

APPENDIX A

Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Record Checklist

DETERMINATION OF STAFF: (Choose one of the following abbreviated options for the left column)

NP = not present in the area impacted by the proposed or alternative actions

NI = present, but not affected to a degree that detailed analysis is required

PI = present with potential for significant impact analyzed in detail in the EA; or identified in a DNA as requiring further analysis

NC = (DNAs only) actions and impacts not changed from those disclosed in the existing NEPA documents cited in Section C of the DNA form.

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination*	Signature	Date
CRITICAL ELEMENTS				
PI	Air Quality	Dust emission levels within a localized area would likely increase during construction. Roads in the project area are subject to the development of dust pits when used heavily by large vehicles. Travel on these roads during construction and well after become difficult and sometimes dangerous. It is recommended that water be applied to the roads throughout the construction period to control the dust and maintain the integrity of the roads.	D. Corry	10/21/08
PI	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	There are two ACEC's affected by this proposed project: the Beaver Dam Mountain ACEC and the Lower Virgin River ACEC. The potential impacts are identical to those discussed in the Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Plant and Animal Species.	D. Kiel	10/22/08
PI	Cultural Resources	<p>The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for Dixie REA's proposed transmission line will require Class III inventory to identify historic properties in those areas that were not covered by prior field inventories completed in 1972 for the Navajo-McCullough Transmission Line (BLM Report No. 053-1) and in 1986 the 345KV Transmission Line (BLM Report No. U86BC-015bs). Sites documented by the prior inventories will also need to be revisited and site records updated. Inventory for the newly proposed range fence will need to be inventoried for cultural resources.</p> <p>Historic properties have been recorded along the proposed alignment during recent Class III inventories conducted for the Rio Virgin Fiber Optic Line ROW (Gourley 2008) in portions of the same alignment proposed for use by DERE. Construction related impacts from the DERE project on historic properties would be direct and adverse from the installation of poles, heavy equipment travel, and the construction of spur and access roads. In some instances, e.g., 42WS 479, this project and the prior Rio Virgin cable installation could cumulatively and adversely affect the same historic property. Treatment of adverse effects will be required, if project redesign does not result in avoidance of all direct and indirect effects to historic properties.</p>	G. McEwen D. Ferris-Rowley	10/22/08 10/28/08
NP/NI	Environmental Justice	The project proposal in Utah would not result in disproportionately high or adverse health or environmental	D. Ferris-Rowley	10/28/08

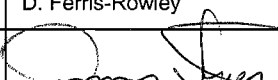
Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination*	Signature	Date
		impacts on low income or minority populations. The proposed route is within a developed utility corridor comprised of undeveloped public lands, generally remote from local communities and residential housing.		
NP	Farmlands (Prime or Unique)		D. Corry	10/21/08
NI	Floodplains	The proposed power line would span the Virgin River and its associated floodplain. It appears however, that very little if any disturbance would occur within the riparian system and its floodplain.	D. Corry	10/21/08
NI	Invasive, Non-native Species	The corridor passes near areas of known noxious weed infestations (Scotch thistle), which could easily become established on new disturbance. The applicant should be held accountable for control of any future infestations that may develop.	K Leany	10/27/08
NI	Native American Religious Concerns	Consultation would be conducted with the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, under the terms of the MOU signed in 1999 and other American Indian Tribes that claim affiliation to southwestern Utah. Should resources or concerns be identified, these would be addressed by project modifications or other appropriate measures developed during consultations. To date, no such concerns have been identified.	G. McEwen	10/28/08
PI	Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Plant Species	The following Threatened and Endangered plant species may be impacted from this project: Holmgren milkvetch (<i>Astragalus holmgreniorum</i>), and Dwarf bear-claw poppy (<i>Arctomecon humilis</i>). Anticipated impacts would be similar to past projects of similar magnitude (impacts will be identified once a detailed proposed action is completed).	R. Douglas	10/23/08
PI	Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Animal Species	The following Threatened and Endangered animal species may be impacted from this project: California condor (<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i>), Virgin River chub (<i>Gila seminuda</i>), Woundfin (<i>Plagopterus argentissimus</i>), and Desert tortoise (<i>Gopherus agassizii</i>). Anticipated impacts would be similar to past projects of similar magnitude (impacts will be identified once a detailed proposed action is completed).	R. Douglas	10/23/08
NP	Wastes (hazardous or solid)	No known issues	RSchreiner	10/27/08
NI	Water Quality (drinking/ground)	The proposed action is not expected to make long term changes in the water quality in the Virgin River. Some soil might be deposited in the river system as a result of the disturbance caused by the construction of the power line and fence. This impact, if it occurs, is expected to be minimal.	D. Corry	10/21/08
NI	Wetlands/Riparian Zones	See Floodplains and Water Quality Statements	D. Corry	10/21/08
NP	Wild and Scenic Rivers	There are no Wild and Scenic River segments classified as designated, eligible, or suitable within the project area. The section of the Virgin River, where the proposed project crosses it, was analyzed for possible inclusion as a WSR, but was rejected.	D. Kiel	10/22/08

