

## Chapter 5.0 Consultation and Coordination

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### 5.1 Introduction

National Environmental Policy Act regulations provided by the Council on Environmental Quality require the involvement of agencies and the general public during the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements. This chapter documents coordination and consultation that has occurred with federal, state, and local agencies, Native Americans, and the public during scoping for the proposed project and in the preparation of the DEIS.

### 5.2 Public Scoping

Public scoping meetings for the White Pine Energy Station Project were held in Ely on August 23, 2004, and in Reno on August 24, 2004. Meeting objectives were to learn the concerns of individuals, organizations, and agencies regarding the proposed project and to allow interested parties to participate in developing a list of issues to be addressed in the EIS.

The meetings were publicized through newspaper advertisements and individual mailings. On August 13 and August 20, 2004, advertisements were published in the *Ely Times* and the *Reno Gazette-Journal*. Mailings were sent to 210 addresses. The meetings were conducted using an open-house format. At each meeting, WPEA, EIS contractor, and BLM representatives presented project information on display boards and handouts, and discussed concerns with individuals. The Ely meeting was attended by 42 individuals, and the Reno meeting was attended by 11 individuals.

Individuals, public agencies, and non-profit organizations submitted written comments to the BLM after the meetings. Thirty-five

letters were received. Most commentors expressed concerns regarding potential impacts of the proposed power plant on local resources and suggested questions that should be answered in the EIS. The number of comments provided in each resource category was as follows (from highest number of comments to lowest):

- Air quality (44 comments)
- Water development, use, and ground water impacts (41 comments)
- Wildlife, habitat, and ecological concerns (33 comments)
- Transmission (15 comments)
- Socioeconomics (13 comments)
- Visual resources (13 comments)
- Transportation, roads, and railroad (12 comments)
- Power need and recipients (10 comments)
- Proposed site and alternatives (10 comments)
- Energy efficiency, conservation, and alternative energy (7 comments)
- Waste and hazardous materials (9 comments)
- Power plant technology (6 comments)
- Noise (6 comments)
- Recreation (2 comments)
- Other (10 comments)

### 5.3 Coordination During DEIS Development

#### 5.3.1 General Consultation

The federal, state, and county agencies, and Native American Tribes listed below

were consulted during the preparation of the DEIS.

- Federal
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—Sacramento, California
  - Bureau of Indian Affairs—Elko, Nevada
  - Bureau of Land Management—Elko and Las Vegas Field Offices, Nevada
  - National Park Service—Great Basin National Park, Nevada
  - National Park Service—Intermountain Region, Denver, Colorado
  - National Park Service—National Trails System, Salt Lake City, Utah
  - Natural Resources Conservation Service—Elko, Nevada
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service—Reno, Nevada
  - U.S. Forest Service—Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada
  - U.S. Air Force, Hill Air Force Base, Utah
- State
  - Nevada Department of Wildlife
  - Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
  - Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
  - Nevada Division of Forestry
  - Nevada Division of State Lands
  - Nevada Division of State Parks

- Nevada Division of Water Resources
- Nevada Governor’s Office
- Nevada Public Utilities Commission
- Nevada Office of Historic Preservation
- County
  - White Pine County Commission
  - White Pine County Economic Diversification Council
- Native American Tribes
  - Duckwater Shoshone Tribe
  - Ely Shoshone Tribe

### ***5.3.2 Native American Consultation***

BLM representatives initiated formal and informal communication with Native American Tribal representatives in the project area to discuss the proposed White Pine Energy Station Project. This process has provided Tribes the opportunity to identify potential effects of the project on Native American interests. A Native American coordination meeting was conducted on December 8, 2004, in the BLM Ely Field Office with representatives from the Ely Shoshone Tribe, Duckwater Shoshone Tribe, WPEA, and the Ely Field Office. Project details were presented to the group by WPEA, followed by a discussion of issues and concerns.

After the December 2004 meeting, BLM Ely Field Office staff have remained in communication with the Tribes regarding the project. The most recent meeting with the Tribes was in July 2006. At this point in the project, no issues or concerns have been raised by the Tribes regarding any religious or traditional cultural properties.

## 5.4 Notice of Intent and List of Agencies, Organizations, and Persons to Whom Copies of the DEIS were Sent

### 5.4.1 Notice of Intent

The Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement was published in the Federal Register on August 6, 2004 (Volume 69, Number 151, pages 47954-47955). n

### 5.4.2 Distribution

Through the consultation and coordination process, interested parties were able to review and comment on the substantive issues presented in the DEIS. The DEIS was sent to, and comments requested from, members of the public and other individuals who attended public meetings. It also was sent to the entities listed below.

