

From: [Meredith Griffin](#)
To: [Peggy Fry](#)
Subject: FW: TUCA Letter on Proposed Sun Valley to Morgan 500/230kV Transmission Line Project and Bradshaw-Harquahala Resource Management Plan Amendment, Maricopa County, Arizona
Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 4:33:35 PM
Attachments: [TUCA DEIS Letter Feb 7 2013.pdf](#)

From: Incardine, Joseph [mailto:jincardi@blm.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 2:59 PM
To: Ellen Carr; Meredith Griffin
Subject: Fwd: TUCA Letter on Proposed Sun Valley to Morgan 500/230kV Transmission Line Project and Bradshaw-Harquahala Resource Management Plan Amendment, Maricopa County, Arizona

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ramon Gaanderse** <ramon@tuca-az.org>
Date: Thu, Feb 7, 2013 at 2:14 PM
Subject: TUCA Letter on Proposed Sun Valley to Morgan 500/230kV Transmission Line Project and Bradshaw-Harquahala Resource Management Plan Amendment, Maricopa County, Arizona
To: jincardi@blm.gov, kdepukat@blm.gov, rhawes@blm.gov
Cc: "Ramon A. Gaanderse" <ramon@tuca-az.org>

Good Afternoon,

Please see at the attached letter from the Tucson Utility Contractors Association on the **Proposed Sun Valley to Morgan 500/230kV Transmission Line Project and Bradshaw-Harquahala Resource Management Plan Amendment, Maricopa County, Arizona**. This should find you well before the deadline of February 8, 2013.

Thanks for your consideration.

Ramon A. Gaanderse, Executive Director
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Joe Incardine

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February 7, 2013

Mr. Joe Incardine
U.S. Bureau of Land Management
Phoenix District Office, 21605 North 7th Ave.,
Phoenix, Arizona, 85207-2929
jincardi@blm.gov

Re: Proposed Sun Valley to Morgan 500/230kV Transmission Line Project and Bradshaw-Harquahala Resource Management Plan Amendment, Maricopa County, Arizona

Dear Mr. Incardine,

The Tucson Utility Contractors Association (TUCA) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Proposed Sun Valley to Morgan 500/230kV Transmission Line Project (Transmission line) in Maricopa County, Arizona, and Possible Bradshaw-Harquahala Resource Management Plan Amendment (BRMPA). TUCA was established in 1984. Since its inception, TUCA has been instrumental in bringing about economic and infrastructure development in Arizona through involvement in legislative affairs, specification review, highway budgeting and appropriations, safety education and training, including the TUCA Scholarship Foundation, which has provided educational scholarships for the last 18 years. TUCA's Members sustain the employment of thousands of Arizonans.

Because of our strong representation of the utility industry, we appreciate the ability to weigh in from our perspective. Many TUCA Members, which are Arizona-based utility companies, are responsible for obtaining rights-of-way (ROW) for conveyance; that said, we are writing in support of the BLM's selection of APS' Proposed Action/ Electric Transmission ROW Application as the BLM Agency Preferred Alternative in the DEIS. Amendments to BLM's Bradshaw Harquahala Resource Management Plan which support co-location of utility rights-of-way in designated corridors are appropriate. We appreciate BLM lands being utilized for utility rights-of-way.

TUCA's opinion is that both the public and private utility providers are faced with the challenge of obtaining rights-of-way. The majority of lands in Arizona are held by government agencies which need water, sewer, electricity, natural gas, communication, rail, and transportation utilities. Any action which facilitates and expedites right-of-way approval on public land; federal, state or local increases timely and efficient utility service delivery.

A shared corridor with adjacent transportation and utility ROW is an industry standard and TUCA feels that by diverging from such limits will stunt industry growth and velocity due to unnecessary delays. Any delay with essential utility infrastructure will have cumulative effects on an overall project's timeline, development and expansion of utility companies' service area and accompanying customer base.

TUCA encourages the BLM will conclude this DEIS, Final EIS and Record of Decision with the decision to select the Proposed Action as the Agency Preferred Alternative. As another major provider of utilities within Arizona, we have seen how government support and market forces have provided a growth in domestic jobs, taxable revenues and economic development through the expansion of our utility infrastructure.

If I can be of any further assistance, please call me directly at 520.623.0444 or by email at ramon@tuca-az.org.

Sincerely,



Ramon A. Gaanderse
Executive Director