

Appendix A
Agency Comments

Appendix A
Agency Comments

*Table A1 – Summary of
Representative Comments
Received*

Table A-1: Summary of Representative Comments Received

Date Comments Received	Agency Name	Contact Name/Title	Comments
11/05/10 03/09/11	Bureau of Land Management 5665 Morgan Mill Road Carson City, NV 89701	Ken Nelson, et al Carson City District Office	Requested that new Grant ROW application be combined with Eagle Lake Field Office (ELFO) authorization. Send application to ELFO. See Appendix A Received comments on Admin DEA
10/15/10 03/09/11	Bureau of Land Management, ELFO 2950 Riverside Drive Susanville, CA 96130	Charlie Wright, Realty Specialist, et al.	GIS Shapefiles e-mailed on 11/05/10. CD of Route Map delivered on 11/08/10. SF 299 ROW application sent to BLM ELFO on 01/28/2011. See Appendix A Received comments on Admin DEA.
11/29/10	California Department of Fish and Game 601 Locust Street Redding, CA 96001	Kevin Hunting	Referred Project to Regional Manager.
11/29/10	California Department of Fish and Game, Region 2 PO Box 419 Quincy, CA 95971	Julie Newman, Staff Env. Scientist Resource Conservation Services (Plumas, Sierra, Yuba & Sutter Counties)	Sent Scoping materials. See Appendix A
11/10/10	California Department of Transportation 1120 N. Street Sacramento, CA 95814	Don Fogle	See Appendix A
10/13/10 12/18/10 04/01/11	California Public Utilities Commission 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102	Andrew Barnsdale	See Appendix A Ongoing meetings & teleconns CPUC to issue CEQA Initial Study on May 2, 2011.
11/15/10	California State Water Resources Control Board PO Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95812-0100	Frank Roddy	See Appendix A

Date Comments Received	Agency Name	Contact Name/Title	Comments
	Feather River Land Trust PO Box 1826 Quincy, CA 95971	Paul Hardy	No comments received as of 11/29/10.
11/16/10	City of Loyalton 210 Front Street Loyalton, CA 96118	John Cussins, Maintenance Foreman	See Appendix A
	Lassen County Planning and Building Services 707 Nevada Street Susanville, CA 96130	Maurice Anderson, Director	No comments received as of 11/18/10.
10/25/10	Lassen County Community Development	Thomas Maioli	Expecting additional comments from Thomas Maioli. Verbal comments.
11/08/10	Lassen County APCD 707 Nevada Street, Ste. 1 Susanville, CA 96130	Joe Bertotti, Officer	No comment received as of 11/18/10.
10/18/10	City of Susanville Planning Division 66 North Lassen Street Susanville, CA 96130-3904	Jared Hancock, Sr. Planner	Expecting additional comments from Jared Hancock. See Appendix A
10/21/10	Native American Heritage Commission 915 Capitol Mall, Room 364 Sacramento, CA 95814	Katy Sanchez, Program Analyst	See Appendix A-3
	Natural Resources Conservation Service Susanville Service Center 170 Russell Ave., Ste. C Susanville, CA 96130-4271	Kenneth Weaver, District Conservationist	No comments received as of 1/31/11.
11/08/10	Natural Resources Conservation Service Susanville Service Center 170 Russell Ave., Ste. C Susanville, CA 96130-4271	Ceci Dale-Cesmat District Conservationist	No comments received as of 11/29/10.

Date Comments Received	Agency Name	Contact Name/Title	Comments
01/26/11 01/28/11 02/28/11 03/28/11	Nevada Dept of Transportation 1263 South Stewart St. Carson City, NV 89712	Robert Chisel Steve Cook Steve Smith Cliff Creger Bill Bowman	See Appendix A – Telephone note and email - Jan. 26, 2011; Jan 28, 2011. Also see Telephone note – February 28, 2011 Ongoing meetings and teleconn. PSREC decided on 3/28/11 to avoid U.G. construction in NDOT ROW and utilize existing NV Energy overhead poles.
	Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District District Headquarters 200 Litton Drive, Ste. 320 Grass Valley, CA 95945		No comments received as of 1/31/11.
10/14/10	Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District PO Box 2509 Grass Valley, CA 95945	Sam Longmire, MSES Air Pollution Control Specialist	See Appendix A
	Plumas Corporation PO Box 3880 Quincy, CA 95971	John Sheehan	No comments received as of 11/29/10.
11/29/10	Plumas County Planning 555 Main Street Quincy, CA 95971	Randy Wilson, Director	Forwarding scoping package to Public Works Department as of 11/29/10. Meeting held on 01/28/2011 with Baracco. See Appendix A
	Plumas County Public Works 1834 East Main Quincy, CA 95971	Bob Perreault	No comments received as of 11/18/10.
11/15/10 01/28/11	City of Portola 35 Third Avenue Portola, CA 96122	Jim Murphy, City Manager Karen Downs, Planner	See Appendix A
10/15/10	Sierra County Planning Department PO Box 530 Downieville, CA 95936	Tim Bealls, Director	See Appendix A - email from M. Dines

Date Comments Received	Agency Name	Contact Name/Title	Comments
11/16/10	Sierra County Planning Department 101 Courthouse Square PO Box 530 Downieville, CA 95936	Brandon Pangman, Sr. Planner	Verbal comments
	US Army Corp of Engineers Sacramento District 1325 J Street Sacramento, CA 95814-2922	Will Ness Regulatory Branch	No comments received as of 11/18/10.
10/06/10	USFS, Pacific SW Region 1323 Club Drive Vallejo, CA 94592	Jeanne Wade Evans, Deputy Regional Forester Jim Pena	No comments received as of 1/31/11.
11/05/10 12/02/10 01/24/11 03/29/11	USFS, Plumas National Forest PO Box 1150 Quincy, CA 95971	Alice Carlton, Forest Supervisor David Drake	Meeting with USFS on Dec 1, 2010 & Jan. 24, 2011; numerous telephone & email discussions. See Appendix A Ongoing meetings and teleconn. Received verbal comments. Issuing CAT EX and Decision Memo.
	City of Reno PO Box 1900 Reno, NV 89501	Donna Dreska, City Manager	No comments received as of 1/31/11.
11/05/10 11/08/10 11/29/10 11/29/10	City of Reno PO Box 1900 Reno, NV 89501	Claudia C. Hanson, AICP Planning Manager Nathan Gilbert Travis Truhill	See Appendix A
10/18/10	Washoe County Department of Community Development PO Box 11130 Reno, NV 89520-0027	Adrian P. Freund, Director	See Appendix A
01/11/11	California Office of Historic Preservation 1725 23 rd Street, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95816	F. Wayne Donaldson, SHPO Tristan Tozer, State Historian	See Appendix A

Date Comments Received	Agency Name	Contact Name/Title	Comments
10/13/10 01/25/11	Nevada Office of Historic Preservation 100 N. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89701	Rebecca Palmer	See Appendix A
10/19/10 02/11/11 03/08/11	US Fish & Wildlife Service-Sacramento 2800 Cottage Way, Rm. W-2605 Sacramento, CA 95825	Susan K. Moore	See Appendix A for Concurrence letter dated 03/08/11
10/19/10 02/11/11 03/30/11	US Fish & Wildlife Service-Reno 1340 Financial Blvd., Ste. 234 Reno, NV 89502	Jeanne Stafford	See Appendix A for Concurrence email dated 03/30/11.
09/10/10	Union Pacific Railroad	Jon Devish	See Appendix A
	Utah State Historic Preservation Salt Lake City, UT	Jim Dykman Wilson Martin Roger Roper	Notified through TCNS. No comments received as of 4/7/11.
	Arizona State Parks	Carol Griffith William Collins Ann Howard	Notified through TCNS. Telephoned on 2/22//11 to say no comments since is out of area of interest.

PLUMAS SIERRA
RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

Date:

12/02/2010

Project: PSREC BTOP Grant

Award # NT10BIX5570125

Contact Name/Company:

Ken Nelson, BLM, Carson City

Contact Phone Number:

Details:

Ken & Charlie Wright @ ELFO
agreed that a new ROW authorization
for the exist. pole structures and
the fiber conduit should be
authorized by just one F.O.

MPE will send SF 249 application
to ELFO for Charlie's review
and authorization.

Need the staging areas and BMPs
to go to BLM.

PSREC Employee Signature:



Jennifer Atkins

From: mix@mpeinc.net
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 12:23 PM
To: jatkins@psrec.coop
Subject: Fwd: Plumas Fiber Optic Cable

Please print.

