
SCOPING REPORT

RESTORATION DESIGN ENERGY PROJECT

Appendix B

SCOPING MEETING MATERIALS

APPENDIX B
SCOPING MEETING MATERIALS

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Scoping Meeting Brochure



Welcome!

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Arizona is conducting public scoping meetings to obtain input regarding the Restoration Design Energy Project.

The purpose of the Restoration Design Energy Project is to foster environmentally responsible development of renewable energy on sites that need some level of remediation or restoration. Implementing this project will result in the identification of disturbed or previously developed sites in Arizona that, after remediation or site preparation, will be available for renewable energy development. Sites will be identified through a public involvement process. The suitability and potential effects of developing sites will be evaluated in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The Restoration Design Energy Project is funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The project supports the goals of building America's new energy future and to protect and restore treasured landscapes. The environmental analysis will address existing remediation needs and the potential for renewable energy generation.



Desired Project Outcomes

- Remediation or restoration of public lands
- Production of renewable energy
- Increased community development
- Increased tax revenue
- Economic opportunities for business

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies, including the BLM, to consider the following factors when making a proposal that could significantly affect the environment:

- A reasonable range of alternatives
- Environmental consequences
- Human health consequences
- Input from public, agency, tribal, and other affected parties

Scoping is a part of the NEPA process. Scoping gives members of the public and government agencies an opportunity to learn more about the project, provide comments, and identify potential sites and issues to be analyzed in the EIS.

You are encouraged to provide oral and written comments at one of the scoping meetings, or to mail your comments before the public comment period closes on March 11, 2010. Your comments will become part of the official public record and could be included as part of the EIS.

Restoration and Redevelopment Process



The Restoration Design Energy Project will include sites on public or private lands that require some level of remediation or restoration and might be suitable for renewable energy development. The BLM will consider the following types of sites for the project:

- Hazardous material sites or brownfields
- Mine sites
- Former landfills
- Inactive mineral material sites
- Damaged sites with limited restoration potential

Advantages of Restoring these Sites

- Utilize previously disturbed sites
- Remediate and restore contaminated sites
- Produce renewable energy
- Increase public health and safety

Environmental Consequences

The development of renewable energy and associated transmission lines has the potential to result in environmental impacts, including:

- **WATER RESOURCES** Impacts to water quality and quantity from the use of water for cooling and other applications.
- **VISUAL RESOURCES** Impacts to the visual landscape and scenic quality from the development of large solar fields or wind farms.
- **WILDLIFE** Direct disturbance and loss of wildlife habitat from construction and operations. Renewable energy facilities also can create barriers to wildlife migration.
- **INVASIVE SPECIES** Land-clearing and surface-disturbing activities have the potential to increase the occurrence and spread of invasive plant species and noxious weeds.



To date, 45 sites totaling 27,600 acres have been identified.



Evaluating Sites

Sites will be evaluated on their suitability for renewable energy development, including their:

- Proximity to transmission lines to connect to the grid
- Relationship to a source of demand
- Utilization of water resources
- Quality of the renewable energy resource (such as solar or wind potential)
- Physical characteristics of the site

In November 2006, the Arizona Corporation Commission adopted final rules to expand Arizona's Renewable Energy Standard to 15% by 2025, with 30% of the renewable energy to be derived from distributed energy technologies.

Benefits of Renewable Energy Development

- Reduce greenhouse gases that can contribute to climate change
- Create short-term and long-term jobs associated with development and operations
- Stabilize energy prices by diversifying energy sources and mitigating fossil-fuel price spikes
- Reduce reliance on foreign energy sources by developing domestic renewable energy

Interconnection of Renewable Energy

Renewable energy development requires transmission line infrastructure to transfer the energy developed on the site to the electrical grid. Interconnection of renewable energy development to the electrical grid depends on:

- Proximity to existing and proposed transmission lines
- Available capacity of existing and proposed transmission lines
- Coordination and agreements between renewable energy developers and utility companies



PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR FIELDS

A collection of solar panels containing a material that converts solar radiation into direct-current electricity.



SOLAR THERMAL ENERGY

Mirrors concentrate sunlight on a small area to heat water or other fluids to create steam that drives a turbine to generate electricity.



WIND TURBINES

Rotating machines that convert the kinetic energy of wind into mechanical energy, which can then be converted into electrical energy.



DISTRIBUTED RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

Energy generated from many localized small-scale sources (such as photovoltaic panels on rooftops, Stirling energy systems, residential-scale wind turbines).



