

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
GRAND JUNCTION FIELD OFFICE

DECISION RECORD

BAXTER PASS ROAD OVERHEAD POWER LINE

DOI-BLM-CO-130-2013-0016-EA

CASE FILE/PROJECT NUMBER: COC76033 AND COC76033-01

LOCATION: The legal description (federal lands) is as follows:

Sixth Principal Meridian, Garfield and Mesa County, Colorado

T. 7 S. R. 104 W.

Section 26, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$;

Section 27, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Section 34, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

T. 8 S. R. 104 W.

Section 3, Lot 4, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

Section 10, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

Section 15, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

Section 22, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

Section 27, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Section 34, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

T. 9 S. R. 104 W.

Section 2, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

Section 3, Lots 6, 11, 14, 19, 20, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Section 11, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NWSE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Section 14, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.

PROJECT NAME: Grand Valley Power Baxter Pass Overhead Electric Line

APPLICANT: Grand Valley Rural Power

INTRODUCTION: Grand Valley Rural Power (GVP) submitted an application for Rights-of-Ways (ROWs) for transportation and utility systems on federal lands (SF299s) to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Grand Junction Field Office (GJFO). The ROWs are requested for power to the Enterprise Gas Processing, LLC (Enterprise) Valve Site located on BLM land in Garfield County, Colorado. GVP has requested a right-of-way (ROW) for a single phase overhead distribution power line under 25 kV as well as temporary work areas during the construction of this power line. GVP requests the following:

- A grant for 62,603 feet in length (50 feet wide) of ROW (71.859 acres). The proposed route generally follows the Baxter Pass Road located NW of Mack, Colorado in Mesa and Garfield Counties.

- Four Temporary Work Areas consisting of a total of 8,750 feet or .201 acres, more or less.

GVP submitted a Plan of Development (POD) for the power line to the BLM GJFO, which describes construction, reclamation, operation, maintenance, and abandonment of the Proposed Action.

The BLM GJFO prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) that considered the Proposed Action, the No Action Alternative, and a Buried Power Line Alternative. In addition, a Facility Expansion Alternative was considered, but not carried forward. Internal Scoping included presentation and discussion of the project at a BLM interdisciplinary meeting (IDT) and a field visit to the proposed alignment on April 2, 2013. The Project has been posted on the GJFO website from November 8, 2013 to the present; the BLM received no public comments.

DECISION: It is my decision to authorize the proposed power line and extra workspace as described in DOI-BLM-CO-130-2013-0016-EA as the Proposed Action, including Project Design Features included in the proposal and in the BLM Protection/Mitigation Measures developed as part of the Environmental Assessment (Exhibit B).

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT NOT SELECTED

The Buried Alternative and the No Action Alternative

RATIONALE: The bases for this decision are as follows:

1. The project would allow for electricity to a valve site that would provide a more reliable power source than wind, solar and propane powered generators. This reliable power source ensures safety for the day to day pipeline operations.
2. Environmental impacts would be avoided, minimized, or offset with the mitigation measures incorporated into the Proposed Action or attached and enforced by BLM as ROW Stipulations.

MITIGATION MEASURES: The ROW Stipulations, Exhibit B attached, would be applied to the requested Right-of-Way Grant and Short Term Right-of-Way for Temporary Work Areas and enforced by the BLM. These protections would be in addition to any design features and best management practices to which the proponent has committed to in the Proposed Action, as described and analyzed in the attached EA.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: Scoping is the process by which the BLM solicits internal and external input on the issues, impacts, and potential alternatives that will be addressed, along with the extent to which those issues and impacts will be analyzed in a NEPA document. Internal scoping is the use of BLM and cooperating agency staff to help determine what needs to be analyzed in a NEPA document. External scoping involves notification and opportunities for feedback from other agencies, organizations, tribes, local governments, and the public. NEPA regulations (40 CFR §1500-1508) do not require external scoping for an EA, and the BLM decided to internally scope the Proposed Action. The Project was reviewed by resource

specialists in April 2013, along with a field visit. The Project was posted to the GJFO website from November 8, 2013 to the present; the BLM received no public comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT: A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was prepared, based on the information contained in the EA and on my consideration of criteria for significance (40 CFR 1508.27). Based on the EA, it is my determination that: 1) the implementation of the Proposed Action Alternative will not have significant environmental impacts; 2) the Proposed Action Alternative is in conformance with the Grand Junction Resource Management Plan; and 3) the Proposed Action Alternative does not constitute a major federal action having significant effect on the human environment. No EIS is necessary.

APPEAL PROCEDURES: This decision shall take effect immediately upon the date it is signed by the Authorized Officer, and shall remain in effect while any appeal is pending unless the Interior Board of Land Appeals issues a stay (43 CFR 2801.10(b)). Any appeal of this decision must follow the procedures set forth in 43 CFR Part 4. Within 30 days of the decision, a notice of appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer at Grand Junction Field Office, 2815 H Road, Grand Junction, Colorado, 81506. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed with the Authorized Officer.