-----Original Message-----

From: Ken_Nelson@blm.gov [mailto:Ken_Nelson@blm.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 29, 2010 01:06 PM
To: mix@mpeinc.net
Subject: Plumas Fiber Optic Cable

Hi Mary Ann, Give me a call when you get a chance on this project. I have 3 questions initially: Who has the NEPA lead for the project? Who is coordinating the 106 process (cultural resources? On what side of US 395 will the cable be laid? (if you know yet) Since the underground cable portion is located within the US 395 right-of-way, and across a limited stretch of BLM, I think any comments we would have be minimal. The only issue that comes to mind at this point is cultural resources, and if any new cultural resource surveys would be required. Ken Nelson Realty Specialist Sierra Front Field Office Carson City District (775) 885-6114

PO Box 3040
Hailey, ID 83333
Phone: (208) 788-3940
Fax: (208) 788-6009
mix@mpeinc.net

From: Charlie_Wright@blm.gov [mailto:Charlie_Wright@blm.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2010 3:51 PM
To: Mary Ann Mix
Subject: Plumas Sierra Fiber Optic Project

Mary Ann,

We received the letter regarding the PSREC's Fiber Optic proposal under the BTOP/ARRA. I have a few questions: 1) Is there a GIS shapefile showing the route as depicted on the map provided? If so can we have a copy of those files, so that we can examine the route at different scales and overlay on our data layers etc? 2) It appears as though there will be both buried and above ground cable in the Hwy 395 corridor between Herlong and Milford, is that correct? 3) Is PSREC going to apply to amend existing BLM right-of-ways for the underhung segments of fiber optic? The last time I checked this was required for a segment of (what was then Nevada Bell) fiber optic on Sierra Pacific Pwr poles. 4) Will PSREC operate/maintain the fiber optic long term or is this going to be assigned to another entity?

It appears that the segment around Hallelujah Junction is on Carson City, Sierra Front Field Office BLM jurisdiction. Would you like to have me forward a copy of the letter to that office?

I think that is all the questions for now. I have forwarded the information to other ELFO staff, and I am awaiting responses.

Regards,

Charles Wright
Realty Specialist

Bureau of Land Management
Eagle Lake Field Office
2950 Riverside Drive
Susanville CA, 96130
(530) 252-5312 (530) 257-4831 (FAX)

Jennifer Atkins

From: Mary Ann Mix <mix@mpeinc.net>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2010 7:59 AM
To: Charlie_Wright@blm.gov
Cc: 'Greg Lohn'; lrice@psrec.coop; 'Jennifer Atkins'
Subject: RE: Plumas Sierra Fiber Optic Project

Thanks for the prompt response, Charlie.

We will have the shape files emailed to you.

The underground portion along US 395 is proposed to be placed in the Caltrans ROW from Bordertown to Hallelujah Junction. From there north to just south of Susanville, it would be hung overhead on the existing 69kV Long Valley Transmission line with some PSREC distribution poles being used.

If the BLM requires an amendment to the existing Grant of ROW, certainly PSREC will amend the Grant(s). Are there more than one or two ROWs?

Yes, PSREC will own and operate the system. The funding is the ARRA Grant Award.

We sent a scoping package to Ken Nelson at Carson City. I would expect that Ken will forward to appropriate person, if not him. But would really appreciate it if you could follow up as well.

The ARRA stipulations require a Draft EA to be completed by Jan 28, 2011. Really fast-track. Any assistance is greatly appreciated by the PSREC and the NTIA.

Thanks.
Mary Ann

Mary Ann Mix, President
MPE, Inc.
PO Box 3040
Hailey, ID 83333
Phone: (208) 788-3940
Fax: (208) 788-6009
mix@mpeinc.net

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Regards,

Charles Wright
Realty Specialist

Bureau of Land Management
Eagle Lake Field Office
2950 Riverside Drive
Susanville CA, 96130
(530) 252-5312 (530) 257-4831 (FAX)

Jennifer Atkins

From: Greg Lohn <glohn@psrec.coop>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2010 8:11 AM
To: 'Mary Ann Mix'; Charlie_Wright@blm.gov
Cc: 'Greg Lohn'; lrice@psrec.coop; 'Jennifer Atkins'
Subject: RE: Plumas Sierra Fiber Optic Project
Attachments: PlumasFiber_101310.zip

Charlie,

Attached is a zip file containing Shapefiles for the currently proposed Overhead and Underground fiber optic line routes.

Each has been projected in the NAD83 datum to UTM Zone 10, with the linear unit of meters.

Greg Lohn
PSREC
Project Manager
Generation and Transmission
530-832-6026 (w)
530-251-7449 (c)

From: Mary Ann Mix [mailto:mix@mpeinc.net]
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2010 7:59 AM
To: Charlie_Wright@blm.gov
Cc: 'Greg Lohn'; lrice@psrec.coop; 'Jennifer Atkins'
Subject: RE: Plumas Sierra Fiber Optic Project

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Thanks.
Mary Ann

Mary Ann Mix, President
MPE, Inc.

Jennifer Atkins

From: mix@mpeinc.net
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 9:59 AM
To: jatkins@psrec.coop
Subject: Fwd: Plumas Sierra Fiber Optic - Input requested by 11/15

Please print.

-----Original Message-----

From: mix@mpeinc.net [mailto:mix@mpeinc.net]
Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2010 11:15 PM
To: Charlie_Wright@blm.gov, mix@mpeinc.net
Cc: Rhonda_Noggles@ca.blm.gov, glohn@psrec.coop
Subject: Re: Plumas Sierra Fiber Optic - Input requested by 11/15

Thanks for your response.

Does PSREC need to file a new SF299?

Mary Ann

-----Original Message-----

From: Charlie_Wright@blm.gov [mailto:Charlie_Wright@blm.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2010 06:35 PM
To: mix@mpeinc.net
Cc: Rhonda_Noggles@ca.blm.gov
Subject: Fw: Plumas Sierra Fiber Optic - Input requested by 11/15

Mary Ann,

The letter was not specific, but I am assuming we can send comments to you since you were the only email listed.

For wildlife comments, please see the note below. Additional comments are:

1. BLM will need to review the fire prevention plan prior to construction on BLM lands.
2. Generic concern over the increase in traffic from construction and service vehicles within the existing ROWs.
3. Map indicates no buried fiber installation proposed for Eagle Lake FO BLM lands. All new buried fiber is on CCFO BLM around Hallelujah Junction.
4. Several existing PSREC rights-of-way will require amendment prior to construction, including CAS 0 073698, Bass Hill 69kV Tran Line. This ROW is a pre-FLPMA grant issued in 1963, so amendment will involve updating the terms and conditions to be consistent with current authorities, etc.
5. Overall, not a great deal of concern expressed, since the project on ELFO consists of installing fiber on existing lines.

If there are any questions or clarification needed, just let me know.

Charles Wright
Realty Specialist

Bureau of Land Management
Eagle Lake Field Office
2950 Riverside Drive
Susanville CA, 96130
(530) 252-5312 (530) 257-4831 (FAX)

----- Forwarded by Charlie Wright/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI on 11/15/2010 03:02 PM -----

Hello All,

We received a letter from PSREC about an ARRA project they are attempting to put together that would add approximately 172 miles of fiber optic cable to existing transmission and distribution poles and routes. Part of the project would involved buried cable, mainly along or within the Highway 395 ROW. So far I am unable to locate, by looking at their map, any buried cable on ELFO BLM lands. At this stage, it does not appear to me that this project will create new disturbance on ELFO BLM. I will be asking for shapefiles, so that we may examine the routes a little more closely. In the meantime, feel free to review the map hanging on the outside of my cubicle. I will post a copy of the letter and attachments also.

Thanks,

Charles Wright
Realty Specialist

Bureau of Land Management
Eagle Lake Field Office
2950 Riverside Drive
Susanville CA, 96130
(530) 252-5312 (530) 257-4831 (FAX)

Bruce Baracco

Subject: FW: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Broadband Project

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Hunting [mailto:KHUNTING@dfg.ca.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 29, 2010 7:48 AM
To: Bruce Baracco
Cc: Kent Smith
Subject: Re: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Broadband Project

Bruce,

By way of this reply, I am forwarding your email message to Kent Smith, our Regional Manager in the region where the proposed project would be constructed. I'm sure he will forward the message to appropriate environmental review staff. Please work directly with Kent or his designee on this project.

Kevin Hunting
Chief Deputy Director
California Department of Fish and Game
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1208 Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 653-1070

Bruce Baracco

From: Julie Newman [JNEWMAN@dfg.ca.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 29, 2010 10:37 AM
To: baraccoplanner@comcast.net
Subject: Plumas-Sierra REC Broadband Project

Mr Baracco,

Could you please send me the scoping packet for the Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Broadband Project? I am the Plumas County contact for CEQA review for the California Department of Fish and Game. If there are any materials available electronically, that would be great.

Thanks!