How You Can Be Involved

Agenda for the Public Scoping Meetings

- 30 minute Open House
- 15 minute BLM Presentation
- 45 minute Open Forum
- 30 minute Open House

How to Provide Comments

Please complete a comment form and place it in the comment box or give it to a BLM representative at the scoping meeting. Comments can also be sent to the following address by March 11, 2010.

Restoration Design Energy Project
Attention: Teri Raml, Project Manager
BLM Arizona State Office
One North Central Avenue, Suite 800
Phoenix, Arizona 85004
Email: az_arra_rdep@blm.gov
Phone: (602) 417-9388

Please note that by including your name and address on correspondence, you agree the information may be made public as part of the EIS process.

Your involvement and input are essential to helping the BLM make informed decisions. Opportunities for citizens groups, tribal governments, local governments, federal agencies, and other stakeholders, the energy industry, and utility companies to collaborate with the BLM will continue throughout the life of the project.

Making Effective Comments

- State specific concerns; avoid making broad statements
- Focus comments on specific issues and provide supporting details
- Identify important environmental and community concerns

Effective comments help ensure all issues are identified and addressed in the NEPA analysis.

For more information, visit the project website:
www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/energy/arra_solar.html

Timeline of Scoping for the Restoration Energy Project

January 13, 2010
Scoping Period Begins

February 8, 2010
Public Scoping Meeting, Phoenix, AZ

February 9, 2010
Public Scoping Meeting, Tucson, AZ

February 10, 2010
Public Scoping Meeting, Sierra Vista, AZ

February 11, 2010
Public Scoping Meeting, Phoenix, AZ

February 17, 2010
Public Scoping Meeting, Fredonia, AZ

February 22, 2010
Public Scoping Meeting, Snowflake, AZ

February 23, 2010
Public Scoping Meeting, Flagstaff, AZ

February 24, 2010
Public Scoping Meeting, Kingman, AZ

February 25, 2010
Public Scoping Meeting, Yuma, AZ

March 11, 2010
Deadline to Submit Public Scoping Comments

Additional Opportunities for Public Involvement
Between the Draft and Final EIS

Scoping Meeting Displays



Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project

National Environmental Policy Act
 The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management, to consider the following factors when making a proposal that could significantly affect the environment:

- A reasonable range of alternatives
- Environmental consequences
- Human health consequences
- Input from public, agency, tribal, and other affected parties







Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project

What is Scoping?
 Scoping is a part of the NEPA process. Scoping gives members of the public and government agencies an opportunity to learn more about the project, provide comments, and identify potential sites and issues to be analyzed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

You are encouraged to provide oral and written comments this evening, or mail your comments prior to the close of the public comment period (March 11, 2010). Your comments will become part of the official public record and could be included as part of the EIS.



Timeline of Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project

- January 13, 2010
Scoping Period Begins
- February 8, 2010
Public Scoping Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
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- March 11, 2010
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Additional Opportunities for Public Involvement Between the Draft and Final EIS



Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project

Making Effective Comments:

- State specific concerns instead of making broad statements
- Focus your comments on specific issues and provide supporting details
- Identify important environmental and community concerns

Effective comments help ensure all issues are identified and addressed in the NEPA analysis.






Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project




American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
 The Restoration Design Energy Project is funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The project supports the goals of building America's new energy future and to protect and restore treasured landscapes. The environmental analysis will address existing remediation needs and the potential for energy generation.

Desired Outcomes for the Restoration Design Energy Project

- Remediation or restoration of public lands
- Production of renewable energy
- Increased community development
- Increased tax revenue
- Economic opportunities for business



Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project



Project Description
 The purpose of the Restoration Design Energy Project is to foster environmentally responsible development of renewable energy on sites that need some level of remediation or restoration. Implementing this project will result in the identification of disturbed or previously developed sites in Arizona that, after remediation or site preparation, will be available for renewable energy development.



The project will be accomplished through a public process, including the completion of an Environmental Impact Statement that will evaluate alternative land use allocations and the suitability of sites for the development of renewable energy resources.

Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project



Restoration and Redevelopment Process



The diagram illustrates a three-step process: 1. Identify site (a photograph of a brown, disturbed landscape with a yellow excavator). 2. Perform restoration or remediation (a photograph of a site with blue and yellow tarps covering equipment). 3. Develop renewable energy (a photograph of solar panels installed on a prepared site). Arrows connect the steps in a clockwise cycle.

Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project

Renewable Energy Standards in Arizona

In November 2006, the Arizona Corporation Commission adopted final rules to expand Arizona's Renewable Energy Standard to 15% by 2025, with 30% of the renewable energy to be derived from distributed energy technologies.

Primary Sources of Renewable Energy in Arizona



PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR FIELDS



SOLAR THERMAL ENERGY PLANTS



WIND TURBINES



DISTRIBUTED RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

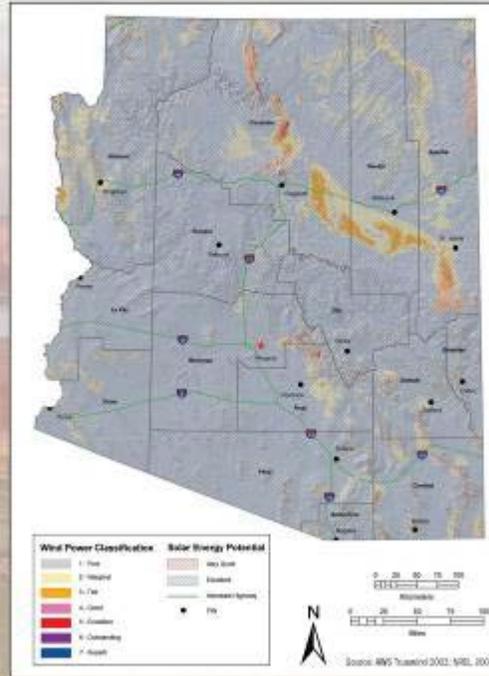
Benefits of Renewable Energy Development

- Reduce greenhouse gases that can contribute to climate change
- Create short-term and long-term jobs associated with development and operations
- Stabilize energy prices by diversifying energy sources and mitigating fossil-fuel price spikes
- Reduce reliance on foreign energy sources by developing domestic renewable energy

Source: Renewable Order No. 2008

Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project

Arizona Wind and Solar Energy Potential



Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project

Transmission Lines

Renewable energy development requires transmission line infrastructure to transfer the energy developed on the site to the electrical grid. Interconnection of renewable energy development to the electrical grid depends on:

- Proximity to existing and proposed transmission lines
- Available capacity of existing and proposed transmission lines
- Coordination and agreements between renewable energy developers and utility companies



Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project

To Date, 45 Sites Totalling 27,600 Acres Have Been Identified

- FORMER LANDFILLS
- HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SITES OR BROWNFIELDS
- INACTIVE MINERAL MATERIAL SITES
- PAVE SITES

Evaluation
 Sites will be evaluated on their suitability for renewable energy development, including their:

- Proximity to transmission lines to connect to the grid
- Relationship to a source of demand
- Utilization of water resources
- Quality of renewable energy resource (e.g., solar or wind potential)
- Physical characteristics of the site

Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project

Environmental Consequences
 The development of renewable energy and associated transmission lines has the potential to result in environmental impacts to resources that are important to the public.

- WATER RESOURCES
- WILDLIFE
- VISUAL RESOURCES
- SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES

Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project

Opportunities for Collaboration

- Citizen or interest groups
- Local governments
- Tribal governments
- Other federal and state agencies
- Energy industry
- Utility companies

