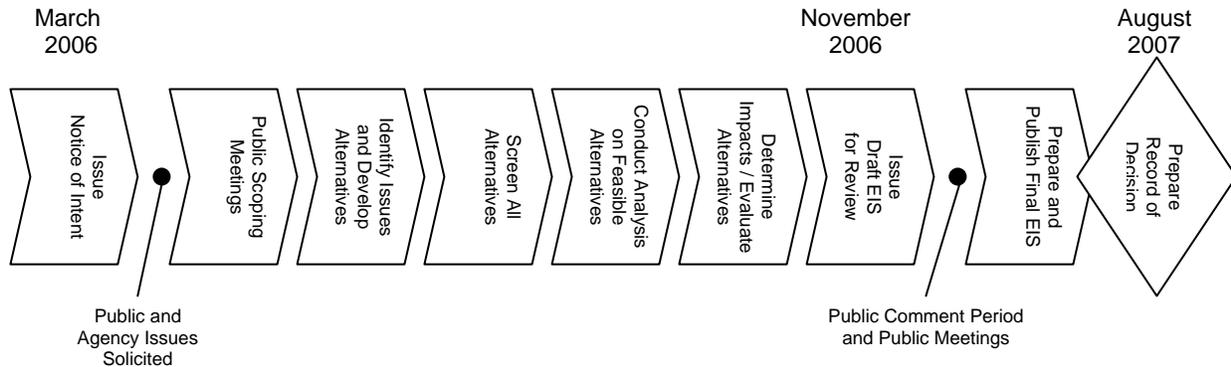


# LINCOLN COUNTY LAND ACT GROUNDWATER DEVELOPMENT AND UTILITY RIGHT-OF-WAY PROJECT

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) STEPS AND PROPOSED TIMELINE



The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Lincoln County Land Act Groundwater Development and Utility Right-of-Way Project proposed by the Lincoln County Water District (LCWD). The LCWD is proposing to obtain rights-of-way across land managed by the BLM. If granted, the rights-of-way would authorize LCWD to begin development of groundwater resources located in Lincoln County to help meet anticipated future water needs in southern Lincoln County.

The BLM would like your participation in the project planning process to help identify potential environmental issues, concerns, and alternatives that should be addressed in the EIS. Participation in this process can be via letter, e-mail, fax, phone, or attendance at one of the Open House scoping meetings. Open House/Scoping meetings will be held in the following locations:

- April 10, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Caliente City Hall, 100 Depot Road, Caliente
- April 11, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Alamo Ambulance Barn, 10 Airport Road, Alamo
- April 12, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Mesquite City Hall, 10 E. Mesquite Blvd. Mesquite
- April 13, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., BLM Las Vegas Field Office, 4701 Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas
- April 17, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Airport Plaza Hotel, 1981 Terminal Way, Reno

Comments may also be submitted by mail, fax, e-mail or phone as follows:

**Mail:** Bureau of Land Management  
Nevada State Office  
1340 Financial Boulevard  
Reno, Nevada 89520  
Attention: Penny Woods

