

8.0 Glossary

Air Density	A wind resource measurement that directly affects the energy production: the greater the density, the greater the power output of a WTG for the same speed distribution.
Alternative Boundary	Refers to a smaller boundary that was created specifically for each alternative based on constraints identified during the alternatives development process.
Alluvial Fan	Alluvial fans are fan-shaped deposits of water-transported material (alluvium). They typically form at the base of topographic features where there is a marked break in slope.
American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978	Act to protect and preserve American Indians their inherent right of freedom to believe, express, and exercise their traditional religions. Requires federal agencies to consult with Native American religious leaders, consider their views in the decision-making process, and avoid unnecessary interference with Indian religious practices.
Ancillary Feature	Includes access roads, underground electric collector lines, overhead electric transmission line, and substations.
Animal Unit Month (AUM)	The quantity of forage typically consumed by a cow-calf pair over a month-long period.
Annualized Wind Speed	A wind resource measurement that takes into account repeated months in the data record and weights each calendar month by its number of days.
Application Area	The area that encompasses 229,077 acres, specified in the applicant's Wind Site Testing and Monitoring Application filed with the BLM, Application Areas for ROWs of ancillary facilities, and the areas considered for haul road and transmission connection between the Chokecherry and Sierra Madre sites.
Background	The viewing area of a distance zone that lies beyond the foreground and middleground. Usually from a minimum of 3 to 5 miles to a maximum of about 15 miles from a travel route, use area, or other observer position. Atmospheric conditions in some areas may limit the maximum to about 8 miles or increase it beyond 15 miles.
Channery Soil	A soil that has more than 15 percent by volume thin, flat fragments of sandstone, shale, slate, limestone, or schist (less than 6 inches in length).

Characteristic Landscape	The established landscape within an area viewed. The term does not necessarily mean a natural character, but may refer to features of the cultural landscape such as a farming community, an urban landscape, or other landscape that has an identifiable character.
Class II Field Inventory	Probabilistic field survey: a statistically based sample survey designed to help characterize the probable density, diversity, and distribution of archaeological properties in a large area by interpreting the results of surveying limited and discontinuous portions of the target area (reconnaissance survey).
Class III Cultural Resource Investigation	An intensive cultural resources inventory. Typically includes on-site field investigations in addition to literature review.
Class III Field Inventory	A professionally conducted intensive field survey pursuant to BLM guidelines.
Conceptual Area of Development	The area where development would most likely occur based on wind potential considerations as well as environmental constraints and ACMs.
Concern Levels	A measure of the degree of public importance placed on landscapes viewed from travelways and use areas. Concern levels are divided into categories 1, 2, and 3, with concern level 1 being the highest.
Contrast	Opposition or unlikeness of different forms, lines, colors, or textures in a landscape.
Contrast Rating	A method of analyzing the potential visual impacts of proposed management activities.
Cultural Resources	Archaeological sites, architectural structures or features, objects, traditional use areas, and Native American sacred sites or special use areas.
dB(A)	Used to measure sound level via a logarithmic unit used to describe a ratio.
Directional Distribution	A wind resource measurement that is an important factor to consider when designing the project to minimize the wake interference between WTGs.
Distance Zones	Areas of landscapes denoted by specified distances from the observer, particularly on roads, trails, concentrated-use areas, rivers, etc. Used as one criterion in obtaining Visual Resource Management classes (BLM) (see Background, Foreground, Middleground, and Seldom Seen).

Droughty	Droughty soils have a low water-holding capacity due to the large number of large pores. Large pores drain quickly, while smaller pores hold plant available water. The large pores are filled with air, which increases oxidation or loss of organic matter, further reducing the potential to store water.
Eolian	Pertaining to earth material transported and deposited by the wind including dune sands, sand sheets, and loess.
Existing Roads	Roads preexisting to the start of construction, including two-track trails that will need to be improved.
Final Reclamation	Defined for this project as reclamation of entire project area after the end of the project life (also see Interim Reclamation).
Foreground-Middleground	The area visible from a travel route, use area, or other observer position to a distance of 3 to 5 miles. The outer boundary of this zone is defined as the point where the texture and form of individual plants are no longer apparent in the landscape and vegetation is apparent only in pattern or outline.
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	Herbaceous march, fen, swale and wet meadow.
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	Forested swamp or wetland shrub bog or wetland.
Historic	Period wherein nonnative cultural activities took place, based primarily on European roots, having no origin in the traditional Native American culture(s).
Historic Property	Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included, or eligible for inclusion, in the NRHP maintained by the NPS. The term includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to any Native American tribe or Native Hawaiian organization that meet the National Register criteria.
Initial Disturbance	Total disturbance associated with the construction of the project includes both temporary and permanent disturbance areas.
Interim Reclamation	Defined for this project as reclamation of all areas remaining after construction is complete (also see Final Reclamation).
Internal Resource Roads	Roads located within the project boundary that provides access to proposed project activities.
Invasive Weed	A species that is not native (or is alien) to the ecosystem under consideration and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health (Executive Order 13112).
Key Observation Point (KOP)	One or a series of points on a travel route or at a use area or a potential use area, where the view of a management activity would be most revealing.