NAME OF PREPARER: Janet Doll

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Christina Stark

DATE SIGNED: 5-18-16

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:


Katie A. Stevens
Field Manager
Grand Junction Field Office

ATTACHMENTS:

Table 1, GVP Typical Design Characteristics

Table 3, GVP Standard Mitigation Measures

Table 4, GVP Selectively Recommended Mitigation Measures

Table 5, GVP Stipulations, Standard Operating Procedures

Exhibit B: Right-of-Way Stipulations

*TABLE 1
GVP TYPICAL DESIGN CHARACTERISTICS*

Line length	Approximately 62,304 feet
Type of structure	Single-pole wood
Structure height	40 to 55 feet
Span length	Ruling span 280 feet
Number of structures per mile	Approx. 19 structures per mile
Right-of-way width	Approximately 50 feet
Land disturbed (approximate): <u>Temporary</u> Structure site	Temporary workspace for access would include four areas. . Where structures are near the County roads and the permanent BLM permit overlaps the County road, ROW equipment can set up and work from the edge of the road ROW. GVP will submit utility permit applications to Mesa County and Garfield County for their approval to work in the road ROW Proper traffic control and signage to be used.
Wire pulling, splicing sites	An all-terrain vehicle would be used for wire pulling along the permanent right-of-way. Sites for tensioning equipment are located in the proposed permanent right-of-way.
Removal of existing line	None
Access roads	Use County road and the line corridor.
Voltage	Under 25,000 volts phase to phase
Circuit configuration	Single circuit under 25kV, Single phase conductor and a single neutral conductor.
Distribution Conductor size	4 ACSR, 7/1 Swanate, 0.0411 sq. inch diameter(NEUTRAL) 1/0 ACSR 6/1 Raven (phase), 0.0967 sq. inch diameter(PHASE)
Ground clearance of conductor	Follow the National Electrical Safety Code ground clearance safety rules for overhead power lines
Pole depth	Typically between 6 feet and 7.5 feet deep.

TABLE 3
GVP STANDARD MITIGATION MEASURES

1. All construction vehicle movement outside of the right-of-way will be restricted to pre-designated access, contractor acquired access, or public roads.
2. The limits of construction activities will be predetermined, with activity restricted to and confined within those limits. No paint or permanent discoloring agents will be applied to rocks or vegetation to indicate survey or construction activity limits. The right-of-way boundary will be flagged in environmentally sensitive areas described in the plan of development to alert construction personnel that those areas will be avoided.
3. In construction areas where re-contouring is not required, vegetation will be left in place wherever possible to avoid excessive root damage and allow for re-sprouting.
4. In construction areas where ground disturbance is significant or where re-contouring is required, surface restoration will occur as required by the BLM. The method of restoration typically will consist of returning disturbed areas to their natural contour (to the extent practical), reseeding or re-vegetating with native plants (if required), installing cross drains for erosion control, placing water bars in the road, and filling ditches. Seed will be tested and certified to contain no noxious weeds as defined by the State of Colorado Agricultural Department. Seed viability also will be tested at a certified lab approved by the authorized officer. If seed is not from Colorado, then seed tests should include the state of origins' noxious weeds, as well as Colorado's.
5. Watering facilities (e.g., tanks, developed springs, water lines, wells, etc.) will be repaired or replaced to their pre-disturbed conditions as required by the land management agency if they are damaged or destroyed by construction activities.
6. Prior to construction, all construction personnel will be instructed on the protection of cultural, paleontological, and ecological resources. To assist in this effort, the construction contract will address (a) federal and state laws regarding antiquities, fossils, and plants and wildlife, including collection and removal; and (b) the importance of these resources and the purpose and necessity of protecting them.
7. If required, an initial intensive cultural resource inventory survey will be conducted prior to construction. Impact avoidance and mitigation measures developed in consultation with appropriate land management and regulatory agencies and other interested parties will be implemented. In addition, supplemental surveys of appurtenant impact zones beyond the corridor will be undertaken as needed.
8. Any cultural and/or paleontological resource discovered during construction by GVP or any person working on GVP's behalf on public or federal land will be reported immediately to the authorized officer. GVP will suspend operations in the area until an evaluation is completed to prevent the loss of cultural or scientific values.
9. All construction and maintenance activities will be conducted in a manner that would minimize disturbance to vegetation, drainage channels, and intermittent and perennial stream banks. All existing roads will be left in a condition equal to or better than their condition prior to the construction of the transmission line.
10. All requirements of those entities having jurisdiction over air quality matters will be adhered to and any necessary permits for construction activities would be obtained. Open burning of construction trash (cleared trees, etc.) will not be allowed on BLM-administered lands.

- | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11. Fences and gates, if damaged or destroyed by construction activities, will be repaired or replaced to their original pre-disturbed condition as required by the land management agency. Temporary gates will be installed only with the permission of the land management agency. |
| 12. During operation of the distribution line, the right-of-way will be maintained free of construction related non-biodegradable debris. |
| 13. Totally enclosed containment will be provided for all hazardous materials (if needed) and trash. All construction waste including trash, litter, garbage, other solid waste, petroleum products, and other potentially hazardous materials will be removed to a disposal facility authorized to accept such materials. |
| 14. Structures will be constructed to conform to Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection on Power Lines: <i>State of the Art in 2006</i> (Raptor Research Foundation, Inc. 2006). |
| 15. If required, third-party environmental contractors will be used throughout the construction effort, from clearing through rehabilitation. |
| 16. GVP will trim trees in preference to cutting trees, and will cut trees in preference to bulldozing them. No tree clearing is anticipated at the time of application. |
| 17. Construction holes left open overnight will be covered to prevent damage to livestock or wildlife. |
| 18. GVP will respond to complaints of line-generated radio or television interference by investigating the complaints and implementing appropriate mitigation measures. The distribution line will be patrolled on a regular basis so that damaged insulators or other line materials that could cause interference are repaired or replaced. |
| 19. GVP will apply necessary mitigation to minimize problems of induced currents and voltages onto conductive objects sharing a right-of-way, to the mutual satisfaction of the parties involved. |
| 20. The proposed hardware and conductor will limit the audible noise, radio interference (RI), and television interference (TVI), due to corona. Tension will be maintained on all insulator assemblies to assure positive contact between insulators, thereby avoiding sparking. Caution will be exercised during construction to avoid scratching or nicking the conductor surface, which may provide points for corona to occur. |