Julie

Julie C. Newman
Staff Environmental Scientist
Resource Conservation Services (Plumas, Sierra, Yuba & Sutter Cos.) Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game Region 2 P.O. Box 419 Quincy, CA 95971

(530) 283-6866
Mobile: (530) 520-3052
FAX (530) 283-2938

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TRAFFIC OPERATIONS
P.O. BOX 942873, MS-36
SACRAMENTO, CA 94273-0001
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FAX (916) 653-6080
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

November 10, 2010

Ms. Jennifer Atkins
Grant Administrator
Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative
73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122

Dear Ms. Atkins:

This letter is in response to your letter to the Encroachment Permits Program dated October 8, 2010 regarding the Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (PSREC) broadband deployment project funded with a grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is supportive of ARRA projects and the goal of providing broadband to unserved and underserved areas of California. On project specific issues, please work directly with the districts. Should issues arise that cannot be resolved by the district staff, they will elevate those issues to Headquarters.

I have shared the information you submitted to the District Permit Engineers in Districts 2 (Redding) and District 3 (Marysville). These people should be your initial points of contact. Additionally, I also shared the information with Caltrans staff who participated in the recent ARRA Broadband meeting held in the Governor's Office.

Please direct any project specific data or requests to the following district staff members:
District 2: Ms. Stacey Barnes, phone (530) 225-3314, email: stacey.barnes@dot.ca.gov
District 3: Mr. Bruce Capaul, phone (530) 741-4403, email: bruce.capaul@dot.ca.gov

If you have any other concerns or issues that you feel have not been properly addressed, please call me at (916) 654-4551.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donald E. Fogle".

DONALD E. FOGLE
Office Chief
Encroachment Permits and Outdoor Advertising

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



January 19, 2011

Frank J. Monteferrante, Ph.D.
Environmental Compliance Specialist
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
H.C. Hoover Bldg. Room 2830B
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Re: ARRA-funded Broadband Projects in California

Dear Dr. Monteferrante:

This letter is to inform you that the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) endorses the format for the environmental documents being prepared for the California Broadband Cooperative (CBC); Central Valley Independent Network (CVIN); and Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (P-SREC) projects: a NEPA¹ Environmental Assessment (EA) with a CEQA² attachment. The CEQA attachments will refer to the project description and analysis done in the NEPA EAs, so as not to duplicate effort. The CEQA attachments will also contain introductory and regulatory framework language that will serve to introduce the documents and describe its function in California. At this time, we anticipate that the impacts of each project can be fully mitigated, and that the CEQA attachments will be in the form of a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for each project. The MND would be used by agencies in California acting as Responsible Agencies pursuant to CEQA.

We expect the documents will be ready for NTIA review by end of January 2011. Then the CPUC and its contractors will reformat the documents as necessary to better suit the decision making process in California. The documents will be reformatted to a CEQA MND with the NEPA EA analysis attached. The substantive differences between NEPA and CEQA in this context are minor: impact analyses on Green House Gases and Population and Housing. The technical information for these CEQA analyses will likely be contained in the NEPA sections on Climate Change and Socioeconomics. The bulk of our work here in California on these projects will take the form of minor editing and formatting/production issues.

¹ National Environmental Policy Act

² California Environmental Quality Act

When the CEQA documents are ready for public review, the CPUC will publish them for 30 days of comment. Upon closure of the comment period, the CPUC will make any necessary revisions to the CEQA documents and prepare a Resolution for the Commission to adopt the MNDs by a vote. The Final Mitigated Negative Declarations voted out by the Commission will be used by other California agencies responsible for granting permits to these three projects. We expect the time frame for preparing any necessary revisions and adopting a Commission Resolution to be fairly short, on the order of several weeks.

Despite our concurrence on the format for the documents, the extremely short timeframes for completing the NEPA and CEQA work will likely require that the NEPA documents submitted to NTIA for review at the end of January on these three projects be solely the NEPA document without the CEQA document attached. As of this letter, two of the projects (CVIN and PS-REC) are experiencing timing issues and we have agreed with those grantees that the Draft NEPA EA for NTIA should take priority if a joint document cannot be produced by the end of January 2011. The CPUC and its contractors will then prepare the CEQA documents described above and issue them for public comment by mid-February 2011. We will forward these public drafts to the NTIA as well. We expect the NTIA NEPA review and CPUC comment period to run concurrently. We anticipate that we can make any necessary revisions to the CEQA documents and prepare Resolutions for Commission action to adopt the three CEQA MNDs by mid-April 2011.

Our work here in California on both the NEPA and CEQA fronts is proceeding, and we expect our grantees will be able to fully meet their federally-mandated timelines for preparing draft environmental documents and for expending ARRA awarded funds on these critical Broadband projects. We are extremely pleased to be able to work with the Department of Commerce and the NTIA on these projects, and we will take every measure necessary to facilitate the timely environmental review and expenditure of funds for these Broadband projects.

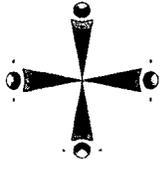
Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have at (415) 703-3221 or via e-mail at Andrew.barnsdale@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Andrew Barnsdale
Energy Division – CEQA Unit
California Public Utilities Commission

Cc: Paul Clanon, Executive Director
Jack Leutze, Director – Communications
Julie Fitch, Director – Energy



MPE, INC
Environmental Consulting

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

Date: 10/13/2010; 4:03 pm

Project: PSREC BTOP Grant

Recorded by: Mary Ann Mix (MAM)

Award # NT10BIX5570125

Contact Name/Company: Andrew Barnsdale (AB), CPUC

Contact Phone Number: 415-703-3221

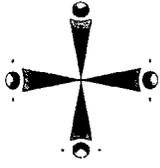
Details: Discussion focused on the CEQA trigger. AB indicated within the CEQA framework, the vast majority of the project is non-problematic; however, he is unable to make the determination an exemption is allowable because of the plow trenching in the Caltrans ROW, mainly from Bordertown to Hallelujah Junction. Through previous discussions with Frank Monteferrante at NTIA, they have decided to pursue a joint NEPA/CEQA document, with additional sections addressing CEQA compliance for growth inducement impacts and MMRPs for affected resources. Further CPUC will require a PEA upon completion of the Class I literature search for Cultural Resources. AB recommends use of CPUC contractors to work with PSREC NEPA contractor to ensure CEQA is adequately addressed. Cost recovery will be required.

ACTION ITEM LIST:

1. MAM to send to AB/CPUC – list of tribes and CA tribes; scoping packet; USFS contact; draft errata sheet.
2. AB to set up meeting with CEQA contractor, PSREC, NEPA contractor, other agencies as applicable.

COMPLETED:

1. Sent all items except Errata Sheet to AB on 10/14/2010 at 10:07 a.m.
2. AB scheduled Conference Call (CC) on 10/20/2010.



MPE, INC
Environmental Consulting

MPE Employee Signature: Mary Ann Mix, October 19, 2010

Jennifer Atkins

From: mix@mpeinc.net
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 11:20 AM
To: jatkins@psrec.coop
Subject: Fwd: PSREC Water Board Requirements

please print

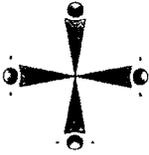
-----Original Message-----

From: Frank Roddy [mailto:froddy@waterboards.ca.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2010 05:04 PM
To: baraccoplanner@comcast.net, mix@mpeinc.net
Cc: 'Bruce Fujimoto', 'Bill Orme', 'Greg Gearheart'
Subject: PSREC Water Board Requirements

Mary Ann Mix Bruce Baracco Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative Dear Ms. Mix and Mr. Baracco: The proposed project will need two approvals from the State Water Resources Control Board: 1) coverage under the Construction General Permit (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ); and, 2) 401 Certification. The Construction General Permit is a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and as such is exempt from CEQA. However, 401 certification is not exempt from CEQA and an appropriate environmental document will need to be prepared before certification can be granted. Information on the Construction General Permit can be found on the State Water Board's website:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/constpermits.shtml You can file for coverage under the Construction General Permit through the Water Board's Storm Water Multiple Application & Report Tracking System 2 (SMARTS) <https://smarts.waterboards.ca.gov/smarts/faces/SwSmartsLogin.jsp> You will need to sign up in order to use the SMARTS program. Since the proposed project involves more than one Regional Water Board, you will need to file an application for 401 Certification with the State Water Board. The application form can be found on our website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/index.shtml#resources Please direct questions about the Construction General permit to Greg Gearheart phone: (916) 341-5892 email: ggearheart@waterboards.ca.gov Questions about the 401 Certification can be directed to Bill Orme phone (916) 341-5464 email: borme@waterboards.ca.gov You may also contact me for further questions. Sincerely, Frank Roddy State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Quality P.O. Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 (916) 341-5379 office (916) 341-5584 FAX



MPE, INC
Environmental Consulting

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

Date: November 16, 2010

Project: PSREC BTOP Grant

Award # NT10BIX5570125

Contact Name/Company: John Cussins (JC), Maintenance Foreman, City of Loyaltan

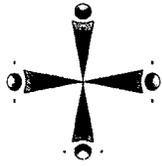
Contact Phone Number: Cell: 530-545-1011; City Hall: 530-993-6750

Details: City of Loyaltan would issue an encroachment permit for the project; however, because the exact location of water and sewer lines is uncertain, use of micro-trenching would still require extensive 'potholing' to determine the precise location of water and sewer lines. JC suggests that with the transfer of electrical power from SPI to Cal Pico (with whom P-SREC has a maintenance agreement) that placing a fiber optic line overhead would be much easier.

