

APPENDIX 2B
POWER SUPPLY SCREENING STUDY FOR PROPOSED
LONG CANYON MINE

**POWER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVES GIS SCREENING STUDY
PROPOSED LONG CANYON MINE
ELKO COUNTY, NEVADA**

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October 12, 2012

Updated July 22, 2014

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMPs	Best Management Practices
EHR	Earthquake Hazard Rank
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
GIS	Geographic Information System
JBR now Stantec	JBR Environmental Consultants, Inc now Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
kV	Kilovolt
NDEP	Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
NDOW	Nevada Department of Wildlife
NNHP	Nevada Natural Heritage Program
Plan	Long Canyon Plan of Operations
ROW	Right-of-Way
USGS	United States Geological Survey

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This study and accompanying Geographic Information Systems (GIS) analysis identifies potential environmental impacts associated with five potential power supply alternatives for the proposed Long Canyon Mine Project. This screening study identifies environmental and potential environmental issues that may result from construction of each of the five alternatives using GIS data gathered from public sources and agencies.

The data included in the study provides general information on areas with sensitive resources that should be avoided. The GIS analysis also included reference data such as township/range/section, roads, designated energy corridors, the Ruby Pipeline, land status and the Long Canyon Plan of Operations (Plan) boundary.

This GIS analysis incorporates the best available data for the time of this analysis (October 10, 2012, updated July 2014). Resources that are not included in the GIS data used to analyze the alternatives will not be represented, so field surveys for some sensitive resources will be necessary.

This study contains a general description of environmental issues and the potential environmental issues resulting from each alternative as identified through the GIS analysis. This study is not intended to determine the economic feasibility of the Alternatives, and no economic feasibility analysis was prepared or analyzed for this study. In addition, this survey was not intended as a full environmental analysis, and the selected Alternative would be fully analyzed in the Long Canyon Mine Environmental Impact Statement. The main tool is a web-based map of the GIS analysis findings that allows the user to identify resources. A secure login is required. The web-based map is located at <http://maps.jbrenv.com/LCMPowerSupply>.

1.1 METHODS

1.1.1 Data Inputs

Based upon GIS files provided by Newmont, JBR Environmental Consultants, Inc. now Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (JBR now Stantec) analyzed five alternative alignments for either a natural gas pipeline or an electric transmission line to the proposed Long Canyon Mine (Figure 1). The five alternative alignments are detailed in Table 1. All alignments are approximate and based on the best available information from Newmont at the time of this analysis.

Table 1 Proposed Power Supply Alignments

Alternative	Type	Miles	Total Disturbance Width in Feet	Potential Disturbance Acres
Alternative 1	Transmission Line	32	100	386
	Pipeline	24	50	145
	Total	56	--	531
Alternative 2	Pipeline	39	50	234
Alternative 3	Pipeline	46	50	277
Alternative 4	Pipeline	42	50	253
Alternative 5	Rebuild Existing Transmission Line from Jackpot (500-foot Offset West or East of the Centerline of the Existing Transmission Line)	100	100	1,212
	Decommission and Remove Existing Line	100	100	1,212
	Total	200	--	2,424

Alternative 1 (Figure 2) would include 24 miles of natural gas pipeline extending south from the Ruby Pipeline to Wells, Nevada where a gas turbine power plant would be built. Alternative 1 would also include 32 miles of electric power transmission line extended east from Wells to the Long Canyon Mine site, generally following Interstate 80. The total length of Alternative 1 (i.e. both the pipeline and the transmission line extensions) would be 56 miles. Assuming a right-of-way (ROW) and disturbance width of 50 feet for the pipeline, and a ROW and a disturbance width of 100 feet for the transmission line, Alternative 1 would result in approximately 531 acres of disturbance.

Alternative 2 (Figure 3) consists of a 39-mile natural gas pipeline extending south from the Ruby Pipeline to the Long Canyon Mine site. A 50-foot ROW and disturbance width is assumed, for a total disturbance area of 234 acres.

Alternatives 3 and 4 (Figures 4 and 5) would extend south-southwest from the Ruby Pipeline to the Long Canyon Mine. Both alternatives are located within the same general area with some alignment differences, and both would assume a ROW and disturbance width of 50 feet. Alternative 3 would be approximately 46 miles for a total disturbance area of 277 acres. Alternative 4 would extend approximately 42 miles for a total disturbance acreage of 253 acres.