#### 5.4.2.1 Federal Government

Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Bureau of Land Management, Ely Field Office  
Bureau of Land Management, Nevada State Office  
National Park Service  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
U.S. Air Force  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
U.S. Department of Energy  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
U.S. Forest Service  
U.S. Geological Survey

#### 5.4.2.2 State Government

Nevada Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses  
Nevada Department of Agriculture

Nevada Department of Transportation  
Nevada Division of Budget and Planning  
Nevada Division of Energy  
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection  
Nevada Division of Livestock Identification  
Nevada Division of Minerals  
Nevada Division of State Lands  
Nevada Division of State Parks  
Nevada Division of Water Resources  
Nevada Department of Wildlife  
Nevada Grazing Advisory Board  
Nevada Legislative Committee on Public Lands  
Nevada Natural Heritage Program  
Nevada Office of the Governor  
Nevada Public Utilities Commission  
Nevada State Clearinghouse  
Nevada State Historic Preservation Office  
Nevada Wildlife Commission

#### 5.4.2.3 Local Governments

Baker Area Citizen Advisory Board  
City of Cherry Creek  
City of Ely  
White Pine Conservation District  
White Pine County Chamber of Commerce  
White Pine County Commission  
White Pine County Economic Diversification Council  
White Pine County Extension Service  
White Pine County Public Land Users Advisory Committee  
White Pine County Road Department  
White Pine County Schools  
White Pine County Wildlife Advisory Board

#### 5.4.2.4 Tribal Governments

Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation  
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe  
Ely Shoshone Tribe  
Kanosh Band of Paiutes  
Moapa Band of Paiutes  
Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah

South Fork Band Council, Te-Moak Tribe  
of Western Shoshone  
Wells Band Council of Western Shoshone  
Yomba Shoshone Tribe

#### 5.4.2.5 Other Organizations

American Horse Protection Association  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Clean Air Coalition  
Committee for Idaho's High Desert  
Friends of Nevada Wilderness  
Friends of the Nevada Northern Railway  
Idaho Power Company  
International Society for the Protection of  
Mustangs and Burros  
Mount Wheeler Power, Inc.  
National Mustang Association  
National Wild Horse Association  
Nevada Farm Bureau Federation  
Nevada Historical Society  
Nevada Wilderness Project  
Nevada Wildlife Federation  
Quadra Mining Company  
Robinson Nevada Mining Company  
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation  
Sierra Club  
Sierra Pacific Power Company  
Southern Nevada Water Authority  
The Nature Conservancy  
Western Watersheds Project  
White Pine Historical Society  
Wild Horse Organized Assistance  
Wild Horse Preservation League  
Wild Horse Wilderness and Wildlife  
Wilderness Society  
Wildlife Society

#### 5.4.2.6 Government Officials

Nevada Governor Jim Gibbons  
John Ensign, U.S. Senate  
Jon Porter, U.S. House of Representatives  
Harry M. Reid, U.S. Senate  
Shelly Berkley, U.S. House of  
Representatives  
Dean Heller, U.S. House of  
Representatives

#### 5.4.3 Availability

Copies of the White Pine Energy Station  
Project DEIS were made available for public  
inspection at the BLM offices listed below.

Bureau of Land Management  
Ely Field Office  
702 North Industrial Way  
Ely, NV 89301-9408

Bureau of Land Management  
Elko Field Office  
3900 Idaho Street  
Elko, NV 89801

Bureau of Land Management  
Carson City Field Office  
5665 Morgan Mill Road  
Carson City, NV 89701

Bureau of Land Management  
Nevada State Office  
1340 Financial Boulevard  
Reno, NV 89502-7147

Bureau of Land Management  
Washington Office of Public Affairs  
18th and C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Copies of the White Pine Energy Station  
Project DEIS will be available for public  
inspection at the libraries listed below.

University of Nevada-Reno, Getchell  
Library, Government Publication Dept.  
Reno, NV 89507

Washoe County Library  
301 South Center Street  
Reno, NV 89501

White Pine County Library  
950 Campton Street  
Ely, NV 89301

#### 5.5 Public Meetings

Two public meetings were held to receive  
comments on the DEIS. Dates and

locations of these meetings, and the number of attendees, are as follows:

**Ely, Nevada (66 Attendees)**

Date: May 8, 2007  
Time: 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
Location: Bristlecone Convention Center  
150 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Ely, Nevada

**Reno, Nevada (34 Attendees)**

Date: May 9, 2007  
Time: 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
Location: Airport Plaza Hotel  
1981 Terminal Way  
Reno, Nevada

## 5.6 Public Comments on the DEIS

The public comment period opened with the announcement of the availability of the *Draft EIS for the White Pine Energy Project* in the Federal Register on April 20, 2007. Public comments on the *Draft EIS for the White Pine Energy Project* were accepted until June 19, 2007. Two public meetings were held in May 2007, as described in Section 5.5, *Public Meetings*, and were attended by 100 people. People asked questions and were able to submit comments during the meetings. The BLM also received correspondence containing comments on the DEIS during the comment period. Correspondence was received from four federal agencies, eight state or local agencies, eight interest groups, and 75 citizens. Table 5-1 lists the entities and individuals offering comments on the DEIS.