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination*	Signature	Date
NI	Wilderness	The project comes within less than ¼ mile of the west boundary of the Beaver Dam Mountain Wilderness. During construction, the solitude of wilderness users may be affected, but these impacts and the number of users is expected to be negligible.	D. Kiel	10/22/08
OTHER RESOURCES / CONCERNS**				
NP	Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines		K Leany	10/27/08
PI	Livestock Grazing	The proposed project would pass through several grazing allotments. Livestock would likely be disturbed during the construction period. Reseeding efforts (if any) may be threatened by livestock grazing during the seedling establishment period. Long term impacts should be minimal. Fencing to restrict OHV's from the milkvetch habitat would also prevent livestock from accessing approx. 250 acres of the Curly Hollow Allotment. This would not require any adjustment in their current grazing permits. The livestock permittees have been consulted and would prefer no fence but agree that the proposed fencing and cattleguard are configured as well as possible.	K Leany	10/27/08
NP	Woodland / Forestry	Partially due to recent wildfires there is currently little, if any, woodland in the corridor	K Leany	10/27/08
PI	Vegetation	Disturbed areas above 3800 feet elevation should be seeded and covered with an approved BLM seed mix.	K Leany	10/27/08
PI	Special Status Plant Species other than FWS candidate or listed species	The following BLM State Sensitive plant species may be impacted from this project: Petalonyx (Petalonyx parryi), Virgin River thistle (Cirsium virginensis). Anticipated impacts would be similar to past projects of similar magnitude (impacts will be identified once a detailed proposed action is completed).	R. Douglas	10/23/08
PI	Fish and Wildlife Including Special Status Species other than FWS candidate or listed species e.g. Migratory birds.	The following Special Status Species (SSS) may occur in the project area: Ferruginous hawk (transient, fairly common), Northern goshawk (transient, uncommon), Big free-tailed bat (summer resident, rare) Fringed myotis (permanent resident, uncommon), Kit fox (permanent resident, uncommon), Spotted bat (permanent resident, rare), Townsend's big-eared bat (permanent resident, fairly common), Western red bat (permanent resident, extremely rare), Arizona toad (permanent resident, fairly common), Common chuckwalla (permanent resident, uncommon), Desert night lizard (permanent resident, uncommon), Gila monster (permanent resident, rare), Mojave rattlesnake (permanent resident, uncommon), Sidewinder (permanent resident, fairly common), Speckled rattlesnake (permanent resident, uncommon), Western banded gecko (permanent resident, uncommon), Western threadsnake (permanent resident, rare), and Zebra-tailed lizard (permanent resident, fairly common). Anticipated impacts would be similar to past projects of similar magnitude (impacts will be identified once a detailed proposed action is completed).	R. Douglas	10/23/08

