



Department of Energy

Western Area Power Administration

P.O. Box 11606

Salt Lake City, UT 84147-0606

SEP 16 1993

Dear Interested Party:

Western Area Power Administration (Western) is participating with Dine' Power Authority (DPA), an enterprise of the Navajo Nation, in planning for the proposed Navajo Transmission Project (NTP). DPA proposed construction of the NTP and invited Western to participate. As part of its participation, Western is the lead Federal agency for preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) and other environmental activities for the proposed project.

In August, Western and DPA conducted a series of public scoping meetings for the NTP EIS. Twelve meetings were held in Boulder City, Nevada, Kingman, Flagstaff, Diklon, Page, Tuba City, Kykotsmovi, Kayenta, Chinle, and Window Rock, Arizona, and Farmington and Shiprock, New Mexico. At the request of several individuals, an additional public scoping meeting was held in Cameron, Arizona. The scoping period ended on September 3.

During the scoping meetings, comments were received expressing concerns for forestry resources and traditional cultural properties, such as sacred places and herb gathering sites, in the Chuska Mountains. As a result of those comments, Western and DPA identified an alternative corridor link that would avoid the Chuska Mountains to the north and return to the corridor that parallels the Four Corners-Moenkopi-Eldorado 500-kilovolt (kV) transmission line across the Hopi Reservation.

In addition, the Navajo-Hopi Land Commission requested that another alternative corridor be considered that would avoid the Hopi Reservation. The reason for this request is the status of negotiations on a settlement of the land dispute between the two tribes. A new alternative corridor link has been identified that would follow Western's Glen Canyon-Shiprock 230-kV transmission line to just east of White Mesa, where it would turn southwest to a point approximately 5 to 7 miles north of Tonalea, Arizona, where it would turn west and join Western's two 345-kV lines just north of The Gap, Arizona. Both of the new proposed corridor links are illustrated on the enclosed map.

Western will conduct 4 public meetings along the two new proposed alternative corridor links. The dates, times, and locations of the meetings are as follows:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Rock Point Chapter House Rock Point, Arizona	October 4	7:00 p.m.
Many Farms Chapter House Many Farms, Arizona	October 5	7:00 p.m.
Inscription House Chapter House Inscription House, Arizona	October 6	7:00 p.m.
Tonalea Chapter House Tonalea, Arizona	October 7	7:00 p.m.

The meetings will provide the public an opportunity to learn about the proposed new alternative corridor links, ask questions, and provide input to the planning process. In addition to oral comments at the public scoping meetings, written comments on the alternative corridor links may be provided to Western until October 29, 1993.

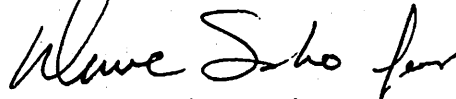
If you are interested in obtaining more information about the NTP, receiving future information, or wish to submit written comments, please call or write:

Michael G. Skougard
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Western Area Power Administration
P.O. Box 11606
Salt Lake City, UT 84147-0606
(801) 524-5493

Information regarding the background and description of the proposed project was included in the Fact Sheet accompanying an earlier letter. If you did not receive a Fact Sheet, please write or call.

Western appreciates your interest in the proposed project.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Skougard
Navajo Transmission Project
Environmental Manager

Enclosure