



California Energy Commission

***West-Wide Energy Corridor Programmatic
Environmental Impact Statement***

February 8 and 9, 2006

***James Bartridge, Transmission
Evaluation Program***



Overview

- ***2005 Energy Policy Act, Section 368***
- ***Federal Scoping Process***
- ***Energy Commission Outreach***
- ***Interagency Cooperation***
- ***Workshop Purpose***
- ***Next Steps***
- ***Draft Programmatic EIS***
- ***Contact Information***



Energy Policy Act of 2005

- ***Signed into law August 8, 2005***
- ***More information available from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) website:***

<http://www.ferc.gov/legal/maj-ord-reg/fed-sta/ene-pol-act.asp>



Energy Policy Act of 2005, Section 368

Section 368 (a) states:

“Not later than two years after enactment, Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Energy and Interior, in consultation with FERC, States, tribal or local units of government as appropriate, affected utility industries, and other interested persons, shall consult with each other and shall jointly designate corridors for oil, gas, and hydrogen pipelines and electricity transmission and distribution facilities on federal land in the eleven contiguous Western States, perform environmental reviews for such designations and incorporate the designated corridors into the relevant agency land use and resource management plans.”

-- FERC website



Energy Policy Act of 2005, Section 368

1. Mandated by Congress

(a) No Later Than August 8, 2007, complete Programmatic EIS for 11 Western States

(b) consult with FERC, States, tribes or local governments, affected utility industries, and other interested parties

2. Requires Agencies to

(a) designate corridors for oil, gas, and hydrogen pipelines, and electricity transmission and distribution facilities on Federal lands in 11 Western States

(b) perform any environmental reviews required to complete corridor designation

(c) incorporate designated corridors into relevant agency land use plans



Energy Policy Act of 2005, Section 368

3. Ongoing responsibilities

(a) ensure additional corridors on Federal lands are promptly identified and designated as necessary

(b) expedite applications to construct or modify facilities within such corridors, taking into account prior analyses and environmental reviews

4. Secretaries shall take into account the need for upgraded and new electricity transmission and distribution facilities to

(a) improve reliability; (b) relieve congestion; and

(c) enhance the capability of the national grid to deliver electricity.

5. A corridor designated ... shall, at a minimum, specify the centerline, width, and compatible uses of the corridor.



Federal Scoping Process

- ***Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare Programmatic EIS published September 28, 2005***
- ***Workshops in Sacramento November 1, 2005***
- ***Comment period ended November 28, 2005***
- ***Energy Commission requested extension of comment period and additional workshops, noting need for greater public involvement in process***
- ***California Resources Agency requested the Energy Commission act as a cooperating agency to coordinate California's input to the federal process***



Energy Commission Outreach

- ***Immediate notification of Programmatic EIS and impending federal scoping deadline:***
 - ***California's 478 cities and 58 counties***
 - ***48 independent and municipal utilities***
 - ***California Independent System Operator***
 - ***Department of Fish and Game***
 - ***Department of Forestry and Fire Protection***
 - ***Department of Parks and Recreation***
 - ***Department of Water Resources***
 - ***State Lands Commission***



Energy Commission Outreach

- ***Began extensive mapping of stakeholder identified corridor designation needs***
 - *Includes existing and future infrastructure*
- ***Energy Commission corridor website:***
<http://www.energy.ca.gov/corridor/index.html>
- ***Workshop notice posted January 25, 2006***
 - *Notified California's 478 cities and 58 counties*
 - *Notified 247 Native American Tribes/ interested parties*
 - *Electricity list, Energy Policy list, Natural Gas list, Renewables list, Transportation list*



Interagency Cooperation

- ***BLM and CEC have formed an interagency federal and state working group***
- ***Participating federal agencies***
 - ***US Forest Service National Park Service***
 - ***US Air Force US Marine Corps***
- ***Participating state agencies***
 - ***Fish and Game Parks and Recreation***
 - ***Public Utilities Commission***
 - ***State Lands Commission State Clearinghouse***
- ***Reviewing corridor proposals, existing infrastructure, land uses, environmental concerns, future energy needs, growth patterns***



Purpose of Workshop

- ***Provide local governments, utilities, energy developers, public interest groups, and members of the public an additional opportunity to provide input to the Programmatic EIS process***
- ***We need to hear from you about***
 - ***corridors proposed during the federal scoping period***
 - ***additional corridors or corridor alternatives***
 - ***renewable resource development areas requiring transmission***
 - ***environmental and land use issues of concern***
 - ***other issues that should be considered in the Programmatic EIS***
- ***Written comments due February 16, 2005***



Next Steps

- ***Interagency group meets in late February***
- ***Meets with DOE in early March***
 - ***Provide your comments and letters***
 - ***Provide interagency working group input***



Programmatic EIS

- *Draft expected in September or October 2006*
- *DOE and BLM are co-lead federal agencies*
 - *Forest Service is a cooperating agency*
 - *Energy Commission is a cooperating agency*
- *Contractor for PEIS is Argonne National Laboratory, Department of Energy*
- *Web page for PEIS is <http://corridoreis/anl.gov/>*



Programmatic EIS

“For purposes of preparing the PEIS, an energy corridor is defined as a parcel of land (often linear in character) that has been identified through the land use planning process as being a preferred location for existing and future utility rights-of-way (ROWs) and that is suitable for accommodating one or more ROWs that are similar, identical, or compatible. Energy corridors may accommodate multiple pipelines (such as those for oil, gas, or hydrogen), electricity transmission lines, and related infrastructure (such as access and maintenance roads, compressors, pumping stations, and other structures).”

Preliminary Scoping Report, January 2006



Contact Information

Duane Marti dmarti@ca.blm.gov

BLM, CA-930

2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-1834

Sacramento, CA 95825-1886

(916) 978-4675

James Bartridge jbartrid@energy.state.ca.us

CEC, MS-46

1516 Ninth Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 654-4169