Alternative 5 would involve upgrading an existing transmission line from Jackpot, Nevada to Wells, Nevada and then to the mine site, and would be approximately 100 miles long. This alternative would involve offsetting a new transmission line 500 feet west (referred to as Alternative 5, Option 1 in this report) or east (referred to as Alternative 5, Option 2 in this report) of an existing 138 kilovolt (kV) line, then decommissioning and removing the old 138 (kV) transmission line. Assuming a 100-foot ROW and disturbance width for the new transmission

line and a 100-foot ROW and disturbance width for the removal of the existing line, Alternative 5 would disturb approximately 2,424 acres.

1.1.2 Analysis Area

JBR now Stantec reviewed existing GIS data, conducted an Internet search of publicly available data, and made requests to agencies for other public data as necessary to represent sensitive resources that may be impacted as a result of project activities.

Data were gathered from the following sources: Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Nevada Division of Wildlife (NDOW), Nevada Natural Heritage Program (NNHP), Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), United States Geological Survey (USGS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and local governments. Table 2 provides details regarding data input and date, source, and other information. The resource data used for this report was current at the time of the October 12, 2012 analysis. However, the ROW widths for Alternative 1 and Alternative 5 were updated on July 22, 2014. If a resource or habitat did not overlap any alternative, it was excluded from the analysis. If a resource or habitat covered the entire analysis area, it was also excluded from the analysis because resources or habitats that covered the entire analysis area would have affected 100 percent of all alternatives. This report and associated analysis is intended to assist with determining the level of environmental issues or potential environmental issues for each alternative.

The analysis area is shown on Figure 1. The analysis area encompasses at least six miles around the proposed alignments and was made square for ease of analysis. To create the site suitability model, data were clipped to the analysis area. Environmental impacts for each alternative were analyzed based on the total disturbance width shown in Table 1.

Table 2 GIS Data Sources Used in the Analysis

Category	Resource	Source	Date Acquired	Link
Wildlife	Wildlife Management Areas	NDOW	9/14/2011	N/A
	Sage-grouse Leaks	NDOW	9/18/12	N/A
	Sage-grouse 75% Breeding Density	BLM	2/02/12	http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/more_programs/geo_graphic_sciences/gis.html
	Preliminary GRSG Habitat on BLM & USFS land	BLM	4/11/12	http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/more_programs/geo_graphic_sciences/gis.html
	Raptor Sites (BLM)	BLM	9/5/12	N/A
	Special Status Wildlife Species	NNHP	9/10/12	N/A
Vegetation	Sensitive Plants	NNHP	9/10/12	N/A
	Weeds	BLM	9/5/12	N/A
Water	Surface Water	USGS National Hydrography Dataset- Lakes	9/11/11	N/A
		USGS National Hydrography Dataset - Rivers/Streams	9/11/11	N/A
	Wetlands	United States Fish and Wildlife Service	2010	http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/DataDownload.html
	Drinking Water Wells	State of Nevada Division of Water Resources	9/01/12	http://water.nv.gov/data/welllog/
	100-year floodplains	FEMA FIRMS data	9/01/11	CD from FEMA
Geologic Hazards	Geologic Hazards (Natural)	Great Basin Center For Geothermal Energy	9/8/11	http://www.unr.edu/geothermal/datalist.html
		USGS	7/19/11	http://geohazards.usgs.gov/cfusion/qfault/qf_web_ims.cfm?qfault_id=906b
		Great Basin Center For Geothermal Energy	8/16/04	http://www.unr.edu/geothermal/datalist.html

