

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Arizona State Office One North Central Avenue, Suite 800 Phoenix, Arizona 85004-4427 www.blm.gov/az/



In Reply Refer To: 2800 (9100) AZA 036819

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Scott Morgan, Director, State Clearinghouse Governor's Office of Planning and Research 1400 10th Street Sacramento, CA 95814

SEP 13 2019 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Dear Mr. Morgan:

Pursuant to Section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendments consistent with California Environmental Quality Act Section 15221 for the Ten West Link 500-kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project.

The Preferred Alternative identified in the Final EIS considers a 500-kilovolt (kV) transmission line traversing 125 miles, with 103.5 miles in Arizona and a 21.5-mile segment in California connecting the Delaney Substation near Tonopah, Arizona, with the Colorado River Substation southwest of Blythe, California. The project would increase transmission capacity by 3,200 megawatts and provide interconnection capability for new energy projects located near the proposed project. As proposed, the project would include transmission structures between 72 and 190 feet in height, new access roads, where necessary, and other associated infrastructure.

In accordance with the consistency requirements of 43 Code of Federal Regulations §1610.3-2, we are requesting your review of the Proposed Plan Amendments as analyzed in the Final EIS. The Final EIS documents are included with this letter and are also available on the project website at: https://go.usa.gov/xU6Be. Please identify any inconsistencies with officially approved and adopted resource related plans, policies or programs of State Government. If any inconsistencies are noted, please identify them and provide recommendations in writing to us within 60-days of your receipt of this letter. If no response is received by that date, BLM will presume the proposed plan amendment is consistent with State of California resource related plans, policies and programs.

In the Final EIS, the BLM carefully considered public and stakeholder comments and input from our Cooperating Agencies, including the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona State Land Department, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Public Utilities Commission,

Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Defense- Yuma Proving Ground, Fish and Wildlife Service, La Paz County, Arizona, Maricopa Associations of Governments, Bureau of Reclamation, Western Area Power Administration, and the Town of Quartzsite. We hope that this project will provide a framework for continued collaboration and cooperation with the State of California.

If you have any further questions regarding the project, please feel free to contact Lane Cowger, Project Manager at 602-417-9612 or lcowger@blm.gov.

Sincerely,

Raymond Suazo State Director

Enclosure