Landform	Any physical, recognizable form or feature of the Earth's surface, with a characteristic shape and produced by natural causes. Includes major features such as plains, plateaus, and mountains, and minor features, such as hills, valleys, slopes, canyons, arroyos, and alluvial fans.
Landscape	The landforms of a region in aggregate.
Landscape Character	The arrangement of a specific landscape as formed by the variety and intensity of the landscape features, as defined as the four basic elements (form, line, color, and texture). These factors give the area a distinctive quality that distinguishes it from its immediate surroundings.
Ldn	day night average sound level.
Long-term disturbance areas	Areas that will be maintained for use as access roads and maintenance areas for the life of the wind farm.
Mean Wind Speed	The arithmetic wind speed over a specified time period and height above the ground (the majority of U.S. National Weather Service anemometers are at 20 feet (6.1 meters)).
MW	One megawatt equals 1 million watts.
Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA)	A federal law passed in 1990 that provides for the return of certain sacred and ceremonial objects, including human remains, held by museums and other repositories to the Native American people from which they were originally acquired.
National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)	The official register of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture, established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and maintained by the National Park Service on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior.
National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended	Act directing federal agencies to consider the effects of their programs and projects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. If a proposed action might impact any archaeological, historical, or architectural resource, this act mandates consultation with the proper agencies.

No Surface Use (NSU) Areas	An area where no permitted surface-disturbing activities of any nature or for any purpose are allowed. For example, construction or the permanent or long-term placement of structures or other facilities would be prohibited. It also is used as a stipulation or mitigation requirement for controlling or prohibiting selected land uses or activities that would conflict with other activities, uses, or values in a given area. When used in this way, the NSU stipulation or mitigation requirement is applied to prohibit one or more specific types of land and resource development activities or surface uses in an area, while other-perhaps even similar types of activities or uses (for other purposes) would be allowed. The term "no surface use" has no relationship or relevance to the presence of people in an area.
Noxious Weed	A plant species designated by federal or state law as generally possessing one or more of the following characteristics: aggressive and difficult to manage; parasitic; a carrier or host of serious insects or disease; or non-native, new, or not common to the United States. (Vegetation Treatment Using Herbicides Programmatic EIS, BLM, 2007).
Overhead Exclusion Area	Defined for this project as the 300-foot overhead exclusion area is a safe zone intended to keep overhead equipment away from the WTGs and to provide adequate space for laying down the WTG rotor assembly and assembling cranes for maintenance and repairs, if needed.
Pediment	A gently sloping erosional surface developed at the foot of a receding hill or mountain slope, commonly with a slightly concave-upward profile, that cross-cuts rock or sediment strata that extend beneath adjacent uplands.
Piedmont Plains	A plain extending outwards from the base of a mountain.
Prevailing Wind Direction	The wind direction most frequently observed during a given period.
Programmatic Agreement (PA)	A special type of agreement that records the terms agreed upon to implement a particular agency program or resolve adverse effects of a complex project or multiple undertakings.
Proper Functioning Condition	A qualitative assessment procedure used to evaluate the physical functioning of riparian/wetland areas through consideration of hydrology, vegetation, and soil/landform attributes.
Resource Roads	Internal roads located within the project boundary.
Right-of-way (ROW)	Right-of-way for areas located outside of the project area.
Scenic Integrity	State of naturalness or, conversely, the state of disturbance created by human activities or alteration.
Scenic Quality	A measure of the visual appeal of a parcel of land.

