

Project Contact

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Comment Submittal

Opportunities to submit written public comments during the 45-day public scoping period are available by:

Attending a public scoping meeting and registering comments in person
 (See the Public Open House Meeting Schedule on back cover)

Emailing comments to:
NMSunZiaProject@blm.gov

Mailing comments to:
 Bureau of Land Management
 New Mexico State Office SunZia
 Southwest Transmission Project
 P.O. Box 27115
 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115

Courier/Hand Delivery:
 Bureau of Land Management,
 SunZia Southwest Transmission Project
 1474 Rodeo Road
 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

(New Mexico). Right(s)-of-way of up to 1,000 feet in width with a lease-term of 50 years will be required to construct, operate, and maintain the transmission lines, structures, and appurtenances. Once constructed, the project would be in operation year-round, transporting electrical power to major substation hubs in Arizona and New Mexico.

Purpose and Need

The purpose of the SunZia Project is to transport electricity generated by power generation resources, including primarily renewable resources, to western power markets and load centers. The Southwest Area Transmission Group, a regional transmission planning organization, has identified the need for a new 500kV transmission line between Arizona and New Mexico. The SunZia Project would enable the development of renewable energy resources, including wind, solar, and geothermal generation, by creating access to the interstate power grid in the Desert Southwest and providing increased transfer capacity. This would enable several states to meet their Renewable Energy Standards (RES [see sidebar]). The SunZia Project would also increase power reliability across the southwestern United States, allowing communities in southern Arizona and southern New Mexico to economically access energy generated from renewable sources, while providing power to help meet growing demand in the western United States and enhance domestic energy security.

Public Comments Sought for Environmental Analysis

The EIS will address the construction, operation, and maintenance of the SunZia Project's proposed high-voltage transmission lines, new substations, access roads and related facilities, and new substations. Additional studies undertaken as part of this EIS process will determine the final configuration and

route of the transmission lines and final location of the proposed substations. Potential environmental issues to be addressed in the EIS analysis include:

- Land use and recreation resources
- Visual resources
- Biological resources, including special status species
- Cultural and historical resources
- Air, soil, and water resources
- Floodplains and wetlands

The BLM invites you to comment on specific issues and concerns relating to the proposed SunZia Project, alternative routes, and potentially affected resources, or suggest other issues that should be evaluated in the EIS.

RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARDS

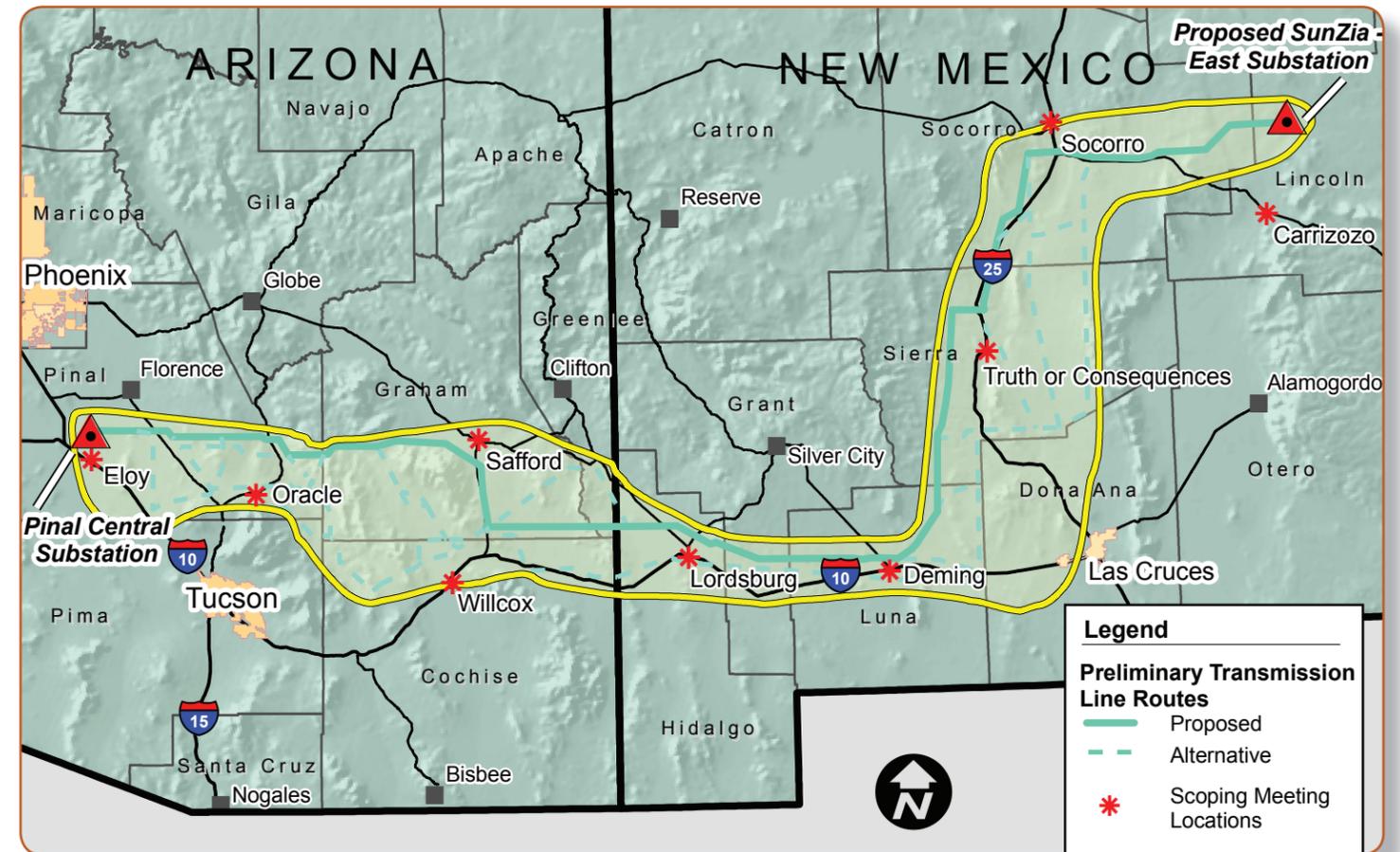
The percentage of a regulated utility's retail sales that must be generated by renewable energy sources. The RES must be met by a certain year.

State	RES	Year
AZ	15%	2025
CA	33%	2020
NM	20%	2020
NV	20%	2015

Project Mailing List and Newsletter

Throughout the course of the project, updates will be sent to individuals on the mailing list. To receive newsletters or request to be placed on the mailing list, forward your information to: NMSunZiaProject@blm.gov or submit via the project website at: www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/prog/more/lands_realty.html.

SUNZIA SOUTHWEST TRANSMISSION STUDY AREA



PROJECT TIMELINE