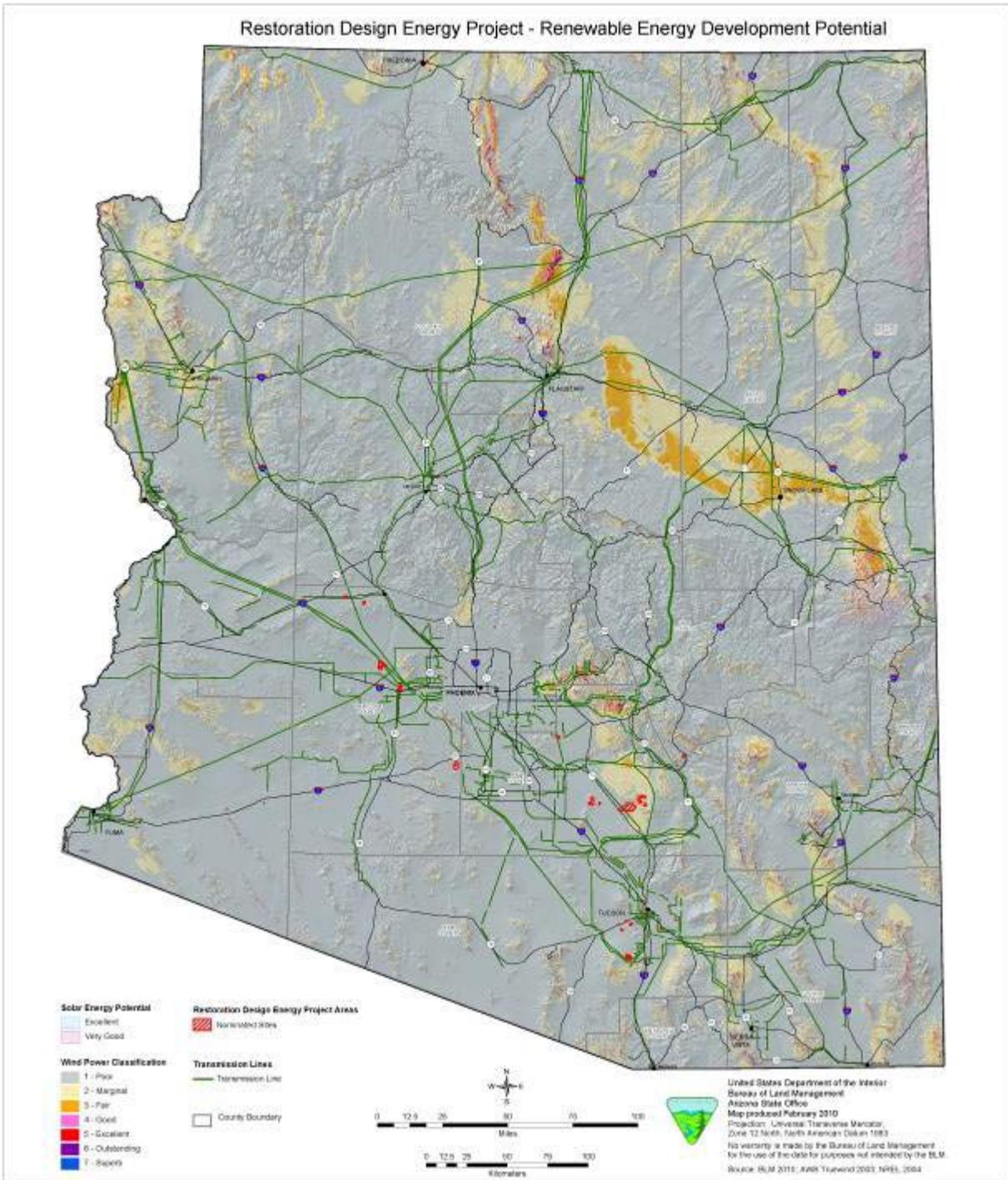
Social and Economic Benefits for Local Communities