Scenic Quality Ratings	The relative scenic quality (A, B, or C) assigned a landscape by applying the scenic quality evaluation key factors; scenic quality A being the highest rating, B a moderate rating, and C the lowest rating.
Seldom Seen Distance Zone	Portions of the landscape which are generally not visible from key observation points, or portions which are visible but more than 15 miles distance.
Sensitive Soils	Soils with severe existing limitations that are severely erodible, wet, or have poor soil strength. Soils that are highly sensitive to impacts.
Shear Exponent	A parameter used to factor in wind shear when determining how wind speed varies with height.
State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)	The SHPO was created in 1966 under Section 101 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Responsibilities of the SHPO include, but are not limited to, cooperating with federal and state agencies, local governments, and private organizations in survey of historic properties; nominating eligible properties to the National Register; implementing statewide historic preservation plans; and, assisting federal and state agencies and local governments in carrying out their historic preservation responsibilities.
Subsoil	Typically the layers beneath the topsoil (A) horizon. The stratum of weathered mineral material that underlies the surface soil and is typically less fertile and lighter in color.
Subsoiling	A deep compaction method performed by a mechanical piece of equipment that lifts and aerates the soil and subsoil without mixing. Typically ripping shanks have winged attachments.
Suitable Subsoil	Subsoil that has suitable chemical and physical characteristics. Subsoil that lacks high clay, carbonates, salts, sodium or other characteristics that inhibit plant growth.
Topsoil	Topsoil is the uppermost layer of mineral soil (A horizon). It has the highest concentration of organic matter and microorganisms, and is where most of the Earth's biological soil activity occurs. Plants generally concentrate their roots in, and obtain most of their nutrients from this layer. Topsoil is typically darker than the subsoil horizons below.
Traditional Cultural Property	A property that is eligible for the NHRP because of its association with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community that (a) are rooted in that community's history, and (b) are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community.
Turbulence Intensity	A wind resource measurement that measures fluctuations in the wind speed recorded by the anemometer in each 10-minute interval as a fraction of the average speed.

Viewshed	Total visible area from a single observer's position or the total visible area from multiple observer positions. Viewsheds are accumulated seen areas from highways, trails, campgrounds, towns, cities, or other view locations. Examples are corridors, feature, or basin view-sheds.
Visual Resource	Visible feature of the landscape, such as land, water, vegetation, and other features that make up the scenery of an area.
Visual Resource Management (VRM)	The system by which BLM classifies and manages scenic values and visual quality of public lands. The system is based on research that has produced ways of assessing aesthetic qualities of the landscape in objective terms. After inventory and evaluation, lands are given relative visual ratings (management classes) that determine the amount of modification allowed for the basic elements of the landscape.
Visual Resource Management Classes	<p>Classes that define the degree of acceptable visual change within a characteristic landscape. A class is based on the physical and sociological characteristics of any given homogeneous area and serves as a management objective. The four classes are described below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class I provides for natural ecological changes only. This class includes primitive areas, some natural areas, some Wild and Scenic Rivers, and other similar areas where landscape modification activities should be restricted. • Class II areas are those areas where changes in any of the basic elements (i.e., form, line, color, or texture) caused by management activity should not be evident in the characteristic landscape. • Class III includes areas where changes in the basic elements (i.e., form, line, color, or texture) caused by a management activity may be evident in the characteristic landscape. However, the changes should remain subordinate to the visual strength of the existing character. • Class IV applies to areas where changes may subordinate the original composition and character; however, they should reflect what could be a natural occurrence within the characteristic landscape.
Wake Interference (wake effect)	The wake produced from a turbine that adversely affects downstream turbine locations that are too close in proximity. For this project, this parameter was defined as three blade diameters from the center of the turbine location along the minor axis and eight blade diameters from the center of the turbine location along the major axis. The axis has to be pointed into the prominent wind direction.
Weibull Function	A wind resource measurement that is an analytical curve that describes the wind speed frequency distribution, or number of observations in specific wind speed ranges.

Wetlands	Lands transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water. Wetlands must have one or more of the following three attributes: 1) at least periodically, the land supports predominantly hydrophytes (plants specifically adapted to live in wetlands); 2) the substrate is predominantly undrained hydric (wetland) soil; and 3) the substrate is nonsoil and is saturated with water or covered by shallow water at some time during the growing season of each year.
Wind Shear Exponent	A wind resource measurement that represents the rate of increase of wind speed with height above ground according to the power law.
Wind Turbine Generator Assembly	Includes tower, nacelle, and rotor.
Windsmith	A trained specialist who performs mechanical and electrical maintenance of the facilities, including the wind turbine generator.
WTG pads	Areas required for on-site construction of wind turbines.