Category	Resource	Source	Date Acquired	Link
	Earthquake Hazard Rank (EHR)	FEMA & United States Department of Transportation Office of Pipeline Safety 1996. National Disaster Study National Pipeline Risk Index Technical Report.	1996	https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/data/data_natdis.htm
	Flood Hazard Rank			
	Landslide Hazard Rank			
	Tunnels & Caves	EPA	6/30/05	http://www.epa.gov/esd/land-sci/nv_geospatial/pages/nvgeo_gis4.htm#map
	Mine Shafts	EPA	6/30/05	http://www.epa.gov/esd/land-sci/nv_geospatial/pages/nvgeo_gis4.htm#map
	Mining Reclamation Sites	NDEP	11/01/11	N/A
	Steep Slope/High Erosion Potential (Areas of slope >35%)	JBR now Stantec created from DEMs	Created 9/15/12	N/A
Grazing & Wild Horse/Burro	Grazing Allotments	BLM	2/02/12	
	Herd Management Areas	BLM	2/02/12	
	Herd Areas	BLM	2/02/12	
BLM & Political	Land Status (private, federal, & state lands)	BLM	2010	http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/more_programs/geographic_sciences/gis.html
	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	BLM	2/2/12	
	Nevada Use Plan Boundaries	BLM	2009	
	National Conservation Areas	BLM	2/24/03	
	Wilderness Areas	BLM	1/04/07	
	Wilderness Study Areas/Inventoried Roadless Areas	BLM	1/28/08	
	BLM Designated Christmas Tree collection	BLM	9/12/12	
	BLM ROW Corridors	BLM	9/12/12	
	West Wide Energy Corridor	Argonne National Laboratory	11/17/08	http://corridoreis.anl.gov/
	Energy Corridors	BLM	N/A	N/A

Category	Resource	Source	Date Acquired	Link
	Woodcutting	BLM	9/12/12	http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/more_programs/geographic_sciences/gis.html
	Wells Land Use Plan	BLM	9/12/12	
	Visual Resource Management Classes	BLM	9/5/12	
	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum	BLM	N/A	
	Special Use Permit Areas	BLM	N/A	
	Research Natural Areas	BLM	N/A	
	PLSS Townships, Sections, Section Quarters	BLM	N/A	

1.2 METHODS

1.2.1 Data Screening

During initial screening, some resources were eliminated from further analysis because the alternatives were unlikely to result in environmental issues to these resources. These resources, along with resources that were investigated but do not exist within the project area are shown in Table 3.

Table 3 Resources Excluded from Further Analysis

Category	Resource	Source	Reason for Exclusion
Wildlife	Sage Grouse 75% Breeding Density	BLM	BLM has replaced this indicator with GRSG habitat.
	Wildlife Management Areas	NDOW	Not present in Analysis Area
	Preliminary GSG Habitat on BLM & USFS land	BLM	Covers all public lands within the Analysis Area
Vegetation	Weeds	BLM	All project activities will use Best Management Practices (BMPs) to limit the spread of weed species
Water	100-year Floodplains	FEMA	Not present in Analysis Area
Geologic Hazards	Faults	USGS, Great Basin Center for Geothermal Energy	After compiling data and researching seismic history of the area, it was determined that the Analysis Area is within a low geologic hazard risk area. Therefore, all geologic hazards were excluded from the model.
	EHR	FEMA and others	
	Flood Hazard Risk	FEMA and others	
	Landslide Hazard Risk	FEMA and others	
	Tunnels & Caves	EPA	
	Mine Shafts	EPA	
Grazing & Wild Horse/Burros	Grazing Allotments	BLM	Project activities will not impact
	Herd Management Areas	BLM	Project activities will not impact
	Herd Areas	BLM	Project activities will not impact
BLM & Political Boundaries	Visual Resource Management Class III & IV Areas	BLM	Potential power supply alignments will be in compliance with VRM Classes III & IV and will occur in existing energy corridors.
	Area of Critical Environmental Concern	BLM	Not present in Analysis Area
	National Conservation Areas	BLM	Not present in Analysis Area

Category	Resource	Source	Reason for Exclusion
	Wilderness Areas	BLM	Not present in Analysis Area
	BLM Designated Christmas Tree Collection	BLM	Project activities will not impact
	BLM Designated Woodcutting Areas	BLM	Project activities will not impact
	Wells Land Use Plan	BLM	No special designations in Analysis Area
	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum	BLM	Not present in Analysis Area
	Special Use Areas	BLM	Not present in Analysis Area
	Research Natural Areas	BLM	Not present in Analysis Area

Resources that were not eliminated through initial screening were further evaluated. Buffers were applied to some resources to adequately protect the sensitive resources, such as sage grouse leks. For example, non-migratory Greater sage-grouse populations where sage-brush is not distributed uniformly with respect to leks would require no surface disturbance within five kilometers (approximately three miles) of an active sage grouse lek (Connelly et al., 2000). Therefore, a three-mile buffer was applied to all known active sage grouse leks identified in the GIS data. Where the buffer intersected the analysis area, this area was determined to be an environmental issue. Table 4 details resources included in the analysis, the buffer applied, if any, and the category of the results.