TABLE 4
GVP SELECTIVELY RECOMMENDED MITIGATION MEASURES

Note: These selective mitigation measures apply only to specific locations that are identified or during field investigations and recorded in the plan of development.

- | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. No widening or upgrading of existing access roads will be undertaken in the area of construction and operation, except for repairs necessary to make roads passable, where soils or vegetation are very sensitive to disturbance. |
| 2. No blading of new access roads in the area of construction and operation is anticipated. Should the need for new access roads be determined, GVP will document these corridors and will comply with all aspects of the BLM right-of-way grant prior to any access road construction. Existing crossings will be utilized at washes. These access routes must be flagged with an easily seen marker and the route must be approved by the authorized officer in advance of use. |
| 3. Modified structure design will be utilized as necessary to minimize ground disturbance, operational conflicts, visual contrast, or avian conflicts. |

4. In designated areas, structures will be placed or rerouted so as to avoid sensitive features such as, but not limited to, riparian areas, water courses, and cultural sites, or to allow conductors to clearly span the features, within limits of standard tower design. This will minimize the amount of disturbance to the sensitive features or reduce visual contrast.
5. With the exception of emergency repair situations, right-of-way construction, restoration, maintenance, and termination, activities in designated areas will be modified or discontinued during sensitive periods (e.g., nesting and breeding periods) for candidate, proposed threatened and endangered, or other sensitive animal species. This list will be approved in advance by the authorized officer of the BLM.
6. Existing roads and trails that will be blocked as a result of construction will be rerouted as directed by the authorizing officer.
7. The design of the poles will be determined to achieve the minimum practicable visual impacts.

TABLE 5
GVP STIPULATIONS – STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

1. GVP will construct, operate, and maintain the facilities, improvements, and structures within this right-of-way in strict conformity with the plan of development as it is approved and made part of the right-of-way grant. Any relocation, additional construction, or use that is not in accord with the approved plan(s) of development will not be initiated without the prior written approval of the authorized officer. A copy of the complete right-of-way grant, including all stipulations and approved plan(s) of development, will be made available on the right-of-way area during construction, operation, and termination to the authorized officer. Noncompliance with the above shall be grounds for an immediate temporary suspension of activities if it constitutes a threat to public health and safety or the environment.
2. GVP will submit a plan or plans of development that describe in detail the construction, operation, maintenance, and termination of the right-of-way and its associated improvements and/or facilities. The degree and scope of these plans will vary depending on (1) the complexity of the right-of-way or its associated improvements and/or facilities, (2) the anticipated conflicts that require mitigation, and (3) additional technical information required by the authorizing officer. An approved plan of development will be made a part of the right-of-way grant.
3. GVP will contact the authorized officer at least 10 days prior to the anticipated start of construction and/or any surface-disturbing activities. The authorized officer may require and schedule a preconstruction conference with GVP prior to commencement of construction and/or surface-disturbing activities on the right-of-way. GVP, GVP's contractor(s), or agents involved with the construction and/or surface-disturbing activities on the right-of-way should attend this conference to review the stipulations of the grant including the plan(s) of development.
4. GVP will designate a representative(s) who will have the authority to act upon and implement instructions from the authorized officer within a reasonable time when construction or other surface-disturbing activities are underway.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
GRAND JUNCTION FIELD OFFICE

DECISION RECORD

BAXTER PASS ROAD OVERHEAD POWER LINE

DOI-BLM-CO-130-2013-0016-EA

CASE FILE/PROJECT NUMBER: COC76033 AND COC76033-01

LOCATION: The legal description (federal lands) is as follows:

Sixth Principal Meridian, Garfield and Mesa County, Colorado

T. 7 S. R. 104 W.

Section 26, NW¹/₄NW¹/₄;

Section 27, E¹/₂NE¹/₄, N¹/₂SE¹/₄, SE¹/₄SW¹/₄, SW¹/₄SE¹/₄;

Section 34, E¹/₂NW¹/₄, N¹/₂SW¹/₄, SW¹/₄SW¹/₄;

T. 8 S. R. 104 W.

Section 3, Lot 4, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄, W¹/₂SW¹/₄;

Section 10, W¹/₂NW¹/₄, W¹/₂SW¹/₄;

Section 15, W¹/₂NW¹/₄, W¹/₂SW¹/₄;

Section 22, N¹/₂NW¹/₄, SE¹/₄NW¹/₄, NE¹/₄SW¹/₄, S¹/₂SW¹/₄;

Section 27, W¹/₂NW¹/₄, SE¹/₄NW¹/₄, E¹/₂SW¹/₄, W¹/₂SE¹/₄;

Section 34, E¹/₂NW¹/₄, N¹/₂SW¹/₄, SW¹/₄SW¹/₄;

T. 9 S. R. 104 W.

Section 2, SW¹/₄SW¹/₄;

Section 3, Lots 6, 11, 14, 19, 20, E¹/₂SE¹/₄;

Section 11, N¹/₂NW¹/₄, SE¹/₄NW¹/₄, SW¹/₄NE¹/₄, NWSE¹/₄, S¹/₂SE¹/₄;

Section 14, NE¹/₄NE¹/₄.