The City of Loyaltan does not have a City Engineer, but has utilized Eco-Logic (now Stantec) out of the Reno office. Plans would probably need to be reviewed by Stantec, with costs billed to P-SREC.

Side Bar: New City Council will be coming on board. The Mayor was un-elected; one Council Member is retiring; and two Council Members will be quitting due to new Council Members elected.

MPE Employee Signature: Bruce Baracco



MPE, INC
Environmental Consulting

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

Date: 10/18/2010, 4:20 p.m.

Project: PSREC BTOP Grant

Recorded by: Mary Ann Mix (MAM)

Award # NT10BIX5570125

Contact Name/Company: Jared Hancock (JH), Sr. Planner, City of Susanville

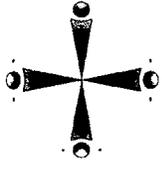
Contact Phone Number: 530.252.5114; jhancock@cityofsusanville.org

Details: JH requested more detail on the proposed U.G. design through Susanville. He indicated a conditional use permit (CUP) would be required to underground or to attach to overhead structures because the City Ordinances do not list this type of use as a permitted use; thus, triggering a discretionary permit. It appears if the fiber were to be placed in existing conduit, that action may not require a CUP.

MAM indicated that the CPUC will act a Lead CEQA agency, and asked JH if the City will need to be a Responsible Agency. JH's answer is most likely. MAM asked if the Public Works Dept should be contacted. JH provided contact info as follows: Dan Newton (dnewton@cityofsusanville.org); 530-257-1045; 720 South Street, Susanville, CA 96130

ACTION ITEM LIST:

1. MAM to send detailed design when available.
2. MAM/PSREC to contact Dan Newton, send scoping materials as applicable.



MPE, INC
Environmental Consulting

MPE Employee Signature: Mary Ann Mix, Oct. 19, 2010

Jennifer Atkins

From: Mary Ann Mix <mix@mpeinc.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 5:08 PM
To: jhancock@cityofsusanville.org
Cc: 'Bruce Baracco'; 'Jennifer Atkins'
Subject: Telecon minutes
Attachments: Teleconn with City of Susanville 10182010.doc

Afternoon, Mr. Hancock –

Attached please find the summary of our telecom yesterday concerning the ARRA Fiber Project for Plumas Sierra REC. Upon your review, should you have comments or edits, please advise.

Thanks.

Mary Ann

Mary Ann Mix, President
MPE, Inc.
PO Box 3040
Hailey, ID 83333
Phone: (208) 788-3940
Fax: (208) 788-6009
mix@mpeinc.net

PLUMAS SIERRA
RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

Date:

Project: PSREC BTOP Grant

1/26/11

Award # NT10BIX5570125

Contact Name/Company:

NDOT - STEVE COOK ETAL

Contact Phone Number:

775-888-7686

Details:

SPOKE WITH STEVE SMITH, SUPERVISOR FOR ROW PERMITS - NDOT AND ASK IF HE PREFERRED PSREC FIBER IN HWY 395 ROW OR FRONTAGE ROAD ROW. HE SAID THEY WANTED THE FIBER IN FRONTAGE RD WHILE ON NDOT. AT STEAD THE FRONTAGE RD THEN BECOMES CITY.

THEN SPOKE WITH STEVE COOK FROM NDOT ENVIRONMENTAL HE SAID MAIN CONCERN WAS ARCHEOLOGY AND GAVE ME CLIFF CREGG'S (ARCHEOLOGIST) # 775-888-7666 AND WAS TOLD CLIFF WAS NOT IN THAT DAY. STEVE THOUGHT THEY WOULD WANT TO SEE RECENT SURVEYS AND LIST OF AREAS.

STEVE SMITH ALSO GAVE ME BILL BOWMAN'S # 888-7391 AS A CONTACT TO FIND OUT UNDERLYING OWNERS OF HWY 395 IN NEVADA.

PSREC Employee Signature:

Greg John

PLUMAS SIERRA
RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

Date:

Project: PSREC BTOP Grant

1/28/11 @ 5:00pm Award # NT10BIX5570125

Contact Name/Company: Robert Chisel, NDOT

Contact Phone Number: 775.888.7440

Details: ROBERT RETURNED CALL FROM MSG LEFT ON 1/26/11

9:30 AM in RE: ~~the~~ NDOT REQUIREMENTS ON STUDIES
THAT ~~WOULD~~ ^{MAY} BE NEEDED ALONG THE US HWY 395
ROW. ROBERT TO DISCUSS WITH BILL HOFFMAN,
NEW ENGINEER OVER ROW/ PERMITTING. ROBERT
INDICATED FOR US TO SEND SECTION 106 SHPO LETTER
FOR REVIEW & FIBER MAPS.

1/28/11 @ 5:36 pm MARY ANN EMAILED DOCUMENTS
TO ROBERT

PSREC Employee Signature: Jennifer Atkins

Jennifer Atkins

From: mix@mpeinc.net
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011 5:36 PM
To: rchisel@dot.state.nv.us
Cc: lrice@psrec.coop; jatkins@psrec.coop; glohn@psrec.coop;
stonerwcrmnv@sbcglobal.com
Subject: Plumas Sierra REC Fiber Project - NDOT US395 ROW
Attachments: 10070_Fig1_395A.pdf; 10070_Fig1_395B.pdf; 10070_Fig1_395C.pdf; PLUM-FIB_106
_Consultation_Letter_for_NV.docx

Mr. Chisel -

Many thanks for the return call this afternoon.

As discussed with Jennifer Atkins and me, please find attached the proposed NTIA concurrence letter for NV SHPO along with the three NDOT project area maps of new underground fiber cable construction in the NDOT US395 ROW. Ground disturbance for the 2-foot maximum width fiber cable trenching would total roughly 3.64 acres in the 15-mile long NDOT US395 corridor; placement of vaults in the ROW would disturb roughly 362 sq. ft.; horizontal directional drilling (boring) would disturb roughly 2,315 sq. ft. for total ground disturbance of approximately 3.7 acres.

As Jennifer will not be in the office on Monday, Jan. 31, please feel free to call me on my cell phone (208.720.3746) should you have questions or require additional information.

Mary Ann Mix for PSREC

PLUMAS SIERRA
RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

Date: 2-28-2011 Project: PSREC BTOP Grant 1:30 P.M.
Award # NT10BIX5570125

Contact Name/Company: NDOT - CLIFF CREGOR

Contact Phone Number: 775 888 7606

Details: DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED BTOP
@ 395 NORTH. WHY NOT OVERHEAD?
WHAT IS THE CONSTRUCTION PROCESS -
THEIR SURVEY IS DATED 1975 -
BECAUSE OF TIME CONSTRAINTS!!! THERE IS
NO TIME TO RE SURVEY. I SAID THAT
THE ENGINEERED CONSTRUCTION SPECS.
REQUIRE CABLE ROW, LINE BORE, TRENCHING
APPROX - 15 MILES. TO CA/NV. BORDER
APPROACH IS ON WEST SIDE - EASEMENT NDOT
VARIES? STILL WITHIN EASEMENT - SETBACK
CLIFF WILL WRITE A NDOT-APE
W/ NTIA - SHPO - TODAY - EMAIL
FOR YOUR REVIEW

PSREC Employee Signature: 

73233 STATE ROUTE 70, PORTOLA, CA 96122 530-832-4261
Employee phone number 530-832-60

Jennifer Atkins

From: Mary Ann Mix <mix@mpeinc.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 11:12 AM
To: 'Sam Longmire'
Cc: Greg Lohn; jatkins@psrec.coop
Subject: RE: PST Fiber Route - fiber optic network installation

Mr. Longmire –
Thank you for your very prompt response.
We appreciate the detailed information and recommendations.

One clarification, please, on the Dust Control Plan: is the trigger for approval and plan submittal one acre cumulative total, or one acre at one location?

Thanks.
Mary Ann

Mary Ann Mix, President
MPE, Inc.
PO Box 3040
Hailey, ID 83333
Phone: (208) 788-3940
Fax: (208) 788-6009
mix@mpeinc.net

From: Sam Longmire [mailto:sam@myairdistrict.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 12:01 PM
To: mix@mpeinc.net
Subject: PST Fiber Route - fiber optic network installation

Ms. Mix:

The Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District, which covers Plumas, Sierra and Nevada County, has reviewed the map and project description for the PST Fiber Route.