Areas in the model labeled *Environmental Issues* are likely to contain sensitive environmental resources and may require restrictions on project activities such as timing limitations or other mitigations measures. Areas labeled *Potential Environmental Issues* may contain sensitive environmental resources, but further investigation such as field surveys must be conducted to determine level of impact. In addition, impacts to resources within the *Potential Environmental Issues* category would most likely be mitigated through project design features, environmental protection measures and BMPs, so overall impacts to these resources would be reduced during construction of the alternatives.

Table 4 Resources Included in the Analysis

Category	Resource	Source	Buffer Applied	Category
Wildlife	Known Active Sage Grouse Leks	NDOW	3 miles	Environmental Issues
Wildlife	Eagle Nests	BLM/NDOW	2 miles	Environmental Issues
Water	Wetlands	USFWS	0.25 mile	Environmental Issues
Water	Lakes	USGS National Hydrography Dataset	0.25 mile	Environmental Issues
BLM/Political	Visual Resource Management Class I & II Areas	BLM	None	Environmental Issues

Category	Resource	Source	Buffer Applied	Category
BLM/ Political	Wilderness Study Areas/Inventoried Roadless Areas	BLM	None	Environmental Issues
Wildlife	Raptor Nests (except eagles)	BLM/NDOW	0.5 mile	Potential Environmental Issues
Vegetation	Sensitive Plants	NNHP	Various; masked by NNHP	Potential Environmental Issues
Water	Streams & Linear Water features (Surface)	USGS National Hydrography Dataset	300 feet	Potential Environmental Issues
Wildlife	Special Status Wildlife Species	NNHP	Various; masked by NNHP	Potential Environmental Issues
Water	Drinking Water Wells	State of NV Division of Water Resources	100 feet	Potential Environmental Issues
Water	Linear Water Features (Subsurface)	USGS National Hydrography Dataset	1 foot	Potential Environmental Issues

The West Wide Energy Corridors and designated BLM ROW Corridors, as described in the Wells Resource Management Plan, are shown on Figures 2 through 5. These corridors are shown on the figures in order to display each alternative in relation to these corridors.

1.2.2 Model Creation

Using GIS software (ESRI ArcGIS for Desktop Advanced version 10.1), JBR now Stantec created a site suitability model from the inputs described in the previous section. The model combined attributes from the GIS files shown in Table 4.

The model combined all input data, so that it identified areas where there are overlapping resources. For example, areas labeled *Environmental Issues* can also contain *Potential Environmental Issues*, but the most potentially restrictive designation was brought forward. The input data was broken out into two categories (i.e. Environmental Issues or Potential Environmental Issues) as shown in Table 4 because this allowed the screening study to estimate the percentage of each alternative that may result in environmental impacts.

1.3 RESULTS

Results of the model as they appear in the produced map are shown in Figures 2 through 6. Estimated disturbances associated with each alternative are quantified by category in Table 5 and Chart 1.

Table 5 Estimated Disturbance and Environmental Issues by Alternative

Alternative	Environmental Issues		Potential Environmental Issues		No Environmental Issues Identified		Total
	Acres	Percent (%)	Acres	Percent (%)	Acres	Percent (%)	Acres*
1	338	64	0	0	193	36	531
2	151	65	10	4	72	31	234
3	123	44	43	16	111	40	277
4	113	45	31	12	109	43	253
5 (500-foot Offset West of the Existing Transmission Line (Option 1))	729	60	88	7	398	33	1,215
5 (500-foot Offset East of the Existing Transmission Line (Option 2))	737	61	83	7	389	32	1,209
5 (Decommission and Remove the Existing Transmission Line)	738	61	84	7	392	32	1,214

*Acreages may differ from the total shown in Table 1 as a result of rounding.

