



Bureau of Land Management **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

APS Proposed Sun Valley to Morgan 500/230kV Transmission Line Project and Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment EIS

Arizona Public Service Co. (APS) has filed an application for a right-of-way grant on public lands north of Phoenix, Arizona, to construct an aboveground electrical transmission system.

The line would consist of a single series of tower structures holding two high-voltage lines – a single-circuit 500 kV transmission line and a single-circuit 230 kV line. The line would span 38 miles and connect APS's planned Sun Valley Substation near the Town of Buckeye with the existing Morgan Substation near the City of Peoria. It is proposed to cross 9 miles of Federal lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in two separate locations.

The BLM is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) that evaluates the line's potential effects to economic, cultural, and natural resources. Federal law requires consideration of multiple alternatives, along with the applicant's Proposed Action and a No Action alternative. The law also requires the BLM to identify a preferred alternative.

In this case, the BLM's Preferred Alternative is a modified version of APS's Proposed Action. The proposal calls for running the line in a route designated by the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC), which is the state's authority for siting transmission lines. The BLM would incorporate minor route deviations to minimize impacts to visual and other sensitive resources. However, it is the BLM's intent that the transmission line would remain within the ACC-certificated route.

Under the Preferred Alternative, the BLM would approve a 200-foot-

wide right-of-way within the existing designated utility corridor northeast of the Sun Valley Substation. In addition, the BLM would amend its Bradshaw-Harquahala Resource Management Plan. Those amendments would:

- Designate a 200-foot-wide single-use utility corridor on public lands managed by the BLM north of State Route 74. This corridor is required for the Proposed Action.
- Designate a multi-use utility corridor on 1,013 acres of public lands managed by the BLM south of SR 74. This corridor would address BLM management considerations for new community needs.
- Change the existing Visual Resource Management (VRM) Class designations of 2,362 acres north of SR 74 and 1,013 acres south of SR 74 from Class III to Class IV to allow for the newly established utility corridors.

The Draft EIS was published on November 9, 2012, which initiated a 90-day comment period. All comments must be postmarked no later than **February 8, 2013**. Public hearings will be held to collect public input on the project in December 2012.

For more information:

Call the Proposed Project Information Line – 1-800-578-4133

E-mail – SunValley-Morgan@blm.gov

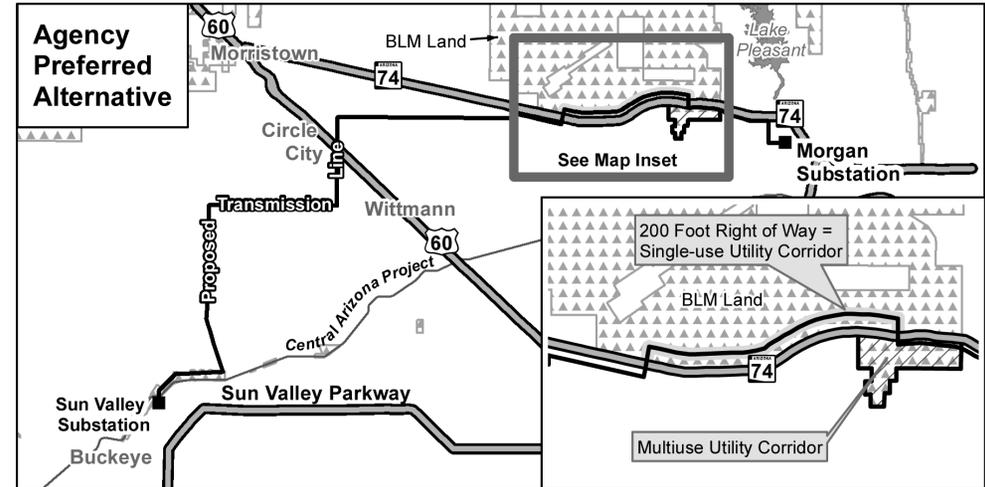
Project Contact:

Joe Incardine, National Project Manager

Phoenix District Office

21605 North 7th Avenue

Phoenix, AZ 85027-2929



If you require special accommodations for the hearing, please contact Ellen Carr at Galileo Project, LLC, by e-mail (ellen.carr@galileoaz.com), by telephone 480-629-4705, or by fax 480-629-5978.



PUBLIC HEARING LOCATIONS

Peoria

Tuesday, December 11, 2012 – 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Centennial High School
14388 North 79th Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85381

Wittmann

Wednesday, December 12, 2012 – 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Nadaburg Elementary School
21419 West Dove Valley Road
Wittmann, AZ 85361

Phoenix

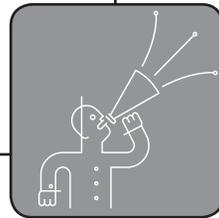
Thursday, December 13, 2012 – 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

BLM National Training Center
9828 North 31st Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85051

EFFECTIVE COMMENTS

Effective comments do one or more of the following:

- Question the accuracy of information in the EIS;
- Question the adequacy of, methodology for, or assumptions used for the environmental analysis;
- Present new information relevant to the analysis;
- Present reasonable alternatives other than those analyzed in the EIS; and/or
- Cause changes or revisions in one or more of the alternatives.



PUBLIC HEARINGS

The public hearings will include a facilitator and a court reporter. The court reporter will be recording oral comments made during the comment portion of the hearing. Speakers will be asked to sign up before the hearing begins and a time limit will be set for each speaker based on the number of requests to speak. You may sign up to speak at the hearing or beforehand by emailing the BLM's contractor at ellen.carr@galileoaz.com. It is always good to prepare your comments in writing prior to the hearing. If the allotted speaker time is not sufficient to share your comments, you may submit them in writing that evening or after the meeting.

The public hearings ensure that your comments are heard and recorded. If you are from a group or agency, you may wish to designate a speaker to ensure a greater amount of time to speak. Anyone may also submit written comments to be considered for the Final EIS until **February 8, 2013**.

WAYS TO COMMENT

Public Hearings:

Oral and written comments will be accepted

Email: SunValley-Morgan@blm.gov

Regular mail:

Proposed APS Sun Valley to Morgan Project
ATTN: Joe Incardine, National Project Manager
BLM Phoenix District Office
21605 North 7th Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85027



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Website:

<http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/energy/aps-sunvalley.html>

Project Information Line:

1-800-578-4133

Project Mailing List:

You may also use the mailing or email address above to request that you be added to the project mailing list.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your correspondence, be advised that your entire correspondence – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your correspondence to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Please note that any correspondence submitted will be considered informal and may or may not receive a response from the BLM.