If any diesel powered generators are proposed as part of the project in the NSAQMD, please consult with Joe Fish of the NSAQMD at (530) 274-9360 x103 regarding the potential need for permits.

If a portable asphalt plant or other portable equipment is to be used, the NSAQMD recommends contacting the California Air Resources Board's Portable Equipment Registration Program to inquire about a PERP permit, which would allow the unit(s) to be used in Lassen, Plumas and Sierra County. Information is available at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/portable/portable.htm>.

Note that NSAQMD Rule 226: Dust Control requires the submittal and approval of a Dust Control Plan for any project involving the disturbance of more than one acre. Below are the NSAQMD's recommended standard dust control conditions. These should be included on any grading or trenching plans and may be submitted electronically via e-mail to me at sam@myairdistrict.com for NSAQMD approval.

Standard Dust Control Plan Conditions

1. The applicant (unless another responsible party is named) shall be responsible for ensuring that all adequate dust control measures are implemented in a timely manner during all phases of project development and construction.

2. All material excavated, stockpiled, or graded shall be sufficiently watered, treated, or covered to prevent fugitive dust from leaving the property boundaries and/or causing a public nuisance. Watering during summer months should occur at least twice daily, with complete coverage of disturbed areas.
3. All areas with vehicle traffic shall be watered or have dust palliative applied as necessary to minimize dust emissions.
4. All on-site vehicle traffic shall be limited to a speed of 15 mph on unpaved roads.
5. All land clearing, grading, earth moving, or excavation activities on a project shall be suspended as necessary to prevent excessive windblown dust when winds are expected to exceed 20 mph.
6. All inactive portions of the development site shall be covered, seeded, or watered or otherwise stabilized until a suitable cover is established.
7. All material transported off-site shall be either sufficiently watered or securely covered to prevent it from being entrained in the air and there must be a minimum of six (6) inches of freeboard in the bed of the transport vehicle.
8. Paved streets adjacent to the project shall be swept or washed at the end of each day, or more frequently if necessary, to remove excessive accumulations or visibly raised areas of soil which may have resulted from activities at the project site.

Finally, note that none of the areas where trenching is proposed in the NSAQMD are mapped as having ultramafic rock or naturally occurring asbestos. Therefore, the statewide Asbestos ATCMs will not apply unless such material is subsequently discovered (in which case the NSAQMD must be notified no later than the following business day and the ATCMs will apply).

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Sam Longmire, APCS

Samuel F. Longmire, MSES
Air Pollution Control Specialist III
Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District
PO Box 2509, Grass Valley, CA 95945
Phone: (530) 274-9360 x106

Jennifer Atkins

From: Mary Ann Mix <mix@mpeinc.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 11:54 AM
To: 'Sam Longmire'
Cc: Greg Lohn; jatkins@psrec.coop
Subject: RE: PST Fiber Route - fiber optic network installation

Thanks for the clarification.
Mary Ann

Mary Ann Mix, President
MPE, Inc.
PO Box 3040
Hailey, ID 83333
Phone: (208) 788-3940
Fax: (208) 788-6009
mix@mpeinc.net

From: Sam Longmire [mailto:sam@myairdistrict.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 12:41 PM
To: Mary Ann Mix
Subject: Re: PST Fiber Route - fiber optic network installation

Mary Ann,
The rule says "on any project..." There is some room for discretion on unusual projects such as this one, but it would probably be a good idea to go ahead and do a dust control plan for the whole thing. The conditions are not burdensome and you can tell the public that you have a dust control plan approved by the air district.
Sam

----- Original Message -----

From: Mary Ann Mix
To: 'Sam Longmire'
Cc: Greg Lohn ; jatkins@psrec.coop
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 11:12 AM
Subject: RE: PST Fiber Route - fiber optic network installation

Mr. Longmire –
Thank you for your very prompt response.
We appreciate the detailed information and recommendations.

One clarification, please, on the Dust Control Plan: is the trigger for approval and plan submittal one acre cumulative total, or one acre at one location?

Thanks.
Mary Ann

Mary Ann Mix, President
MPE, Inc.
PO Box 3040
Hailey, ID 83333
Phone: (208) 788-3940
Fax: (208) 788-6009

Bruce Baracco

From: Randy Wilson [randywilson@countyofplumas.com]
Sent: Monday, November 29, 2010 7:37 AM
To: 'Bruce Baracco'
Subject: RE: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Broadband Project

Bruce,

I have forwarded your email to public works to see if they have any comments. If Planning has comments we will get them to you.

Randy

From: Bruce Baracco [mailto:baraccoplanner@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, November 26, 2010 5:25 PM
To: randywilson@countyofplumas.com
Subject: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Broadband Project

Hello Randy:

This e-mail is a follow-up to the referral package e-mailed to you on November 5th, with the initial scoping packet sent out on October 8th.

The Broadband Project Team will be meeting in Portola next week to review comments received from contacted agencies and organizations.

We are looking for comments regarding:

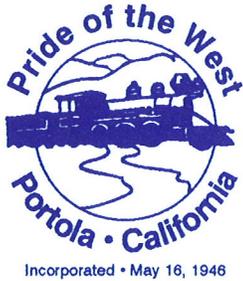
- Any areas of concern within your jurisdiction;
- Environmental issues including sensitive species, riparian and wetland areas, and historic and cultural sites;
- Physical, social and economic issues within the study area; and
- Project specific comments related to the cable routes and support facilities.

For your comments to be considered, please respond by no later than December 1st.

A non-response assumes that you have 'no comment.'

If you have any questions or need additional information, please e-mail me or call anytime at 209-304-0028.

Regards,
Bruce Baracco
Assistant to Mary Ann Mix



City of Portola

35 Third Avenue • P.O. Box 1225
Portola, California 96122
Fax: (530) 832-5418
(530) 832-4216
www.ci.portola.ca.us

November 15, 2010

Ms. Jennifer Atkins
Grants Administrator
Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative
73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT AND COMMENT; GRANT AWARD #NT10BIX5570125; PLUMAS, SIERRA, AND LASSEN COUNTIES, CA and WASHOE COUNTY, NV

Dear Ms. Atkins:

The City of Portola was excited to learn about Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative's (PSREC) application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to construct approximately 172 miles of fiber optic network that would traverse neighboring counties and through the City of Portola. This letter is intended to show the City of Portola's support of and enthusiasm for this project and to advise you of certain City comments.

The City of Portola offers the following comments as you continue implementation of this project:

- The City and PSREC will need to enter into some type of Agreement (i.e. Franchise) for work completed in the City's right-of-way. One expected requirement is that streets would need to be slurry sealed following construction. Additional requirements may be added upon review of project-specific plans.
- The City of Portola will want to review a detailed map of the proposed affected area when it is available, and may want to comment on uses that are (or are not) served by the proposed fiber optic network.
- The City of Portola is not aware of any threatened, endangered, or sensitive species, riparian, and wetland areas, historical and cultural sites, or any other physical, biological, social, or economic issues that may lie within the study area. However, when a more detailed map is available, the City will review for any potential impacts.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this fiber optic network project. The City looks forward to receiving additional information on specific impact within the City of Portola. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 530-832-6800.

Sincerely,

Jim Murphy
City Manager

Jennifer Atkins

From: Mary Ann Mix <mix@mpeinc.net>
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2010 9:13 AM
To: 'Miriam Dines'
Cc: 'Jennifer Atkins'; glohn@psrec.coop
Subject: RE: ARRA Grant #NT10BIX5570125
Attachments: REV 10012010 Fiber Route 2x2 60dpi v2.pdf

Thank you for your prompt response.
We are forwarding the digital map – a you will note it is a large scale.
Please let me know if you require additional information or have questions.
Thanks again.
Mary Ann Mix

Mary Ann Mix, President
MPE, Inc.
PO Box 3040
Hailey, ID 83333
Phone: (208) 788-3940
Fax: (208) 788-6009
mix@mpeinc.net

From: Miriam Dines [mailto:mdines@sierracounty.ws]
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2010 9:56 AM
To: mix@mpeinc.net
Subject: ARRA Grant #NT10BIX5570125

Good Morning:

We received a copy of the PST Fiber Route for the Plumas, Sierra, Lassen Counties, California and Washoe County NV.

I will be distributing thsi around our Planning and Transportation Departments as requested.

Do you have the route map electronically? If so, would you please send it over?

Thank you.

mbd



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
Washington, DC 20230

October 6, 2010

Mr. Jim Peña
Deputy Regional Forester
U.S. Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Region
1323 Club Drive
Vallejo, CA 94592

Re: **ARRA Funded Grant:** National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Review Regarding
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Grant Recipient #5684, Plumas
Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, Fiber Optic Network Infrastructure Project

Dear Mr. Peña,

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has awarded a grant to Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The funding must be obligated and the project completed within 3 years. This timeline is driven by the laws and regulations governing the use of this ARRA grant funding. In order to meet the ARRA timeline and expedite the review process, NTIA is sending this project notification letter to the U.S. Forestry Service seeking their timely cooperation in reviewing and responding to this NTIA ARRA funded project.