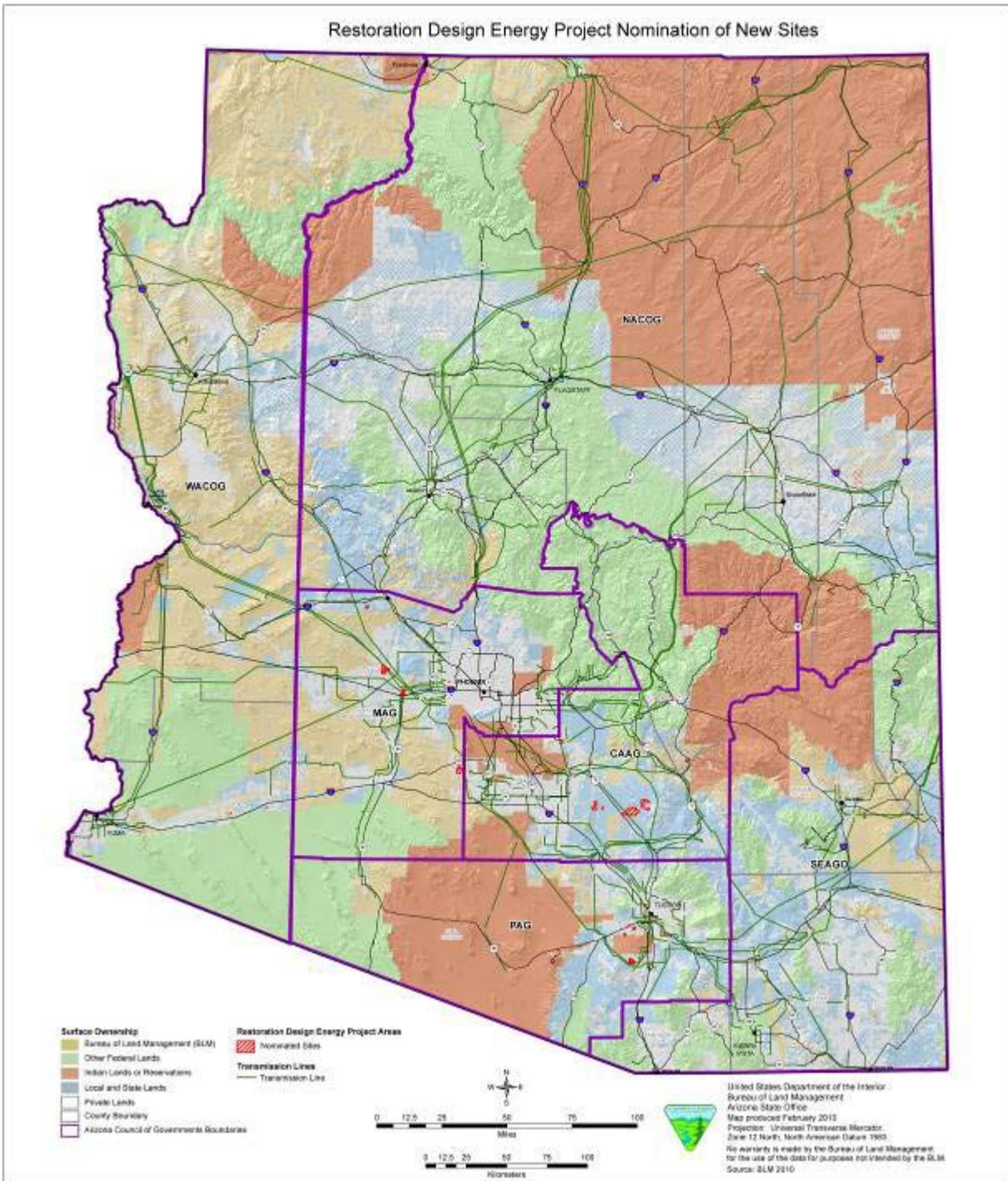
- Creation of jobs
- Increased tax revenue and royalties
- Potential multiplier effect resulting in new investment in the community
- Reductions and stabilization of energy (electricity) costs

Potential Benefits

- State-wide approach to restoration and renewable energy development
- Pristine landscapes not developed
- Utilizing contaminated and unused sites
- Reducing hazards and improving public safety
- Reducing contributions to climate change
- Secondary use

Scoping Meeting Maps





Scoping Meeting Presentation



Scoping for the
Restoration Design
Energy Project

Welcome to the
Bureau of Land Management
Restoration Design Energy
Project Public Scoping Meetings

February 2010



What is the Agenda?

- Overview of the project description
- Overview of the NEPA process and scoping
- Overview of desired project outcomes
- Overview of the public role



Introductions

- ❖ Jim Kenna
 - BLM Arizona State Director



What is the Restoration Design Energy Project?

*The purpose of the project is:
To foster environmentally responsible
development of renewable energy on sites
that need some level of remediation or
restoration.*

The Restoration & Redevelopment Process



Step 1: Identify Site Step 2: Restore or Remediate Step 3: Develop Renewable Energy

The EIS will ...

- Amend Resource Management Plans (RMPs) to allocate sites for renewable energy development
- Approve sites for potential renewable energy development
- Define additional required analysis
- Determine terms or tools for future authorization
- Set protocols for future project sites
- Analyze non-federal sites

What is NEPA?

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is a law that requires federal decision-makers to consider potential impacts to the human and natural environment for major federal actions. NEPA also requires that decisions include public input and involvement, through scoping and review of NEPA documents. Through the NEPA process, the BLM considers:

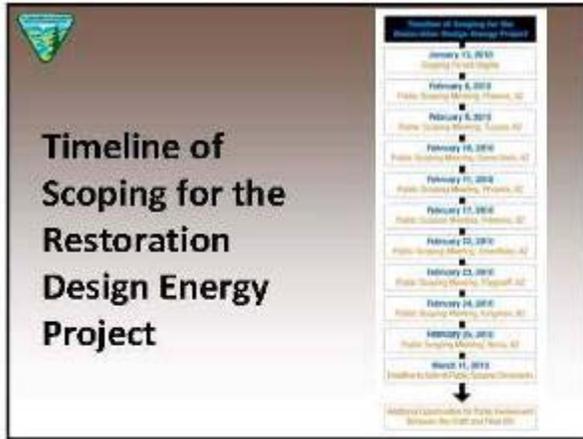
- ❖ A range of alternatives
- ❖ Current conditions
- ❖ Environmental impacts
- ❖ Cumulative impacts
- ❖ Mitigation measures



What is Scoping?

