



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Las Cruces District Office  
1800 Marquess Street  
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005  
[www.blm.gov/nm](http://www.blm.gov/nm)



In Reply Refer To:

1793 (L0000)

JUN 20 2014

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Department of Defense, Fort Bliss (DOD) invite you to participate in the identification of issues to determine the scope for a proposed Environmental Assessment (EA) for El Paso Electric's Amrad to Artesia Project (Project) 345 kV transmission line (see enclosed project location map). El Paso Electric currently has authorization with the BLM for the existing 345 kV transmission line right-of-way and has applied to amend their right-of-way to include permanent access. The permanent access is needed in order to facilitate necessary maintenance activities to existing transmission lines on public land administered by the BLM in Otero, Chaves, and Eddy counties. No new transmission facilities are proposed as part of this project.

The BLM is the lead agency and is preparing the EA in direct coordination with the DOD. The EA will assess the potential environmental impacts resulting from El Paso Electric's proposed action. El Paso Electric proposes to use existing roads and original construction roads, where applicable, and to clear new road segments that would be necessary to maintain their existing infrastructure along the Project's 345 kV transmission line. As part of line maintenance, El Paso Electric seeks the right to clear a work area within the transmission corridor right-of-way up to 100 feet wide by 100 feet long, around a structure, whenever a structure requires replacement or maintenance. The transmission line extends from a tie-in point at the Amrad Substation approximately 12 miles northwest of Orogrande, New Mexico, to the Eddy County Substation tie-in point near Artesia, New Mexico. The transmission line crosses lands administered by the BLM, DOD, Bureau of Reclamation, State of New Mexico, and private landowners. This EA will form the basis for the BLM and the DOD decisions to issue the right-of-way grant amendment requested by El Paso Electric.

You may submit comments at any time during the preparation of the EA; however, if you would like to have your comments considered for inclusion in the EA, comments must be submitted by July 7, 2014. There are two ways in which you can submit your comments on the proposed Project:

- File your comments electronically by sending them to: [blm\\_nm\\_lcdo\\_comments@blm.gov](mailto:blm_nm_lcdo_comments@blm.gov) Please include "Amrad to Artesia Access Roads Amendment Comments" in the subject line of your email.
- Mail your comments to: "Amrad to Artesia Access Roads Amendment" BLM Las Cruces District Office, ATTN: Carl Krause, 1800 Marquess Street, Las Cruces, NM 88005.

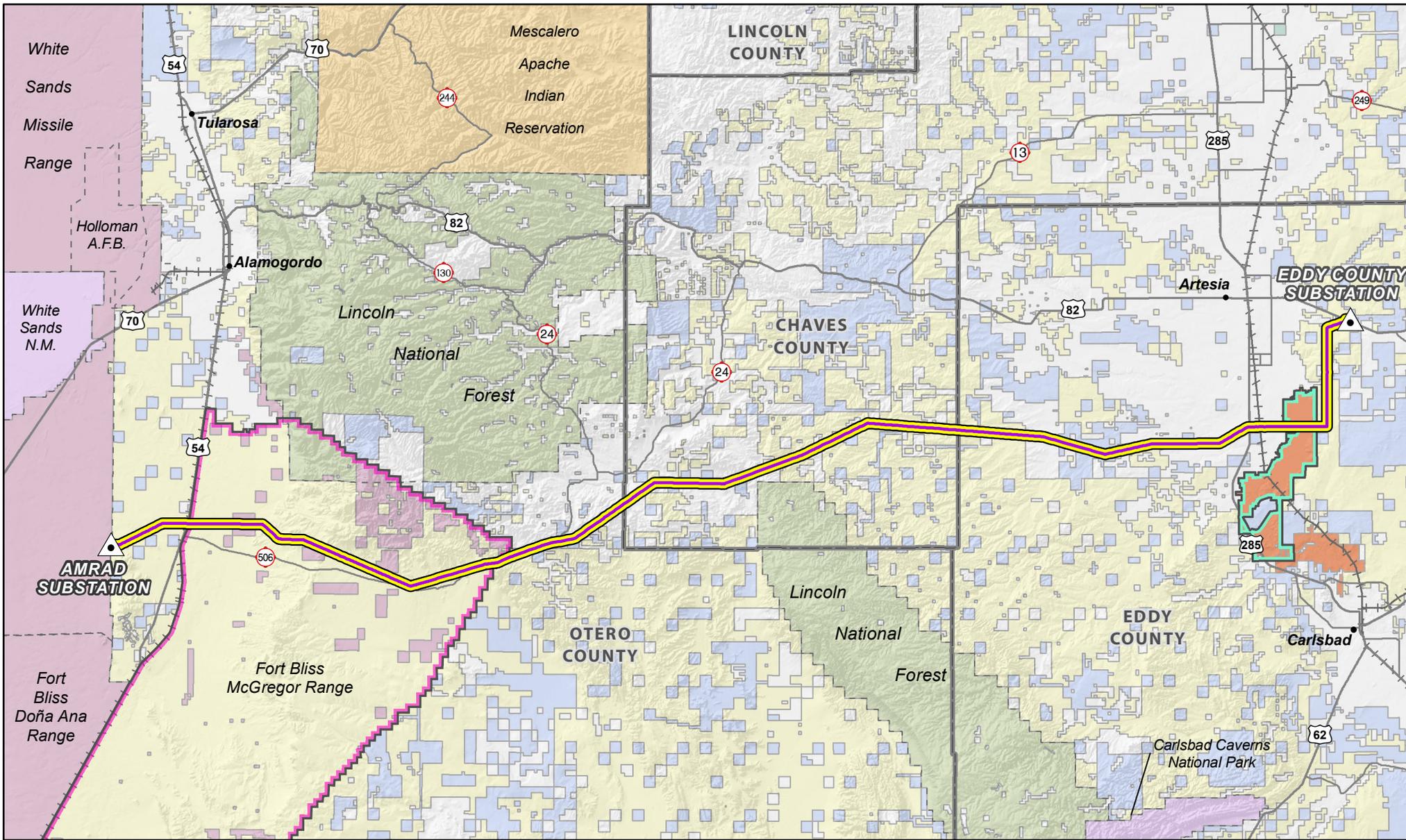
When including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

If you have any questions about this Project, please contact Carl Krause, Project Lead, at 575-525-4394. We appreciate your participation in this proposed Project.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bill Childress

Bill Childress  
District Manager



**Legend**

**Project Features**

- Substation
- Existing 345 KV Transmission Line
- AIP Access Roads Amendment Project

**Land Ownership**

- Bureau of Land Management
- National Park Service
- Military
- U.S. Forest Service
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Indian Reservation
- State Trust Land
- Private

**Reference Features**

- County Boundary
- Jurisdictional Boundary
- Fort Bliss - McGregor Range Boundary
- Brantley Wildlife Area
- U.S. Highway
- State Highway
- Railroad



**Amrad to Artesia Access Roads Project**

El Paso Electric

June 2014