The funding for this project in California will be used to provide fiber cable to their service territory in rural northeastern California and northwestern Nevada. A project description and maps are attached.

As a result of the review of the information provided with the grant application, NTIA determined that the proposed activities should be reviewed by the U.S. Forest Service. Special Award Conditions (SAC) in the NTIA grant require Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative to consult with all Federal agencies involved in the development and/or construction of their project. The grant recipient may not commence project implementation (including demolition, construction, ground disturbance, etc.) prior to completion of this consultation.

The grant recipient, Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, is being copied with this letter. Once they complete their analysis and develop conclusions regarding effects of the proposed action, they will be in contact with you to provide the analysis developed and seek your review and comment.

If any issues or questions arise during your review please contact Genevieve Walker at (202) 482-2345, or gwalker@doc.gov. NTIA is prepared and willing at any time to participate directly in the review process as needed. As monitoring the progress of each of these projects is vital to their success, I would appreciate that you copy Ms. Walker on any correspondence you have in the future with the grant recipient regarding this project. Please do not send any return correspondence via US Mail since most mail is irradiated and will take extra time for delivery. All correspondence should be either by e-mail, fax (202-501-8009), or by express mail services (FedEx or similar carrier).

Sincerely,



Frank J. Monteferrante, Ph.D.
Environmental Compliance Specialist
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
H.C. Hoover Bldg. Room 2830B
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Attachment

cc: Ms. Jennifer Atkins
Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative

Jennifer Atkins

From: mix@mpeinc.net
Sent: Wednesday, December 01, 2010 3:06 PM
To: mdsmith@fs.fed.us; ddrake@fs.fed.us
Cc: lrice@psrec.coop; jatkins@psrec.coop; glohn@psrec.coop
Subject: PSREC Fiber Project

Good Afternoon, Micki and David -

Many thanks for facilitating a productive meeting with us today. The excellent and candid discussions will lead to effective communications and a timely environmental compliance document that will benefit the entire community.

We are compiling the info as requested and will transmit by Friday as tomorrow we intend to be in the field for the entire day.

Please contact any of our team at any time should you require additional information, have comments or questions.

Kind regards,
Mary Ann Mix

Jennifer Atkins

From: mix@mpeinc.net
Sent: Thursday, December 02, 2010 5:26 PM
To: mdsmith@fs.fed.us; ddrake@fs.fed.us
Cc: lrice@psrec.coop; jatkins@psrec.coop; glohn@psrec.coop
Subject: PSREC Fiber Project
Attachments: CONTACT LIST 12012010.doc

Greetings-

Please find attached the contact list for the PSREC Fiber Cale project.

Please advise if questions or comments.

Thanks.

Mary Ann Mix

208.720.3746

Bruce Baracco

Subject: FW: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Broadband Project

From: Nathan Gilbert [<mailto:GilbertN@reno.gov>]
Sent: Monday, November 29, 2010 9:37 AM
To: Bruce Baracco
Cc: Travis Truhill
Subject: Re: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Broadband Project

Hi Bruce,

The message below was sent to you, Greg Lohn and City engineering staff on 11/08. As stated in the email, we have not identified any planning concerns. Travis Truhill, with Reno Public Works, has been copied on this and is the official "designee." His number is 775-334-3333

Regards,

Nathan Gilbert, AICP
Associate Planner
City of Reno

Greg,

Bruce Baracco suggested that this query be forwarded to you. It appears that this project would be more pressing for Public Works/Engineering. I have copied Charla Honey and Kyle West to see if they have any initial comments/concerns for you.

I have reviewed the material for planning concerns. It looks like the wires are underground throughout the City's sphere of influence and follows NDOT ROW until travelling on Sutro, 6th St., Lake St., and 2nd st. I do not see any planning concerns with this proposal other than a need to clarify what is entailed with a network operating center (i.e. Is this a call center? Operations would have to conform with zoning).

Nathan Gilbert, AICP
Associate Planner
City of Reno

Bruce Baracco

Subject: FW: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Broadband Project

From: Travis Truhill [mailto:TruhillT@reno.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 29, 2010 11:00 AM
To: Bruce Baracco
Cc: Nathan Gilbert
Subject: Re: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Broadband Project

Bruce,
I will be your contact at the City of Reno for work involving the City Right of Way.

My first thoughts are that I would need to see a set of plans showing the locations of utility installation within the City Right of Way.

Permitting for all work within the City ROW will require an Encroachment and Excavation Permit. The EAE application and bonding information for contractors can be found at: <http://www.reno.gov/Index.aspx?page=691>

Does the owner of the utility currently hold a Franchise Agreement with the City of Reno? If not, it sounds like this would be something that will need to be addressed.

Once I have had a chance to review the plans for this project, the City will put together a set of conditions and requirements for permitting (hours of operation, paving requirements, traffic control, etc.).

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Travis

Travis Truhill
Senior Engineering Technician
City of Reno- Capital Projects
775-334-3333



Community Development

"Dedicated to Excellence in Public Service"
Adrian P. Freund, FAICP, Community Development Director



October 14, 2010

TO: Jennifer Atkins, Grant Administrator
Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative
73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122

FROM: Adrian P. Freund, FAICP, Director

SUBJECT: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), 172 miles of fiber optic network

Dear Ms. Atkins,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to comment upon your upcoming project and congratulations on your grant award under the ARRA. This project will be a great benefit to the citizens of your service area and to the citizens of the rural areas of northwestern Washoe County.

It is our understanding that the portion of your project within Washoe County would consist of approximately 21 miles of fiber optic cable placed within the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) right of way, adjacent to US 395 from Reno, north to the California state line. It is further our understanding that all trenches will be immediately backfilled following installation of the line.

You have asked whether any special use permits will be required for this project. None are required by Washoe County. The Washoe County Development Code at section 110.438.20(e) specifically exempts excavation for the purposed of installation of utilities, from the requirements of a grading permit and thus no special use permit would be required.

I would like to note that Washoe County cannot grant approval for work within the NDOT right of way and I encourage you to contact that agency for their requirements. Likewise, the cable alignment will traverse within the City limits of Reno and I would encourage you to contact that jurisdiction for any comments that they might have.

If there is anything that this Department can do to help facilitate this process, or if you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact Roger Pelham, Senior Planner at 775.328.3622.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Adrian P. Freund".

Adrian P. Freund, FAICP



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
**National Telecommunications and
Information Administration**
Washington, DC 20230

October 13, 2010

Mr. Milford Wayne Donaldson, SHPO
Office of Historic Preservation
Department of Parks & Recreation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100,
Sacramento CA 95816

Re: Initiation of National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, Consultation Regarding
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program Grantee # 5684, Plumas Sierra Rural
Electric Cooperative, Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications (PST) Mild Mile Fiber Network
Project

Dear Mr. Donaldson,

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has awarded a grant to Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The funding must be obligated and the project completed within 3 years. This timeline is driven by the laws and regulations governing the use of this ARRA grant funding. The project includes/proposes construction of a new 169 mile fiber middle mile network in the rural Sierra region of northeastern California.

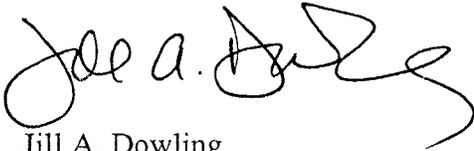
NTIA has determined that this project is an “undertaking” with potential to affect historic resources, as defined in 36 CFR Part 800, and this letter serves as notice that NTIA is initiating consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. NTIA has also notified potentially affected Native American tribes in cooperation with the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) using their Tower Construction Notification System (TCNS).

In order to streamline Section 106 compliance, BTOP applicants are authorized to gather information to identify and evaluate historic properties and work with consulting parties to assess effects. The grant recipient is in the process of determining whether properties eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places exist within the area of potential effect, and determining the effects of the project activities on those sites.

When completed, the grant recipient will continue consultations with your office regarding their determination of effects. NTIA will participate in any consultations, if necessary, to resolve adverse effects and develop any Memorandum of Agreement.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 482-4456, or by e-mail at jdowling@doc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill A. Dowling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jill" being the most prominent.

Jill A. Dowling
Federal Preservation Officer
United States Department of Commerce

Attachment

cc: Lori Rice
73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122

PLUMAS SIERRA
RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

Date:

Jan. 11 - 2011

Project: PSREC BTOP Grant

Award # NT10BIX5570125

Contact Name/Company:

Tristan Tozer, CA SHPO, Historian

Contact Phone Number:

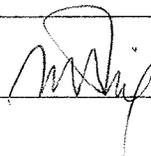
916. 445. 7027

Details:

MPE forwarded the Class I literature search files to Mr. Tozer, then had a follow up phone call with him.

