

# Chapter 1. Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)

**Worksheet**  
U.S. Department of Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

OFFICE:: Las Vegas FO, S010

TRACKING NUMBER: DOI-BLM-NV-S010-2009-1030-DNA

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: N-83086-01, N-83327-01, N-83329-01, N-83614-01,  
N-85274-01, N-85785-01

PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE: NV Energy Renewal Requests for Six (6) Short-Term  
Rights-of-Way

LOCATION/LLEGAL DESCRIPTION: The projects are located on public lands under the  
jurisdiction of the BLM Las Vegas Field Office.

APPLICANT: Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy

**A. Description of Proposed Action and any application mitigation measures**

The proposed action is to renew six (6) NV Energy short-term rights-of-way (STROW) for temporary work areas to allow sufficient time to complete construction of authorized facilities. STROW N-83086-01 is a temporary construction area for construction of an overhead distribution line and was analyzed in NEPA Document No. 2008-175. STROWs N-83327-01 and N-83329-01 are temporary construction areas for construction of the Log Cabin Substation and an associated transmission line both were analyzed in NEPA Document No. 2007-326. STROW N-83614-01 is a temporary construction area for a transmission line related to Darling Substation and was analyzed in NEPA Document No. 2007-370. STROW N-85247-01 is a temporary construction area for an overhead distribution line and was analyzed in NEPA No. 2008-371. STROW N-85785-01 is for the construction of an overhead distribution line and was analyzed in NEPA Document No. 2008-481.

There are no new components to the project. The current applications are only for renewal of the existing authorizations.

**B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

LUP	<u>Las Vegas Resource Management</u>	Date	<u>October 5, 1998</u>
Name*	<u>Plan</u>	Approved:	

**The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions): RW-1 and RW-1-h.**

### **C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action**

Las Vegas Resource Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement, ROD Approved October 5, 1998

Las Vegas Valley Disposal Boundary EIS approved, by ROD dated December 23, 2004

Biological Opinion No. 1-5-96-F-23R.3

Biological Opinion No. 1-5-97-F-251

Environmental Assessment No. 2007-326, Approved August 9, 2007

Environmental Assessment No. 2007-370, Approved August 14, 2007

Environmental Assessment No. 2008-175, Approved March 12, 2008

Environmental Assessment No. 2008-371, Approved July 31, 2008

Environmental Assessment No. 2008-481, Approved February 27, 2009

### **D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

**1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?**

Renewal of the existing STROWs would not convey any rights beyond those previously authorized in the STROW and analyzed in the previous environmental document. Therefore, the project is the same analysis area as that analyzed in the previous environmental document.

**2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?**

The range of alternatives considered in the previous environmental documents is appropriate with respect to the proposed STROW renewals, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values. The renewals are an administrative action to extend the term.

**3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessments, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?**

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*C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action*

The existing environmental analyses prepared for the approval of the STROWs was approved in 2007 (2), 2008 (2), and 2009 (1), there is no new information or circumstances affecting the subject areas that would invalidate the existing analysis.

**4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?**

There are direct, indirect and cumulative effects analyzed in the existing NEPA documents or incorporated by reference and they are the same as those that would result from the administrative action of renewing the STROWs.

**Are there public involvement and interagency reviews associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?**

With the exception of the public involvement done for the Las Vegas Resource Management Plan EIS, there was no additional public involvement or interagency review associated with the existing NEPA documents, and this continues to be adequate given the minor nature of the proposed action.

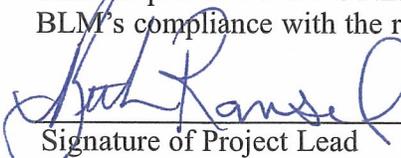
**E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted**

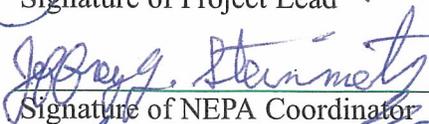
Name	Title	NEPA Document(s) Contributed To:	Resource/Agency Represented
Beth Ransel	Project Manager	EA-2008-481	Lands & Realty - BLM
Mark Slaughter	Wildlife Biologist	EA-2008-481, EA-2008-175, EA-2007-370	Wildlife/T&E Species - BLM
Mark Chandler	Realty Specialist	EA-2008-481, EA-2008-175, EA-2008-371	Visual Resources - BLM
Jeff Steinmetz	P&EC	EA-2008-481, EA-2008-175, EA-2007-326, EA-2007-370, EA-2008-371	NEPA/Planning - BLM
Susanne Rowe	Archeologist	EA-2008-481, EA-2008-175, EA-2007-370, EA-2008-371	Cultural/Native American/Paleo - BLM
David Fanning	Geologist	EA-2008-481, EA-2008-175, EA-2007-326, EA-2007-370, EA-2008-371	Minerals - BLM
Lisa Christianson	Air Quality Specialist	EA-2008-481, EA-2007-326, EA-2007-370	Air Quality - BLM

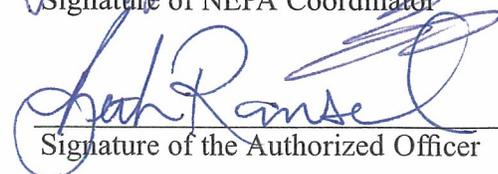
Sarah Peterson	Hydrologist	EA-2008-481, EA-2008-175, EA-2007-326, EA-2007-370, EA-2008-371	Soil/Water/Riparian - BLM
Everett Bartz	Range	EA-2008-481, EA-2008-175, EA-2007-326, EA-2007-370, EA-2008-371	Range/Noxious Weeds - BLM
Christina Lund	Botanist	EA-2008-175, EA-2007-370	T&E Plants - BLM
Scott Sanderford	Realty Specialist/	EA-2007-326, EA-2007-370	Lands & Realty - BLM
Janet Cheek	Project Manager Realty Specialist/	EA-2008-481, EA-2008-371	Lands & Realty - BLM
Scot Franklin	Project Manager Wildlife Biologist	EA-2007-326	Wildlife/T&E - BLM
Gayle Marrs-Smith	Special Projects Manager	EA-2007-326	T&E Plants/CTA - BLM
Shawn Gibson	Archeologist	EA-2007-326	Cultural/Native American/Paleo - BLM
Michael Johnson	P&EC	EA-2007-370	Visual Resources/NEPA - BLM
Jayson Barangan	Natural Resource Specialist	EA-2008-371	Wildlife/T&E - BLM

## Conclusion

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirement of NEPA.

 10/14/09  
Signature of Project Lead

 10/15/09  
Signature of NEPA Coordinator

 10/15/09  
Signature of the Authorized Officer Date

**Note:**

The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.