Chart 1 Estimated Environmental Issues Percentage (%) by Alternative

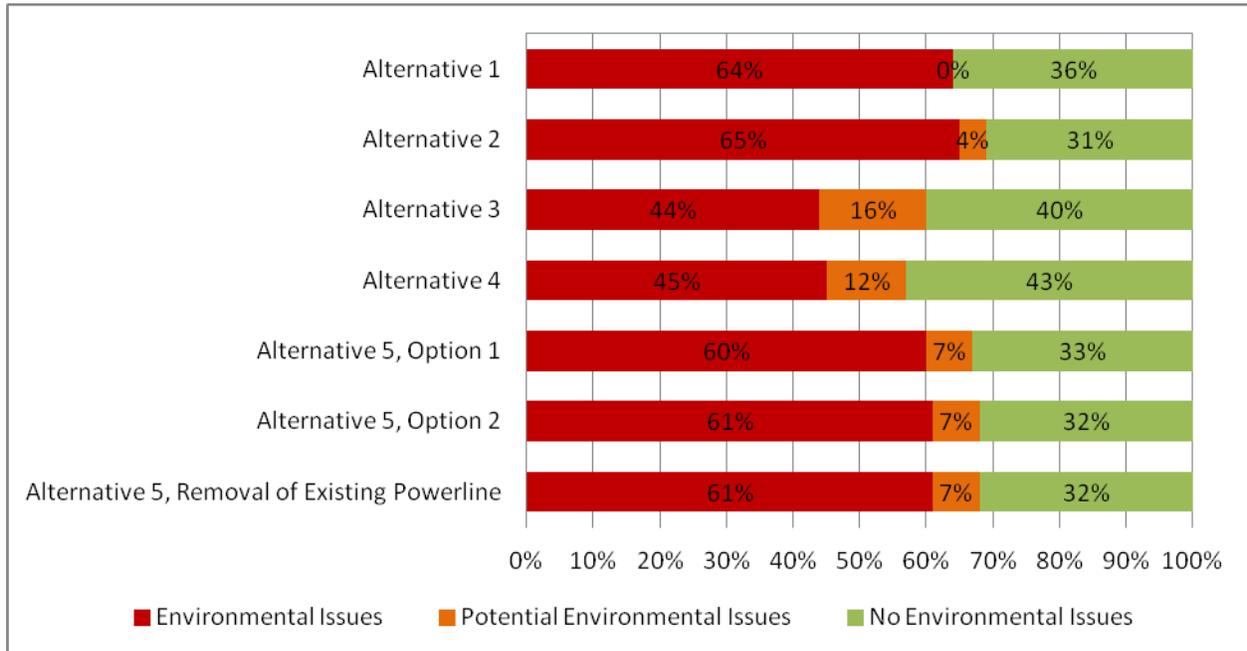


Table 6 contains a comparison of resources that may be present within the potential disturbance area associated with each alternative. An "X" in the box indicates the resource may be present.

Table 6 Comparison of Model Results by Alternative

Category	Resource	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5 (Option 1)	Alternative 5 (Option 2)	Alternative 5 (Removal of the Existing Powerline)
Environmental Issues	Sage Grouse Leks within 3 miles	X	X			X	X	X
	Wetlands within 0.25-mile	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Lakes within 0.25-mile	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	VRM Class II	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Eagle Nests within 2 miles	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Potential Environmental issues	Drinking Water Well within 100 feet	X	X			X	X	X
	Stream/River/ Canal within 300 feet			X	X	X	X	X
	Raptor Nests (Non-eagle) within 0.5-mile	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Subsurface Water within 1 foot			X	X		X	
	Pygmy rabbit	X	X		X	X		
	Barren Valley collomia	X	X			X	X	X
	Columbia spotted frog	X				X	X	X
	Deeth buckwheat	X				X	X	X
	Mattoni's blue	X		X	X	X	X	X

Category	Resource	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5 (Option 1)	Alternative 5 (Option 2)	Alternative 5 (Removal of the Existing Powerline)
	Relict dace	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Elko rockcress					X	X	X
	Pallid bat					X		X
	Townsend's big-eared bat					X	X	X
	Western small-footed myotis					X		X
	California myotis					X	X	X

