ways, the various
5 locations of the right-of-ways, how can we marry
6 those recreational activities with those
7 right-of-ways. Those are a few of my comments and
8 thank you for listening.

9 JERRY PELL: Thank you for addressing us. I
10 would mention, by the way, that recreation is one of
11 the areas within the scope of the document.

12 I see some other people looking like they
13 are very interested in chatting with us. Would you
14 come up here and share your views, anybody? No
15 takers? Going once. Nobody? Going twice.

16 Okay. If you insist on keeping your remarks
17 secret, we will dismiss the court reporter, go off
18 the formal record and just engage in congenial
19 chitchat with you if you'd like to stay and talk with
20 us informally.

21 And Scott has just asked me to open it up to
22 questions, and he's more than willing to discuss Q
23 and A with you. And let's just do that right now.
24 So let me thank Debbie for helping us today with the
25 record, and the record will now close. Thank you.