**Fax:** (775) 861-6712  
Attention: Penny Woods

**E-mail:** penny\_woods@nv.blm.gov

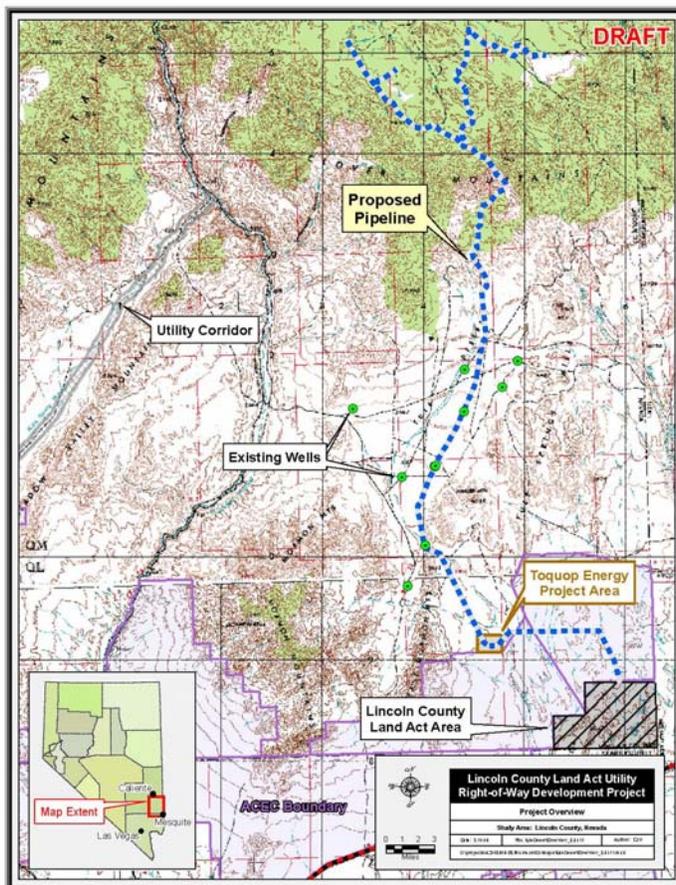
**Phone:** Penny Woods (775) 861-6466

Scoping comments will be accepted throughout the scoping period, which ends May 1, 2006. There will be additional opportunities to comment on the title transfer throughout the EIS process. It is BLM's practice to publicly disclose respondents' comments, including names and addresses. Respondents may request that their identity and address be withheld from disclosure; this will be honored to the extent allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. All submissions from organizations or businesses will be publicly disclosed in their entirety.

# LINCOLN COUNTY LAND ACT GROUNDWATER DEVELOPMENT AND UTILITY RIGHT-OF-WAY PROJECT

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The LCLA Project would include approximately eight (8) production water wells to be located in the previously permitted Toquop Energy Project proposed well field area located in the Tule Desert hydrographic basin and up to ten (10) production water wells to be located in the Clover Valley hydrographic basin. Collectively, wells in the Tule Desert basin would pump up to 9,344 acre feet of groundwater per year. Wells in the Clover Valley would pump up to 14,480 acre feet of groundwater per year. A system of pipelines would collect pumped water for conveyance through a main transmission pipeline southeast to the Lincoln County Land Act development area, following in part, a utility corridor designated by the Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-424).



Associated ancillary facilities would include distribution/transmission power lines and communication lines to be placed in said easement to provide power and communication for the project facilities. In addition, a natural gas pipeline would parallel the water pipeline from the existing Kern River Natural Gas pipeline south to the LCLA area.

Pursuant to Section 301 of the Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act of 2004, rights-of-way for the project which are located within utility corridors established by the Act for any roads, wells, well fields, pipes, pipelines, pump stations, storage facilities, or other facilities and systems that are necessary for the construction and operation of a water conveyance system would be granted in perpetuity. The term of the right of way for all other features of the project would be thirty (30) years. The project would operate year round.

Issues for analysis in the EIS would be determined by the BLM based upon input

from BLM specialists, other agencies, and the public during scoping. BLM resource specialists have identified the following resources that may be impacted from the Proposed Action - (Water Resources, Wildlife/Wildlife Habitat, Special Status Species, Social and Economic Values, Cultural Resources, and Noxious Weeds). These resources would receive special emphasis in the EIS. Based on the information received during the initial scoping effort and other information, such as location of sensitive natural resources, projected construction activity, alternatives to the LCWD proposal will be identified to reduce possible impacts. Alternatives would include the Proposed Action and all other feasible and reasonable alternatives, including the No Action alternative. Other alternatives may include alternative alignments. In addition, reasonable measures to mitigate possible impacts would be considered for analysis in the EIS.