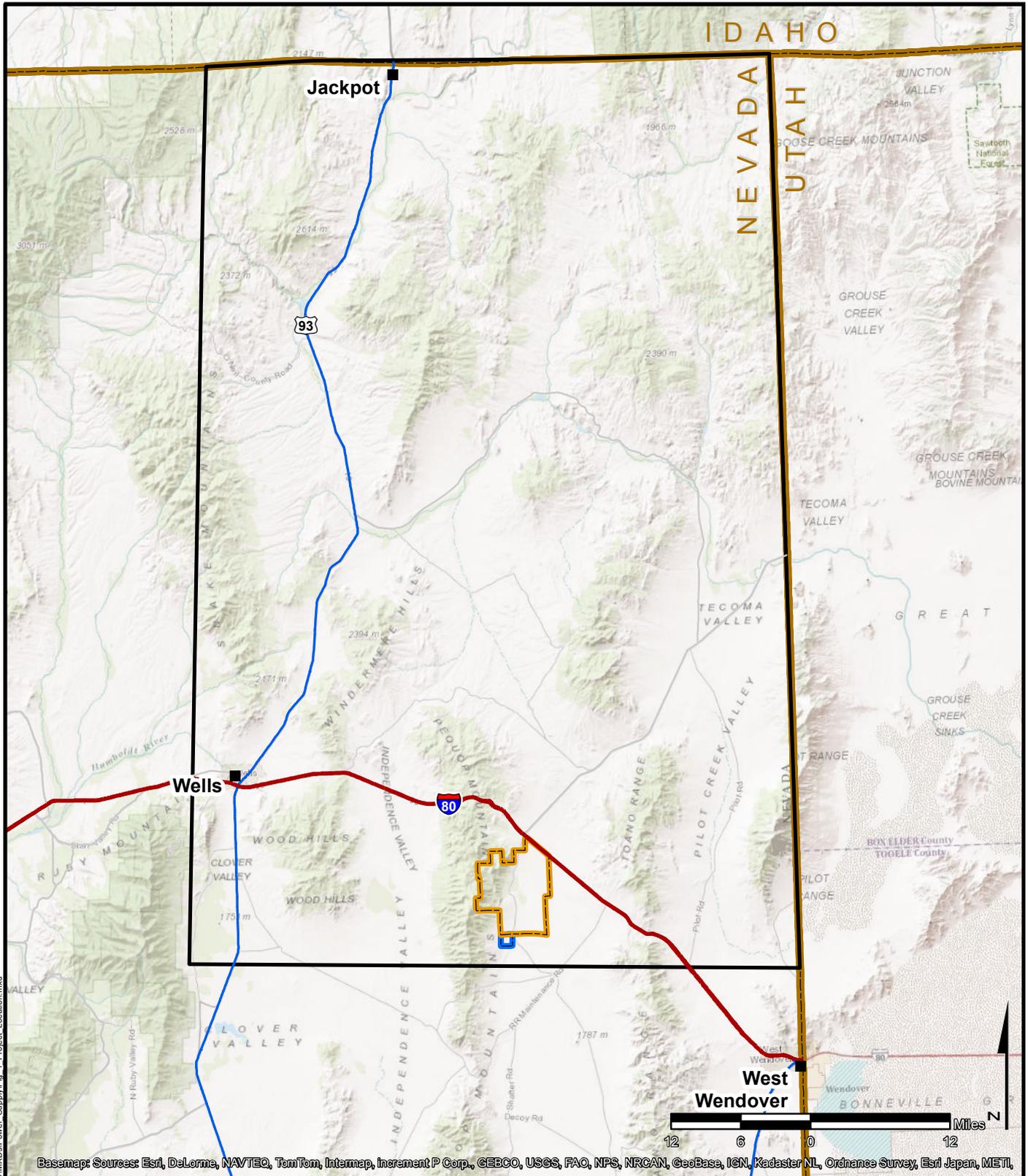
1.4 CONCLUSION

Based on the model results detailed in Table 5, Table 6, and Chart 1, Alternative 3 would have the lowest percentage of environmental issues (44 percent). In comparison, Alternatives 1, 2, 4, 5 (Option 1) and 5 (Option 2) would have higher environmental issues at 64 percent, 65 percent, 45 percent, 60 percent, and 61 percent respectively. Removing the existing powerline once the new powerline has been installed (Alternative 5), would also have higher environmental issues (61 percent) than Alternative 3.

2.0 REFERENCES

Connelly, J., M. Schroeder, A. Sands, and C. Braun. 2000. Guidelines to Manage Sage Grouse Populations and Their Habitats. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 28(4): 967-985.