PROJECT NAME: Grand Valley Power Baxter Pass Overhead Electric Line

APPLICANT: Grand Valley Rural Power

INTRODUCTION: Grand Valley Rural Power (GVP) submitted an application for Rights-of-Ways (ROWs) for transportation and utility systems on federal lands (SF299s) to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Grand Junction Field Office (GJFO). The ROWs are requested for power to the Enterprise Gas Processing, LLC (Enterprise) Valve Site located on BLM land in Garfield County, Colorado. GVP has requested a right-of-way (ROW) for a single phase overhead distribution power line under 25 kV as well as temporary work areas during the construction of this power line. GVP requests the following:

- A grant for 62,603 feet in length (50 feet wide) of ROW (71.859 acres). The proposed route generally follows the Baxter Pass Road located NW of Mack, Colorado in Mesa and Garfield Counties.

- Four Temporary Work Areas consisting of a total of 8,750 feet or .201 acres, more or less.

GVP submitted a Plan of Development (POD) for the power line to the BLM GJFO, which describes construction, reclamation, operation, maintenance, and abandonment of the Proposed Action.

The BLM GJFO prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) that considered the Proposed Action, the No Action Alternative, and a Buried Power Line Alternative. In addition, a Facility Expansion Alternative was considered, but not carried forward. Internal Scoping included presentation and discussion of the project at a BLM interdisciplinary meeting (IDT) and a field visit to the proposed alignment on April 2, 2013. The Project has been posted on the GJFO website from November 8, 2013 to the present; the BLM received no public comments.

DECISION: It is my decision to authorize the proposed power line and extra workspace as described in DOI-BLM-CO-130-2013-0016-EA as the Proposed Action, including Project Design Features included in the proposal and in the BLM Protection/Mitigation Measures developed as part of the Environmental Assessment (Exhibit B).

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT NOT SELECTED

The Buried Alternative and the No Action Alternative

RATIONALE: The bases for this decision are as follows:

1. The project would allow for electricity to a valve site that would provide a more reliable power source than wind, solar and propane powered generators. This reliable power source ensures safety for the day to day pipeline operations.
2. Environmental impacts would be avoided, minimized, or offset with the mitigation measures incorporated into the Proposed Action or attached and enforced by BLM as ROW Stipulations.

MITIGATION MEASURES: The ROW Stipulations, Exhibit B attached, would be applied to the requested Right-of-Way Grant and Short Term Right-of-Way for Temporary Work Areas and enforced by the BLM. These protections would be in addition to any design features and best management practices to which the proponent has committed to in the Proposed Action, as described and analyzed in the attached EA.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: Scoping is the process by which the BLM solicits internal and external input on the issues, impacts, and potential alternatives that will be addressed, along with the extent to which those issues and impacts will be analyzed in a NEPA document. Internal scoping is the use of BLM and cooperating agency staff to help determine what needs to be analyzed in a NEPA document. External scoping involves notification and opportunities for feedback from other agencies, organizations, tribes, local governments, and the public. NEPA regulations (40 CFR §1500-1508) do not require external scoping for an EA, and the BLM decided to internally scope the Proposed Action. The Project was reviewed by resource

specialists in April 2013, along with a field visit. The Project was posted to the GJFO website from November 8, 2013 to the present; the BLM received no public comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT: A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was prepared, based on the information contained in the EA and on my consideration of criteria for significance (40 CFR 1508.27). Based on the EA, it is my determination that: 1) the implementation of the Proposed Action Alternative will not have significant environmental impacts; 2) the Proposed Action Alternative is in conformance with the Grand Junction Resource Management Plan; and 3) the Proposed Action Alternative does not constitute a major federal action having significant effect on the human environment. No EIS is necessary.

APPEAL PROCEDURES: This decision shall take effect immediately upon the date it is signed by the Authorized Officer, and shall remain in effect while any appeal is pending unless the Interior Board of Land Appeals issues a stay (43 CFR 2801.10(b)). Any appeal of this decision must follow the procedures set forth in 43 CFR Part 4. Within 30 days of the decision, a notice of appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer at Grand Junction Field Office, 2815 H Road, Grand Junction, Colorado, 81506. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed with the Authorized Officer.