- Provides the public an opportunity to learn about the proposal and provide input.
- Enables the BLM to identify and address community-specific issues and concerns regarding the project.
- Defines the significant issues that guide the agency in development of a range of project alternatives

Comment period ends March 11, 2010!



Timeline of Scoping for the Restoration Design Energy Project

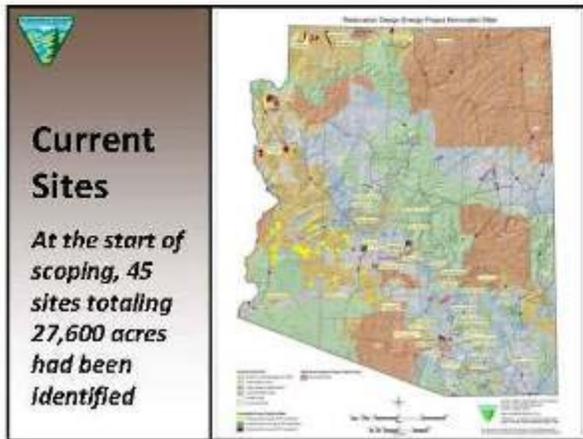
January 13, 2010
 Scoping Meeting
 February 5, 2010
 Public Scoping Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
 February 6, 2010
 Public Scoping Meeting, Tucson, AZ
 February 16, 2010
 Public Scoping Meeting, Flagstaff, AZ
 February 17, 2010
 Public Scoping Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
 February 17, 2010
 Public Scoping Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
 February 22, 2010
 Public Scoping Meeting, Flagstaff, AZ
 February 24, 2010
 Public Scoping Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
 February 26, 2010
 Public Scoping Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
 March 11, 2010
 Draft EIS Open House

Additional Open House for Public Comment on the Draft EIS and Final EIS



Additional Opportunities for Public Involvement

- ❖ 90-Day Draft EIS Comment Period
 - Early 2011
- ❖ 30-Day Final EIS Comment Period
 - Late 2011
- ❖ 30-Day Final EIS Protest Period
 - TBD
- ❖ 30-Day Decision Appeal Period
 - TBD

Current Sites

At the start of scoping, 45 sites totaling 27,600 acres had been identified




What are the Desired Outcomes?

- Remediation or restoration of public lands
- Production of renewable energy
- Community development
- Increased tax revenue
- Economic opportunities for businesses





Areas of Analysis in the EIS

- ❖ Air Quality
- ❖ Biological Resources
- ❖ Cultural Resources
- ❖ Tribal Values
- ❖ Local and Regional Economics
- ❖ Environmental Justice
- ❖ Erosion Potential and Changes to Natural Drainage
- ❖ Water Resources
- ❖ Land Use
- ❖ Recreation
- ❖ Social and Cultural Values
- ❖ Socioeconomics
- ❖ Transportation
- ❖ Utility Infrastructure
- ❖ Viewshed
- ❖ Others?



Alternative Design Concepts

- Site Characteristics
- Remediation Considerations
- Renewable Energy Technology
- Energy generation to meet demand
- Transmission and interconnection
- Public and private partnerships



What is Your Role?

- Identify potential new sites
- Comment on existing sites
- Provide input on environmental concerns
- Offer advice on alternative design concepts



For More Information:

Visit the project website at:
www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/energy/arra_solar.html

Contact the BLM Project Manager:
Teri Raml
az_arra_rdep@blm.gov
(602) 417-9388

Scoping Meeting Registration Card



Bureau of Land Management Restoration Design Energy Project Public Scoping Meeting Registration Card

Meeting Location:

Meeting Date:

I wish to make an oral public comment

First Name: _____ *Last Name:* _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____ *Email:* _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ *State:* _____ *Zip Code:* _____

I wish to receive additional information about this project (check one) yes no

Please include your email address.

The BLM is trying to maximize resources by utilizing electronic notifications and project updates.

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