After discussion of the APE, Mr. Tozer informally agreed that the areas to be surveyed as Class III Cultural Survey would be the 8 miles of new disturbance of underground conduit installation along NS 395 Caltrans ROW.

PSREC Employee Signature:



PLUMAS SIERRA
RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

Date:

01/25/2011

Project: PSREC BTOP Grant

Award # NT10BIX5570125

Contact Name/Company:

Rebecca Palmer, Deputy SHPO, Nevada

Contact Phone Number:

775.684.3443

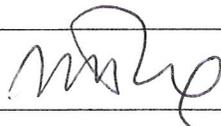
Details:

Telephoned Ms. Palmer to advise Class 1 dit search would be sent and NTHA concurrence letter is forthcoming.

Further stated that no historic properties would be disturbed in the previously disturbed US 395 NDOT ROW - This is ~~not~~ not the recommendation from WCRM who conducted the Class 1 based on NDOT policy.

Followup on Feb. 1-2011, maps & Class 1 dit search sent.

PSREC Employee Signature:



Jennifer Atkins

From: mix@mpeinc.net
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 12:10 PM
To: Rebecca.Palmer@nevadaculture.org
Cc: jatkins@psrec.coop
Subject: PSREC PST Mid Mile Fiber Project
Attachments: PLUM-FIB_All_Sites_Table[2].doc; PLUM-FIB_Reports_Sums.docx; 10070_Fig1_395A.pdf; 10070_Fig1_395B.pdf; 10070_Fig1_395C.pdf

Ms Palmer-

As a follow up to our telephone discussion on January 25, 2011, please find attached the Class I Literature Search for the PST Mid Mile Fiber Project.

As noted, the installation of new underground fiber cable would occur in the previously disturbed NDOT US395 ROW between N McCarran Blvd and the CA/NV border at Bordertown. Please see the attached maps.

We are anticipating the Lead Federal Agency, NTIA, to forward a letter to NV SHPO requesting concurrence of the forthcoming management recommendations.

Should you have comments, questions, or require additional information, please contact me at 208.720.3746, or Jennifer Atkins at 530-832-6038.

Thank you.

Mary Ann Mix for Plumas Sierra REC



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
Washington, DC 20230

October 19, 2010

Susan K. Moore
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825

Re: Endangered Species Act, Section 7, Consultations Regarding Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Grant Recipient #5684, Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, Fiber Optic Network Infrastructure Project

Dear Ms. Moore,

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has awarded a grant to Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The funding must be obligated and the project completed within 3 years. This timeline is driven by the laws and regulations governing the use of this ARRA grant funding. In order to meet the ARRA timeline and expedite the review process, NTIA is sending project notification letters to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services regional headquarters and individual state field offices seeking their timely cooperation in reviewing and responding to each of NTIA's ARRA funded projects.

The funding for this project in California and Nevada will be used to install aerial and underground fiber within Plumas, Sierra, Lassen Counties, CA and Washoe County, NV. A project description and map are attached.

As a result of the review of the information provided with the grant application, NTIA determined that the proposed activities should be reviewed and informal consultations conducted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Special Award Conditions (SAC) in the NTIA grant require Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. The grant recipient may not commence project implementation (including demolition, construction, ground disturbance, etc.) prior to completion of this consultation.

The grant recipient, Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, is being copied with this letter. Once they complete their analysis and develop conclusions regarding effects of the proposed action, they will be in contact with you to provide the analysis developed, and seek your concurrence with the determinations made.

If any issues or questions arise during these consultations please contact me at (202) 482-4208, or FMonteferrante@ntia.doc.gov. NTIA is prepared and willing at any time to participate directly in the review process as needed. As monitoring the progress of each of these projects is vital to their success, I would appreciate being copied on any correspondence you have in the future with the grant recipient regarding this project. Please do not send any return correspondence via US Mail since most mail is irradiated and will take extra time for delivery. All correspondence should be either by e-mail, fax (202-501-8009), or by express mail services (FedEx or similar carrier).

Sincerely,



Frank J. Monteferrante, Ph.D.
Environmental Compliance Specialist
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
H.C. Hoover Bldg. Room 2830B
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Attachment

cc: Lori Rice
Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative
73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
Washington, DC 20230

October 19, 2010

Jeannie Stafford
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office (Reno)
1340 Financial Blvd
Reno, NV 89502

Re: Endangered Species Act, Section 7, Consultations Regarding Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Grant Recipient #5684, Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, Fiber Optic Network Infrastructure Project

Dear Ms. Stafford,

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has awarded a grant to Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The funding must be obligated and the project completed within 3 years. This timeline is driven by the laws and regulations governing the use of this ARRA grant funding. In order to meet the ARRA timeline and expedite the review process, NTIA is sending project notification letters to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services regional headquarters and individual state field offices seeking their timely cooperation in reviewing and responding to each of NTIA's ARRA funded projects.

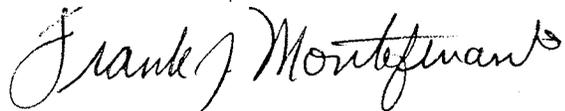
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank J. Monteferrante". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Frank J. Monteferrante, Ph.D.
Environmental Compliance Specialist
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
H.C. Hoover Bldg. Room 2830B
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Attachment

cc: Lori Rice
Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative
73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122

PLUMAS SIERRA
RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD

Date:

9/10/10

Project: PSREC BTOP Grant

Award # NT10BIX5570125

Contact Name/Company:

UPRR - JON DEVISH

Contact Phone Number:

402-544-8563

Details:

SAID AS LONG AS WE MAINTAIN CLEARANCE
WE SHOULD USE THE EXISTING PERMITS ALREADY IN
PLACE FOR THE CROSSINGS, JUST ATTACH A COPY A
THE PERMITS WITH A REQUEST TO MODIFY THE PERMIT.

PSREC Employee Signature:





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
Washington, DC 20230

October 19, 2010

Jeannie Stafford
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office (Reno)
1340 Financial Blvd
Reno, NV 89502

Re: Endangered Species Act, Section 7, Consultations Regarding Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Grant Recipient #5684, Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, Fiber Optic Network Infrastructure Project

Dear Ms. Stafford,

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The funding for this project in California and Nevada will be used to install aerial and underground fiber within Plumas, Sierra, Lassen Counties, CA and Washoe County, NV. A project description and map are attached.

As a result of the review of the information provided with the grant application, NTIA determined that the proposed activities should be reviewed and informal consultations conducted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Special Award Conditions (SAC) in the NTIA grant require Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. The grant recipient may not commence project implementation (including demolition, construction, ground disturbance, etc.) prior to completion of this consultation.

The grant recipient, Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, is being copied with this letter. Once they complete their analysis and develop conclusions regarding effects of the proposed action, they will be in contact with you to provide the analysis developed, and seek your concurrence with the determinations made.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank J. Monteferrante". The signature is written in black ink and includes a small flourish at the end.

Frank J. Monteferrante, Ph.D.
Environmental Compliance Specialist
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
H.C. Hoover Bldg. Room 2830B
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Attachment

cc: Lori Rice
Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative
73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122



PLUMAS-SIERRA TELECOMMUNICATIONS

73233 State Route 70 • Portola, CA 96122
 (800) 221-3474 • (530) 832-4126 • Fax (530) 832-4515

11 February 2011

Ms. Jeannie Stafford
 Field Supervisor
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office (Reno)
 1340 Financial Blvd
 Reno, NV 89502

Subject: *Request Concurrence of 'No Effect' Determination for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Grant Recipient #5684, Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, Fiber Optic Network Infrastructure Project*

Dear Ms. Stafford:

In a letter dated 19 October 2010, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) briefly described the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funded Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (PSREC), Fiber Optic Network Infrastructure Project, also known as the Middle Mile Fiber Project (Attachment A). As a Special Award Condition of the NTIA grant PSREC is required to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. PSREC may not commence project implementation prior to completion of this consultation. The 19 October 2010 NTIA letter also states that PSREC "will complete their analysis and develop conclusions regarding effects of the proposed action, they will be in contact with you [USFWS] to provide the analysis developed, and seek your [USFWS] concurrence with the determinations made."

The PSREC is proposing to build, operate, and maintain an approximately 185 mi long fiber optic communications network in northeastern California and northwestern Nevada (the Proposed Action). The Proposed Action would provide access capabilities for Plumas, Sierra, and Lassen counties in California and a portion of Washoe Co. in Nevada. The Proposed Action would also accommodate future Statewide interconnection of major Public Safety Answering Points, a future California statewide and Nevada public safety network.