NAME OF PREPARER: Janet Doll

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Christina Stark

DATE SIGNED: 5-18-16

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:


Katie A. Stevens
Field Manager
Grand Junction Field Office

ATTACHMENTS:

Table 1, GVP Typical Design Characteristics

Table 3, GVP Standard Mitigation Measures

Table 4, GVP Selectively Recommended Mitigation Measures

Table 5, GVP Stipulations, Standard Operating Procedures

Exhibit B: Right-of-Way Stipulations

*TABLE 1
GVP TYPICAL DESIGN CHARACTERISTICS*

Line length	Approximately 62,304 feet
Type of structure	Single-pole wood
Structure height	40 to 55 feet
Span length	Ruling span 280 feet
Number of structures per mile	Approx. 19 structures per mile
Right-of-way width	Approximately 50 feet
Land disturbed (approximate): <u>Temporary</u> Structure site	Temporary workspace for access would include four areas. . Where structures are near the County roads and the permanent BLM permit overlaps the County road, ROW equipment can set up and work from the edge of the road ROW. GVP will submit utility permit applications to Mesa County and Garfield County for their approval to work in the road ROW Proper traffic control and signage to be used.
Wire pulling, splicing sites	An all-terrain vehicle would be used for wire pulling along the permanent right-of-way. Sites for tensioning equipment are located in the proposed permanent right-of-way.
Removal of existing line	None
Access roads	Use County road and the line corridor.
Voltage	Under 25,000 volts phase to phase
Circuit configuration	Single circuit under 25kV, Single phase conductor and a single neutral conductor.
Distribution Conductor size	4 ACSR, 7/1 Swanate, 0.0411 sq. inch diameter(NEUTRAL) 1/0 ACSR 6/1 Raven (phase), 0.0967 sq. inch diameter(PHASE)
Ground clearance of conductor	Follow the National Electrical Safety Code ground clearance safety rules for overhead power lines
Pole depth	Typically between 6 feet and 7.5 feet deep.

TABLE 3
GVP STANDARD MITIGATION MEASURES

1. All construction vehicle movement outside of the right-of-way will be restricted to pre-designated access, contractor acquired access, or public roads.
2. The limits of construction activities will be predetermined, with activity restricted to and confined within those limits. No paint or permanent discoloring agents will be applied to rocks or vegetation to indicate survey or construction activity limits. The right-of-way boundary will be flagged in environmentally sensitive areas described in the plan of development to alert construction personnel that those areas will be avoided.
3. In construction areas where re-contouring is not required, vegetation will be left in place wherever possible to avoid excessive root damage and allow for re-sprouting.
4. In construction areas where ground disturbance is significant or where re-contouring is required, surface restoration will occur as required by the BLM. The method of restoration typically will consist of returning disturbed areas to their natural contour (to the extent practical), reseeding or re-vegetating with native plants (if required), installing cross drains for erosion control, placing water bars in the road, and filling ditches. Seed will be tested and certified to contain no noxious weeds as defined by the State of Colorado Agricultural Department. Seed viability also will be tested at a certified lab approved by the authorized officer. If seed is not from Colorado, then seed tests should include the state of origins' noxious weeds, as well as Colorado's.
5. Watering facilities (e.g., tanks, developed springs, water lines, wells, etc.) will be repaired or replaced to their pre-disturbed conditions as required by the land management agency if they are damaged or destroyed by construction activities.
6. Prior to construction, all construction personnel will be instructed on the protection of cultural, paleontological, and ecological resources. To assist in this effort, the construction contract will address (a) federal and state laws regarding antiquities, fossils, and plants and wildlife, including collection and removal; and (b) the importance of these resources and the purpose and necessity of protecting them.
7. If required, an initial intensive cultural resource inventory survey will be conducted prior to construction. Impact avoidance and mitigation measures developed in consultation with appropriate land management and regulatory agencies and other interested parties will be implemented. In addition, supplemental surveys of appurtenant impact zones beyond the corridor will be undertaken as needed.
8. Any cultural and/or paleontological resource discovered during construction by GVP or any person working on GVP's behalf on public or federal land will be reported immediately to the authorized officer. GVP will suspend operations in the area until an evaluation is completed to prevent the loss of cultural or scientific values.
9. All construction and maintenance activities will be conducted in a manner that would minimize disturbance to vegetation, drainage channels, and intermittent and perennial stream banks. All existing roads will be left in a condition equal to or better than their condition prior to the construction of the transmission line.
10. All requirements of those entities having jurisdiction over air quality matters will be adhered to and any necessary permits for construction activities would be obtained. Open burning of construction trash (cleared trees, etc.) will not be allowed on BLM-administered lands.

- | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11. Fences and gates, if damaged or destroyed by construction activities, will be repaired or replaced to their original pre-disturbed condition as required by the land management agency. Temporary gates will be installed only with the permission of the land management agency. |
| 12. During operation of the distribution line, the right-of-way will be maintained free of construction related non-biodegradable debris. |
| 13. Totally enclosed containment will be provided for all hazardous materials (if needed) and trash. All construction waste including trash, litter, garbage, other solid waste, petroleum products, and other potentially hazardous materials will be removed to a disposal facility authorized to accept such materials. |
| 14. Structures will be constructed to conform to Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection on Power Lines: <i>State of the Art in 2006</i> (Raptor Research Foundation, Inc. 2006). |
| 15. If required, third-party environmental contractors will be used throughout the construction effort, from clearing through rehabilitation. |
| 16. GVP will trim trees in preference to cutting trees, and will cut trees in preference to bulldozing them. No tree clearing is anticipated at the time of application. |
| 17. Construction holes left open overnight will be covered to prevent damage to livestock or wildlife. |
| 18. GVP will respond to complaints of line-generated radio or television interference by investigating the complaints and implementing appropriate mitigation measures. The distribution line will be patrolled on a regular basis so that damaged insulators or other line materials that could cause interference are repaired or replaced. |
| 19. GVP will apply necessary mitigation to minimize problems of induced currents and voltages onto conductive objects sharing a right-of-way, to the mutual satisfaction of the parties involved. |
| 20. The proposed hardware and conductor will limit the audible noise, radio interference (RI), and television interference (TVI), due to corona. Tension will be maintained on all insulator assemblies to assure positive contact between insulators, thereby avoiding sparking. Caution will be exercised during construction to avoid scratching or nicking the conductor surface, which may provide points for corona to occur. |