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination*	Signature	Date
PI	Soils	The primarily soils as described in the Washington County Soil Survey along on the east side of the project area is considered "Badlands" and on the west side through Bull Dog Canyon is "Chilton gravelly loam". Badlands is considered a highly erosive soil with a high sediment potential especially during intense storm events. The Chilton gravelly loam is less erosive than the Badlands series with a medium runoff potential and a slight hazard for erosion. The proposed action would encumber approximately 166 acres of public land, however the exact amount of disturbance is expected to be much less than that. During construction it is likely some soil would be lost due to wind and water erosion. It is recommended that dust control measures be implemented as described in the Air Quality portion of this document and the disturbed sites be seeded.	D. Corry	10/21/08
PI	Recreation	There are two potential impacts to recreation. 1) The roads being used to access the construction corridor are part of the Tri-State ATV Jamboree which is held in mid-March every year. Steps should be taken so as not to disrupt this event. 2) The proposed access and spur roads need to be evaluated and a rationale provided by DERECA for each new proposed access road or spur road that it does not propose to reclaim. Those new access road and spur roads that are not reclaimed would result in indirect effects on adjacent public lands, encouraging the proliferation of new OHV user-created trails and routes. T	D. Kiel	10/27/08
PI	Visual Resources	The entire project area is classified as VRM Class III. The objective of Class III is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the landscape can be moderate. Most importantly, management activities may attract attention, but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Any construction should repeat the basic elements found in the natural landscape – form, line, color, & texture. It is not possible to offer a definitive analysis of the visual impacts of this project without additional data. The project proposal lists the pole structures as "composite," but a color is not stated. For transmission lines, color is the most important factor. Given the backdrop, a dark brown or dark green color would be preferable. A light color would not. Also, this project should have a visual contrast rating performed from at least two different Key Observation Points (one in Utah and one in Arizona). The contrast rating should be performed using BLM Form 8400-4.	D. Kiel	10/22/08
NP	Geology / Mineral Resources/Energy Production	No known issues	RSchreiner	10/27/08
NP	Paleontology	No known issues	RSchreiner	10/27/08
PI	Lands / Access	The power line placement would need to be to the north of the Navajo McCullough power line so that it does not encroach on the Beaver Dam Wilderness. Need to consult and coordinate with Nevada Power who manages the Navajo McCullough Power line. Need to consult and	K Abbott	10/28/2008

Det ermi- nation	Resource	Rationale for Determination*	Signature	Date
		coordinate with proposed project applicant Rio Virgin Telephone. The proposed line would be primarily located within a utility corridor designated in the RMP.		
NI	Fuels / Fire Management	The proposed action would not affect fire or fuel management in this area, as no wood poles would be used in the proposed transmission line	K Leany	1027/08
PI	Socio-economics	Project-specific socio-economic impacts will be disclosed in the EA	D. Ferris-Rowley	10/28/2008
NP	Wild Horses and Burros		K Leany	10/27/08
PI	Wilderness characteristics	Approximately 4.8 miles of the proposed transmission line is adjacent to (less than 1.4 mile) lands identified in the 1999 BLM Utah Wilderness Inventory as having wilderness characteristics. This section is immediately west of the Beaver Dam Mountain Wilderness Area. This same area was also identified by the Utah Wilderness Coalition (UWC) as having wilderness characteristics. In addition, at this same location, the UWC also identified the lands east of the proposed transmission line as having wilderness characteristics. This particular area is that strip of land between the existing transmission line and the Beaver Dam Mountains Wilderness Area. The UWC also identified those lands east and south of the existing transmission line from the Lower Virgin River ACEC, to a point 2.8 miles to the northwest across the Blakes Lambing Grounds as having wilderness characteristics. It should be noted that some of the recommendations of the UWC are not consistent with the BLM's own inventory in this area, but both should be identified in the EA.	D. Kiel	10/22/08

FINAL REVIEW:

Reviewer Title	Signature	Date	Comments
NEPA / Environmental Coordinator	D. Ferris-Rowley	10/28/08	
Authorized Officer		10/27/08	