

## 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 this 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 this 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. Subsequent to the meeting in December, 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. Another meeting with the Tribes is anticipated to coincide with the release of this DEIS to the public for review and comment. To

date, no issues or concerns have been raised by the Tribes regarding any religious or traditional cultural properties.

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

### ***5.4.1 Distribution***

Through the consultation and coordination process, interested parties can review and comment on the substantive issues presented in the DEIS. This 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.

#### **5.4.1.1 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

#### **5.4.1.2 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

#### **5.4.1.3 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

#### **5.4.1.4 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

#### 5.4.1.5 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

#### 5.4.1.6 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

#### 5.4.2 Availability

Copies of the White Pine Energy Station  
Project DEIS will be 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 will be held to receive comments on the DEIS. Dates and locations of these meetings are as follows:

- May 8, 2007, Ely, Nevada
- May 9, 2007, Reno, Nevada

## 5.6 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 5-1 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 5-2 lists the EIS Core Team members and their organization.

Table 5-3 lists the EIS Consultant Team members, and their organization and role, who were responsible for preparing this DEIS.

TABLE 5-1  
EIS Interdisciplinary Team

Organization	Team Member	Role
Bureau of Land Management	Mike Baughman (Intertech Services)	EIS Coordinator
	Susan Baughman	Co-Project Lead/NEPA
	Doris Metcalf	Co-Project Lead/Lands
	Jared Bybee	Wild Horse Specialist
	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
WPEA	Eric Crawford	Proponent
	Lawrence Willick	Proponent
	Robert Colozza	Proponent
CH2M HILL	Tom Haislip	EIS Project Manager
EDAW	Joan DeGraff	EIS Assistant Project Manager

TABLE 5-2

## EIS Core Team

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Team Member</b>
Bureau of Land Management	Jack Tribble Jeff Weeks Doris Metcalf Susan Baughman Sarah McCall Rhonda Karges Mike Baughman
Nevada Department of Wildlife	Steve Foree
National Park Service	Ben Roberts
White Pine County	Karen Rajala Gary Perea
WPEA	Eric Crawford Lawrence Willick Robert Colozza
CH2M HILL (Contractor)	Tom Haislip
EDAW (Contractor)	Joan DeGraff

TABLE 5-3

## 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
EDAW	Eric Oden	Project Editor
	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