The comment letters were grouped into four categories: Federal, State and Local

Agencies, Groups and Organizations, and Individuals (see Appendixes R, S, T, and U, respectively). Each comment letter was assigned a reference number and reviewed. Each letter was closely reviewed to identify portions of text that addressed the DEIS content. Those text portions that did were delineated as a comment and designated with a number and a bar to the side. Responses to each comment were then prepared. The letters with comments delineated and responses to each are presented in Appendixes R, S, T, and U. The responses also indicate, if deemed appropriate, that changes or additions to the text of the FEIS have been made and where they can be found. All letters and their content (including those not designated as a comment on the DEIS) will be reviewed by the BLM and considered in their decision regarding this project and the federal action.

## 5.7 List of Preparers and Reviewers

An EIS Interdisciplinary Team was formed by the lead agency (the BLM) to provide guidance and direction for preparing the EIS. Table 5-2 lists the EIS Interdisciplinary Team members, their organization, and role.

An EIS Core Team was formed to review interim work products to EIS preparation, work through specific issues related to EIS preparation, and review the EIS. Table 5-3 lists the EIS Core Team members and their organization.

Table 5-4 lists the EIS Consultant Team members, and their organization and role, who were responsible for preparing this FEIS.

TABLE 5-1  
 Comment Letters on the Draft MFP Amendment/EIS

Reference Number	Source of Letter	
	Commenter	Agency
<b>Federal Agencies</b>		
F1	Nova Blazej, Manager	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
F2	Robert D. Williams	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
F3	John Bunyak	National Park Service, Air Resources Division
F4	Cindy Nielsen	National Park Service, Great Basin National Park
F5	Patricia N. Irwin	U.S. Forest Service
<b>State Agencies</b>		
S1	Rich Harvey	Nevada Division of Forestry
S2	Gosia Sylwestrzak	Nevada Department of Administration for Division of State Lands, Division of Water Resources, and State Historic Preservation Office
S3	Gosia Sylwestrzak	Nevada Department of Administration for Natural Heritage Program
S4	Rebecca L. Palmer	Nevada Department of Administration for State Historic Preservation Office
S5	Mike Anderson	Nevada Department of Administration for Division of Water Resources
S6	Steve Foree	Nevada Department of Wildlife
S7	Robert E. Wilson	University of Nevada
S8	Brent Eldridge	White Pine County Board of County Commissioners
S9	Brent Eldridge	White Pine County Board of County Commissioners
<b>Groups and Organizations</b>		
G1	Lisa Belenky	Center for Biological Diversity
G2	Charles Benjamin (Various commenters)	Conservation Organizations (Various organizations)
G3	Starla Lacy	Sierra Pacific Resources (Nevada Power Company, Sierra Pacific Power Company)
G4	Launce Rake	Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
G5	Dennis Ghiglieri	Sierra Club, Toiyabe Chapter
G6	David von Seggern	Sierra Club, Great Basin Group
G7	Howie Garber Kathy Van Dame	Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment Wasatch Clean Air Coalition
G8	Katie Fite	Western Watersheds Project