TABLE 4
GVP SELECTIVELY RECOMMENDED MITIGATION MEASURES

Note: These selective mitigation measures apply only to specific locations that are identified or during field investigations and recorded in the plan of development.

- | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. No widening or upgrading of existing access roads will be undertaken in the area of construction and operation, except for repairs necessary to make roads passable, where soils or vegetation are very sensitive to disturbance. |
| 2. No blading of new access roads in the area of construction and operation is anticipated. Should the need for new access roads be determined, GVP will document these corridors and will comply with all aspects of the BLM right-of-way grant prior to any access road construction. Existing crossings will be utilized at washes. These access routes must be flagged with an easily seen marker and the route must be approved by the authorized officer in advance of use. |
| 3. Modified structure design will be utilized as necessary to minimize ground disturbance, operational conflicts, visual contrast, or avian conflicts. |

4. In designated areas, structures will be placed or rerouted so as to avoid sensitive features such as, but not limited to, riparian areas, water courses, and cultural sites, or to allow conductors to clearly span the features, within limits of standard tower design. This will minimize the amount of disturbance to the sensitive features or reduce visual contrast.
5. With the exception of emergency repair situations, right-of-way construction, restoration, maintenance, and termination, activities in designated areas will be modified or discontinued during sensitive periods (e.g., nesting and breeding periods) for candidate, proposed threatened and endangered, or other sensitive animal species. This list will be approved in advance by the authorized officer of the BLM.
6. Existing roads and trails that will be blocked as a result of construction will be rerouted as directed by the authorizing officer.
7. The design of the poles will be determined to achieve the minimum practicable visual impacts.

TABLE 5
GVP STIPULATIONS – STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

1. GVP will construct, operate, and maintain the facilities, improvements, and structures within this right-of-way in strict conformity with the plan of development as it is approved and made part of the right-of-way grant. Any relocation, additional construction, or use that is not in accord with the approved plan(s) of development will not be initiated without the prior written approval of the authorized officer. A copy of the complete right-of-way grant, including all stipulations and approved plan(s) of development, will be made available on the right-of-way area during construction, operation, and termination to the authorized officer. Noncompliance with the above shall be grounds for an immediate temporary suspension of activities if it constitutes a threat to public health and safety or the environment.
2. GVP will submit a plan or plans of development that describe in detail the construction, operation, maintenance, and termination of the right-of-way and its associated improvements and/or facilities. The degree and scope of these plans will vary depending on (1) the complexity of the right-of-way or its associated improvements and/or facilities, (2) the anticipated conflicts that require mitigation, and (3) additional technical information required by the authorizing officer. An approved plan of development will be made a part of the right-of-way grant.
3. GVP will contact the authorized officer at least 10 days prior to the anticipated start of construction and/or any surface-disturbing activities. The authorized officer may require and schedule a preconstruction conference with GVP prior to commencement of construction and/or surface-disturbing activities on the right-of-way. GVP, GVP's contractor(s), or agents involved with the construction and/or surface-disturbing activities on the right-of-way should attend this conference to review the stipulations of the grant including the plan(s) of development.
4. GVP will designate a representative(s) who will have the authority to act upon and implement instructions from the authorized officer within a reasonable time when construction or other surface-disturbing activities are underway.

5. The authorized officer may suspend or terminate in whole or in part, any notice to proceed which has been issued when, in his/her judgment, unforeseen conditions arise which result in the approved terms and conditions being inadequate to protect the public health and safety or to protect the environment.
6. The design and location of all facilities shall be approved by the authorized officer prior to construction.
7. The holder will protect all survey monuments found within the right-of-way. Survey monuments include but are not limited to General Land Office and BLM Cadastral Survey Corners, reference corners, witness points, U.S. Coastal and Geodetic benchmarks and triangulation stations, military control monuments, and recognizable civil (both public and private) survey monuments. In the event of obliteration or disturbance of any of the above, GVP will immediately report the incident, in writing, to the authorized officer and the respective installing authority, if known. Where General Land Office or BLM right-of-way monuments or references are obliterated during operations, GVP shall secure the services of a registered land surveyor or a BLM cadastral surveyor to restore the disturbed monuments and references using surveying procedures found in the <i>Manual of Surveying Instructions for the Survey of the Public Lands of the United States</i> , latest edition. GVP shall record such survey in the appropriate county and send a copy to the authorized officer. If the BLM cadastral surveyors or other federal surveyors are used to restore the disturbed survey monument, GVP will be responsible for the survey cost.
8. The holder of this right-of-way grant or the holder's successor in interest shall comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et. seq.) and the regulations of the Secretary of Interior issued pursuant hereto.
9. GVP will conduct all activities associated with the construction, operation, and termination of the right-of-way within the authorized limits of the right-of-way.
10. GVP will survey and clearly mark the centerline and/or exterior limits of the right-of-way, as determined by the authorized officer.
11. All design; material; and construction, operation, maintenance, and termination practices will be in accordance with safe and proven engineering practices.
12. GVP will inform the authorized officer within 48 hours of any accidents on federal lands that require reporting to the Department of Transportation as required by 49 CFR Part 195.
13. During conditions of extreme fire danger, operations may be suspended or limited in certain areas.
14. The holder will be liable for damage or injury to the United States to the extent provided by 43 CFR Sec. 2803.1-4. The holder will be held to a standard of strict liability for damage or injury to the United States resulting from fire or soil movement (including landslides and slumps as well as wind and water-caused movement of particles) caused or substantially aggravated by any of the following within the right-of-way or permit area: Activities of the holder including but not limited to construction, operation, maintenance, and termination of the facility. Activities of other parties including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - land clearing - earth-disturbing and earth-moving work - blasting - vandalism and sabotage

- | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 15. If required within 60 days of completion at the request of BLM, GVP will submit to the authorized BLM officer, as-built drawings and a certification of construction verifying that the facility has been constructed (and tested) in accordance with the design, plans, specifications, and applicable laws and regulations. |
| 16. Construction sites will be maintained in a sanitary condition at all times; waste materials at those sites will be disposed of promptly at an appropriate waste disposal site. "Waste" means all discarded matter including but not limited to human waste, debris, garbage, refuse, oil drums, petroleum products, ashes, and equipment. |

EXHIBIT B: RIGHT-OF-WAY STIPULATIONS

Soils:

- 1) Use BMPs to limit surface water runoff at temporary work areas and if near West Salt Creek place erosion control devices on the creek side of area.

Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species:

- 1) To avoid impacts to the Ferron’s milkvetch construction and surface disturbance should be avoided within the occupied habitat, and a BLM approved biological monitor should be on-scene during surface disturbing activities in the two sensitive areas (T8S, R104W, Sections 22 & 27). If determined necessary by the biological monitor, temporary fencing or similar material should be installed prior to construction activities commencing in the sensitive areas to ensure avoidance of the occupied sites.
- 2) To avoid impacts to migratory birds during peak breeding season vegetation removal would not occur between May 15 and July 15 annually.
- 3) To avoid impacts to nesting raptors additional raptor surveys will be required for any construction occurring between February 1 and August 15 (Where cliffs are within 0.5 miles of the action area surveys for nesting golden eagles will be required for construction occurring between December 15 and July 15). Surveys will need to be conducted in the year of construction and should any active nests be discovered the following timing limitations will apply:

<p>SSS-RPT-AU-01: STIPULATION WILDLIFE RAPTOR NESTS TL CO: No surface use is allowed within a 402 meter (.25 mile) radius of active raptor nests, as mapped in the Resource Management Plan, BLM's GIS database or other maps provided by local, state, federal or tribal agencies that are analyzed and accepted by the BLM, during the following time period(s), or until fledging and dispersal of young:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Osprey nests: April 1 to August 31. • Red-tailed hawk nests, including any alternate nests: February 15 to July 15.

- Swainson's hawk nests and associated alternate nests: April 1 to July 15.
- Burrows or burrowing owl nest sites: March 1 to August 15.
- Great horned owl nests: February 1 to August 15.
- Other owls and raptors: March 1 to August 15.
- Cooper's hawk, sharp shinned hawk, and northern harrier nests: April 1 to August 15.

SSS-RPT-AU-02:

STIPULATION WILDLIFE SENSITIVE RAPTOR NESTS TL CO: No surface use is allowed within an 805 meter (0.5 mile) radius of active or inactive raptor nests, as mapped in the Resource Management Plan, BLM's GIS database or other maps provided by local, state, federal or tribal agencies that are analyzed and accepted by the BLM, during the following time period(s), or until fledging and dispersal of young:

- Ferruginous hawk nests, including any alternate nests: February 1 to July 15.
- Goshawk nest sites: March 1 to September 30.
- Peregrine and prairie falcon nest cliff(s): March 15 to July 31.

SSS-EGL-AU-02:

STIPULATION TL-13: Golden Eagle Nest Sites. Prohibit human encroachment (beyond that which historically has occurred in the area) within 0.5-mile of active golden eagle nests and associated alternate nests from December 15 to July 15.

Cultural Resources:

To protect cultural resources considered eligible for listing on the NRHP, the following protective/mitigation measures will be implemented:

- 1) An archaeological monitor will be present during installation of the poles and associated infrastructure for sites 5GF642.4, 5ME767.3, 5ME767.4, 5ME767.9, and 5ME4676.25.
- 2) All persons in the area who are associated with this project shall be informed that any person who, without a permit, injures, destroys, excavates, appropriates or removes any historic or prehistoric ruin, artifact, object of antiquity, Native American remains, Native American cultural item, or archaeological resources on public lands is subject to arrest and penalty of law (16 USC 433, 16 USC 470, 18 USC 641, 18 USC 1170, and 18 USC 1361). Strict adherence to the confidentiality of information concerning the nature and location of archeological resources would be required of the proponent and all of their subcontractors (Archaeological Resource Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. 470hh)

