Energy Gateway South Transmission Project Update

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) continues to develop information that will eventually be documented in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

In December 2011, the BLM posted to the Scoping Report to project website. The Scoping Report is a document detailing and analyzing the scoping process and outreach efforts. It describes scoping activities, summarizes the comments received during scoping, details major issues derived from the comments, and outlines the future steps in the planning process. Comments received by the BLM were analyzed, and the issues derived from the comments influenced the depth of the resource studies to be conducted.

In collaboration with participating federal, state, and local agencies, study methods have been reviewed and environmental resource data have been collected and compiled to reflect the existing condition of the environment potentially affected by the project. This is serving as the baseline data for analyzing the potential impacts of the project and determining measures to reduce those impacts, which will continue through the summer of 2012. This impact assessment and mitigation planning process will be followed by preparation of the Draft EIS, planned for public review in the summer of 2013.

In addition to continued analysis for the EIS, the BLM hosted a meeting of parties potentially interested in participating in the development of a Programmatic Agreement in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA). The meeting was held in April 2012 in Salt Lake City to introduce the project; and to discuss the EIS; and discuss the purpose, use, and development of a Programmatic Agreement with interested parties.

Also in April, representatives of the BLM and Rocky Mountain Power met with the Ute Indian Tribe (Uintah and Ouray Reservation) Energy & Mineral Department to introduce and discuss the project. They agreed to conduct ongoing coordination meetings to discuss the status of the project.

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