TABLE 5-1  
 Comment Letters on the Draft MFP Amendment/EIS

<b>Individuals</b>			
<b>Reference Number</b>	<b>Commenter</b>	<b>Reference Number</b>	<b>Commenter</b>
I1	Marlene Adrian	I2	Valeri Andersen
I3	James H. Bath/Donna M. Bath	I4	Hank Blair
I5	Elaine Carrick	I6	Steven E. Cobb
I7	Laurie Cruikshank	I8	Laurie Cruikshank
I9	Robin V. Davis	I10	Alana Dimmick
I11	Gordon V. Foppiano	I12	Form Letter A <sup>a</sup>
I13	Form Letter B <sup>b</sup>	I14	Neil Frakes
I15	Michael C. Hastie	I16	Mark Henderson
I17	John E. Hiatt	I18	Brendan Hughes
I19	Paul Johnson	I20	Curt Leet
I21	Sheila D. Lehman	I22	Elizabeth Lucas
I23	Stephen Marich	I24	Caroline McIntosh
I25	Daniel H. Morris	I26	Daniel H. Morris
I27	No Name	I28	No Name
I29	No Name	I30	No Name
I31	Robbin Palmer	I32	Candace M. Palmerston
I33	Norma J. Price	I34	Rita L. Ransom
I35	Erik B. Ryberg	I36	Mark Schaffer
I37	Sandra L. Schwab	I38	Steven Seftel
I39	Robert L. Servile	I40	Christine Shively
I41	Marjorie Sill	I42	Richard A. Spilsbury
I43	Richard A. Spilsbury	I44	Richard A. Spilsbury
I45	Richard A. Spilsbury	I46	Delaine Spilsbury
I47	Delaine Spilsbury	I48	Delaine Spilsbury
I49	Delaine Spilsbury	I50	Delaine Spilsbury
I51	Kenneth Stafford	I52	Nancy M. Swallow
I53	George Triano, Jr.	I54	Stuart Twitcher
I55	Jonathan R. Wall/Anne H. Wall	I56	Arlene Williams
I57	Holly M. Wilson		

<sup>a</sup> Form Letter A submitters: James P. Rainey, Delores Marques, Valerie Hume, Aaron Bougie, Maria Niesen, Nicholas Brunson, Thomas Tolbert, Charles F. Marques, Diana Goodyear, and Rodney G. Scherer.

<sup>b</sup> Form Letter B submitters: Demetri Mellos, Jerry Stanger, Matt Miller, Justin Joyner, Andrew L. Joyner, Leon Treants, Valerie Telleria, Kari Joyner, Kathy Del Toro, Thomas Brunson, Manuel Del Toro, Manuel A. Del Toro, Jessica Brady, Gordon Grant Smith, Terry E. Trujillo, Anita L. Treants, Julie Thompson, and Robert Horne.

TABLE 5-2

## EIS Interdisciplinary Team

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Team Member</b>	<b>Role</b>
Bureau of Land Management	Mike Baughman (Intertech Services)	EIS Coordinator
	Susan Baughman	Co-Project Lead/NEPA
	Jane Peterson	Energy Project Manager
	Doris Metcalf	Co-Project Lead/Lands
	Lisa Christensen	Air Quality
	Jared Bybee	Wild Horse Specialist
	Sue Caplan	Air Quality
	Jeff Brower	Hydrologist
	John Longinetti	Range, Livestock, and Noxious Weed Specialist
	Brad Pendley	Wildlife Biology Specialist
	Dan Netcher	Geologist/Environmental Protection Specialist
	Nathan Thomas	Archaeology Specialist
Bruce Winslow	Recreation, Wilderness, VRM Specialist	
Forest Service	Bud Rolotson	Air Quality
National Park Service	Liana Reilly	Air Quality
	John Notar	Air Quality
	Lee Kreutzer	National Trails System

TABLE 5-3

## EIS Core Team

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Team Member(s)</b>	
Bureau of Land Management	Jack Tribble Jeff Weeks Doris Metcalf Susan Baughman Sarah McCall	Rhonda Karges Mike Baughman Sheri Wysong Jane Peterson Susan Caplan
Nevada Department of Wildlife	Steve Foree	
National Park Service	Ben Roberts	
White Pine County	Karen Rajala Gary Perea	Laurie Carson
WPEA	Eric Crawford Dave Wilson	Luke Papez
CH2M HILL (Contractor)	Tom Haislip	
EDAW (Contractor)	Joan DeGraff	

TABLE 5-4  
EIS Consultant Team

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Team Member</b>	<b>Role</b>
CH2M HILL	Tom Haislip	EIS Project Manager
	Lynn Foster	EIS Preparation Task Lead
	Doug Huxley	Air Emissions Task Lead
	Frank Lewis	Water Resources Task Lead
	Gary Brown	Engineering Liaison
	Mark Greenig	Visual Resources Task Lead
	Wendy Haydon	Transportation Task Lead
	Wing Ko	Noise Task Lead
	Amy Lang	Hazardous and Solid Wastes Task Lead
	Eric Oden	Project Editor
EDAW	Joan DeGraff	EIS Assistant Project Manager and Cultural Resources Task Lead
	Mark Greenig	Visual Resources Task Lead
	Ron Tressler	Biological Resources Task Lead
	Steve Pavich	Socioeconomics Task Lead
	Bruce Meighan	Land Use Task Lead
	Drew Stoll	Recreation Task Lead
	Jennifer Chester	GIS Task Lead