- 3) Inadvertent Discovery: The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) [16 USC 470s., 36 CFR 800.13], as amended, requires that if newly discovered historic or archaeological materials or other cultural resources are identified during the Proposed Action implementation, work in that area must stop and the BLM Authorized Officer (AO) must be notified immediately. Within five working days the AO will determine the actions that will likely have to be completed before the site can be used (assuming in place preservation is not necessary).
- 4) The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) [25 USC 3001 et seq., 43 CFR 10.4] requires that if inadvertent discovery of Native American Human Remains or Objects of Cultural Patrimony occurs, any activity must cease in the area of discovery, a reasonable effort made to protect the item(s) discovered, and immediate notice be made to the BLM Authorized Officer, as well as the appropriate Native American group(s) (IV.C.2). Notice may be followed by a 30-day delay (NAGPRA Section 3(d)).
- 5) The holder may relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and delays associated with this process, as long as the new area has been appropriately inventoried and has no resource concerns, and the exposed materials are recorded and stabilized. Otherwise, the holder shall be responsible for mitigation costs. The BLM authorized officer will provide technical and procedural guidelines for relocation and/or to conduct mitigation. Upon verification from the BLM authorized officer that the required mitigation has been completed, the holder will be allowed to resume construction. Antiquities, historic ruins, prehistoric ruins, and other cultural or paleontological objects of scientific interest that are outside the authorization boundaries but potentially affected, either directly or indirectly, by the proposed action shall also be included in this evaluation or mitigation. Impacts that occur to such resources as a result of the authorized activities shall be mitigated at the holder's cost, including the cost of consultation with Native American groups.

Land Tenure, Rights of Way, and Other Uses:

- 1) At least 90 days prior to termination of the ROW, GVP should contact the Authorized Officer to arrange a joint inspection of the right-of-way. This inspection will be held to agree to an accountable termination and rehabilitation plan. This plan should include, but is not limited to, removal of facilities, removal of surface material; re-contouring, top-soiling, or seeding. The Authorized Officer must approve the plan in writing prior to the holder's commencement of any termination activities.

Standard Stipulations:

1. Any cultural and/or paleontological resource (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by the holder, or any person working on his behalf, on public or Federal land

shall be immediately reported to the authorized officer. Holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the authorized officer. An evaluation of the discovery will be made by the authorized officer to determine appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values. The holder will be responsible for the cost of evaluation and any decision as to proper mitigation measures will be made by the authorized officer after consulting with the holder.

2. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) the holder of this authorization must notify the authorized officer, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.
3. The holder or its contractor is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are uncovered during any project or construction activity, the operator must stop work in the area of the discovery that might further disturb such materials and immediately contact the Administrative Officer. Within five working days, the AO will inform the operator as to the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in-place preservation is not necessary).
4. The holder shall notify the AO at least 60 days prior to non-emergency activities that would cause surface disturbance in the ROW or TUP. BLM will determine whether any special resource (cultural, plants, animal, etc.) inventories, treatments, or mitigation are required. The authorized officer may require the completion of a special status species surveys by a third party contractor at the expense of the holder, or the BLM may choose to complete the survey. The BLM may take actions or make recommendations to protect any special status plant populations identified near or on the right-of-way.
5. A "Notice to Proceed" stipulation shall be required for any non-emergency activities as defined above that would cause surface disturbance on the ROW. Any request for a "Notice to Proceed" should be made to the AO, who shall review the proposed action for consistency with resource management concerns such as wildlife, big game winter range, paleontology, threatened and endangered species, and cultural resource protection. Additional measures may be required to protect these resources.
6. On the Right-of-Way, the holder shall monitor and control those noxious weeds that may occur or be found, as listed in the booklet, Noxious Weeds of Mesa County. If chemical control is necessary, use of pesticides shall comply with the applicable Federal and State laws. Pesticides shall be used only in accordance with their registered uses and within limitations imposed by the Secretary of the Interior. Prior to the use of pesticides, the holder shall obtain from the authorized officer written approval of a plan showing the type and quantity of material to be used, the pest(s) to be controlled, method of

application, location of storage and disposal of containers, and any other information deemed necessary by the authorized officer. Emergency use of pesticides shall be approved in writing by the authorized officer prior to such use.

7. The holder shall comply with all applicable Federal laws and regulations existing or hereafter enacted or promulgated. In any event, the holder shall comply with the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976, as amended (15 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) with regard to any toxic substances that are used, generated by or stored on the right-of-way or on facilities authorized under this right-of-way grant (see 40 CFR, Part 702-799 and especially, provisions on polychlorinated biphenyls, 40 CFR 761.1-761.193). Additionally, any release of toxic substances (leaks, spills, etc.) in excess of the reportable quantity established by 40 CFR, Part 117 shall be reported as required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, Section 102b. A copy of any report required or requested by any Federal agency or State government as a result of a reportable release or spill of any toxic substances shall be furnished to the authorized officer concurrent with the filing of the reports to the involved Federal agency or State government.
8. The holder shall comply with applicable State standards for public health and safety, environmental protection and siting, construction, operation and maintenance, if these State standards are more stringent than Federal standards for similar projects.
9. The holder shall conduct all activities associated with the construction, operation, and termination of the right-of-way within the authorized limits of the ROW.