Approximately 148 mi of the 185 mi long new fiber cable installation would be placed on existing PSREC pole infrastructure; the remaining 37 mi would be installed underground. New underground construction will occur for eight miles in the Caltrans US 395 ROW from the CA-NV State Line at Bordertown, Nevada to Hallelujah Junction, California and 15 miles in the NDOT US 395 ROW and City of Reno streets from Bordertown to the Reno terminus. In cities and other urban areas, new fiber will be placed in existing conduits or new conduit will be placed underground in existing urban hardscape.

The biological study area (BSA) traverses or is immediately adjacent to land owned or administered by private parties, Bureau of Land Management (BLM; Eagle Lake Field Office and Carson City Field Office), Plumas National Forest, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, and the CA Department of Fish & Game (DFG; Doyle and Bass Hill Wildlife Areas).

Under contract to PSREC, Sycamore Environmental prepared a Biological & Aquatic Habitat Assessment (BAHA) for the Proposed Action (Attachment B). The BAHA describes baseline biological conditions in the BSA, summarizes reconnaissance level surveys of in the BSA, evaluates potential project impacts to Federal and state listed species (as well as other special status species), and proposes avoidance and minimization measures to avoid potential project impacts to biological and aquatic resources.

Data received from USFWS, BLM, USFS, NNHP, and CNDDDB records (Appendix A and B of the BAHA) were used to compile a table of regional species and habitats of concern (Appendix E of the BAHA). Section 2.4 of the BAHA summarizes the coordination and informal consultation efforts with Federal and state resources agencies during preparation of the BAHA. Marginal or suitable habitat for two endangered, one threatened, and six candidate species occurs in the BSA. Table 1 lists the Federal-threatened and endangered species and the FESA determination. Candidate species are not included in Table 1. We understand that Nevada (Reno) USFWS is the lead office for the three species listed in Table 1. Based on the analysis presented in the BAHA (Chapter 4) and the proposed avoidance and minimization measure (Section 1.5) PSREC has determined that the Proposed Action will have 'No Effect' on Federal-listed threatened or endangered species.

Table 1. Summary of FESA consultation requirement.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	No Effect	May affect, but is not likely to adversely affect	May affect, and is likely to adversely affect
Invertebrates					
<i>Pseudocopaeodes eunus obscurus</i>	Carson wandering skipper	E	X		
Fish					
<i>Chasmistes cujus</i>	Cui-ui	E	X		
<i>Oncorhynchus</i> (=Salmo) <i>clarki henshawi</i>	Lahontan cutthroat trout	T	X		

As required by the 19 October 2010 NTIA letter, PSREC requests written concurrence from USFWS of the 'No Effects' determination for the Proposed Action. If, after reviewing the enclosed BAHA, you have any questions, please contact Jeffery Little, at 916/ 427-0703.

Yours truly,



Lori Rice
Project Manager
Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications

jjl:LR

cc: Frank Monteferrante, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
Genevieve Walker, NEPA Coordinator, US Department of Commerce
Jeffery Little, Sycamore Environmental Consultants, Inc.
Mary Ann Mix, MPE, Inc.

Attachment A: Copy of 19 October 2010 NTIA Letter
Attachment B: Biological and Aquatic Habitat Assessment



United States Department of the Interior

Pacific Southwest Region
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office
1340 Financial Blvd., Suite 234
Reno, Nevada 89502

Ph: (775) 861-6300 ~ Fax: (775) 861-6301



March 8, 2011
File No. 2011-TA-0161

Ms. Lori Rice
Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications
73233 State Route 70
Portola, California 96122

Dear Ms. Rice:

Subject: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, Fiber Optic Network
Infrastructure Project (Reno, Nevada to Quincy and
Susanville, California)

We have reviewed your letter and Biological and Aquatic Habitat Assessment received on February 14, 2011, for the above subject project. The project involves installation of approximately 185 miles of fiber optic line between Reno, Nevada, and Quincy and Susanville, California. Approximately 148 miles of the line will be placed on existing pole infrastructure. The remaining 37 miles or so will be installed underground within existing conduits or in new conduits located within U.S. 395 Highway rights-of way in Nevada and California or other urban hardscape. Based on the project's description and location, and field survey information, we agree that it is unlikely installation of this fiber optic network will adversely impact the three federally-listed species which occur within the project area [*cui-ui* (*Chasmistes cujus*), Lahontan cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii henshawi*), and Carson wandering skipper (*Pseudocopaeodes eunus obscurus*)]. Critical habitat has not been designated for any of these three species.

Please reference File No. 2011-TA-0161 in future correspondence concerning this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me or Marcy Haworth at (775) 861-6300.

Sincerely,

for: Daniel J. Buford
Acting State Supervisor

cc:

Environmental Compliance Specialist, National Telecommunications and Information
Administration, Washington, D. C.

Vice President, Sycamore Environmental Consultants, Inc., Sacramento, California
Branch Chief, Forest-Foothills Branch, Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office,
Sacramento, California



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
Washington, DC 20230

October 19, 2010

Susan K. Moore
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825

Re: Endangered Species Act, Section 7, Consultations Regarding Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Grant Recipient #5684, Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, Fiber Optic Network Infrastructure Project

Dear Ms. Moore,

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has awarded a grant to Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The funding must be obligated and the project completed within 3 years. This timeline is driven by the laws and regulations governing the use of this ARRA grant funding. In order to meet the ARRA timeline and expedite the review process, NTIA is sending project notification letters to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services regional headquarters and individual state field offices seeking their timely cooperation in reviewing and responding to each of NTIA's ARRA funded projects.

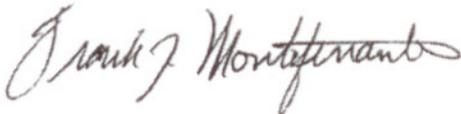
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The grant recipient, Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, is being copied with this letter. Once they complete their analysis and develop conclusions regarding effects of the proposed action, they will be in contact with you to provide the analysis developed, and seek your concurrence with the determinations made.

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Sincerely,



Frank J. Monteferrante, Ph.D.
Environmental Compliance Specialist
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
H.C. Hoover Bldg. Room 2830B
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Attachment

cc: Lori Rice
Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative
73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122



PLUMAS-SIERRA TELECOMMUNICATIONS

73233 State Route 70 • Portola, CA 96122
(800) 221-3474 • (530) 832-4126 • Fax (530) 832-4515

11 February 2011

Ms. Susan K. Moore
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825

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Fish					
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<i>Oncorhynchus (=Salmo) clarki henshawi</i>	Lahontan cutthroat trout	T	X		

As required by the 19 October 2010 NTIA letter, PSREC requests written concurrence from USFWS of the 'No Effects' determination for the Proposed Action. If, after reviewing the enclosed BAHA, you have any questions, please contact Jeffery Little, at 916/ 427-0703.

Yours truly,



Lori Rice
Project Manager
Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications

jjl:LR

cc: Frank Monteferrante, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
Genevieve Walker, NEPA Coordinator, US Department of Commerce
Jeffery Little, Sycamore Environmental Consultants, Inc.
Mary Ann Mix, MPE, Inc.

Attachment A: Copy of 19 October 2010 NTIA Letter

Attachment B: Biological and Aquatic Habitat Assessment (separately bound)

Jennifer Atkins

From: Casey_Collins@fws.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2011 4:23 PM
To: Jeffery Little
Cc: glohn@psrec.coop; Jennifer Atkins; Irice@psrec.coop; mix@mpeinc.net
Subject: RE: Plumas Sierra Fiber Optic Project USFWS Reno Concurrence Determination 8 March 11

Mr. Jeff Little,

This email is in response to Plumas-Sierra Communications' February 11, 2011, letter to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) with regards to the Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, Fiber Optic Network Infrastructure Project (Project). The Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Field Office received a copy of a letter from the Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office to Plumas-Sierra Communications on March 11, 2011, stating that it is unlikely that the project will adversely impact the three federally listed species in question (cui-ui, Lohantan cutthroat trout, and Carson wandering skipper). The Sacramento Fish and Wildlife agrees with the determination of the Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office. Unless new information reveals effects of the proposed action that may affect listed species in a manner or to an extent not considered; or the project is modified in a manner that causes an effect to the listed species that was not considered; or a new species or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by the proposed action, no further action pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. §1531 et. seq.), is necessary.

Casey Collins

Casey Collins
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Endangered Species Program
US Fish and Wildlife Service
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Jeffery Little <Jeffery.Little@SycamoreEnv.com>

03/30/2011 12:18 PM

To "casey_collins@fws.gov" <casey_collins@fws.gov>
cc "Irice@psrec.coop" <Irice@psrec.coop>, "glohn@psrec.coop" <glohn@psrec.coop>, Jennifer Atkins <jatkins@psrec.coop>, "mix@mpeinc.net" <mix@mpeinc.net>
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Casey,

The Department of Commerce (DOC), National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has requested that Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, as a Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) grant recipient, obtain written communication from USFWS to verify that its Fiber Optic Project will not result in take of federal listed species.

You had indicated that you were working on a technical assistance letter for this project. Do you have a schedule for when that would