FIGURES



-  Analysis Area
-  Plan Boundary
-  Area of Cities' Water Supply



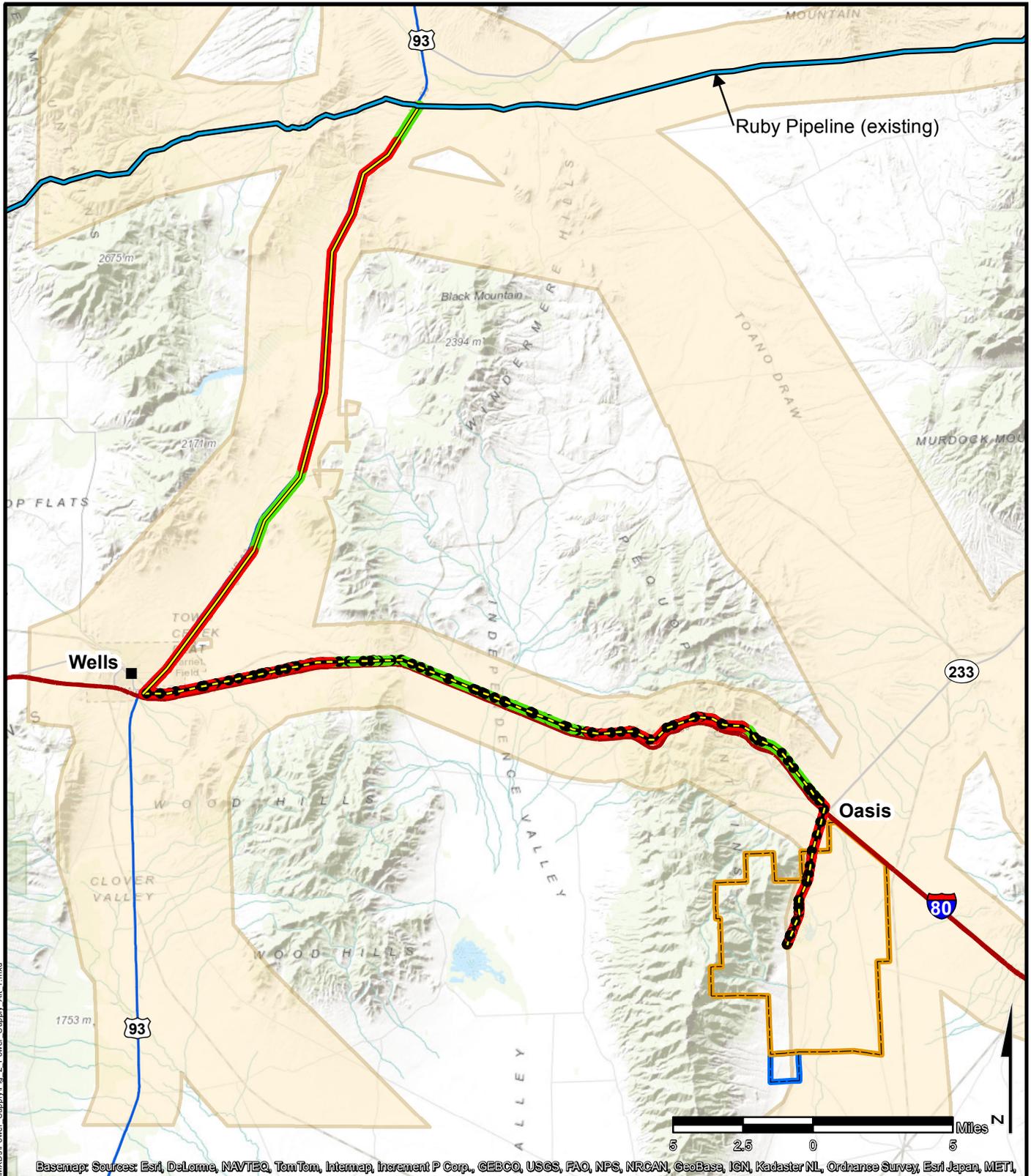
**NEWMONT MINING CORPORATION
LONG CANYON MINE POWER SUPPLY
ALTERNATIVES SCREENING STUDY**

**FIGURE 1
PROJECT LOCATION**

	DRAWN BY	JT	DATE DRAWN	7/21/2014
	SCALE	1 in = 12 miles		
	PROJECT	B.A12266.00		

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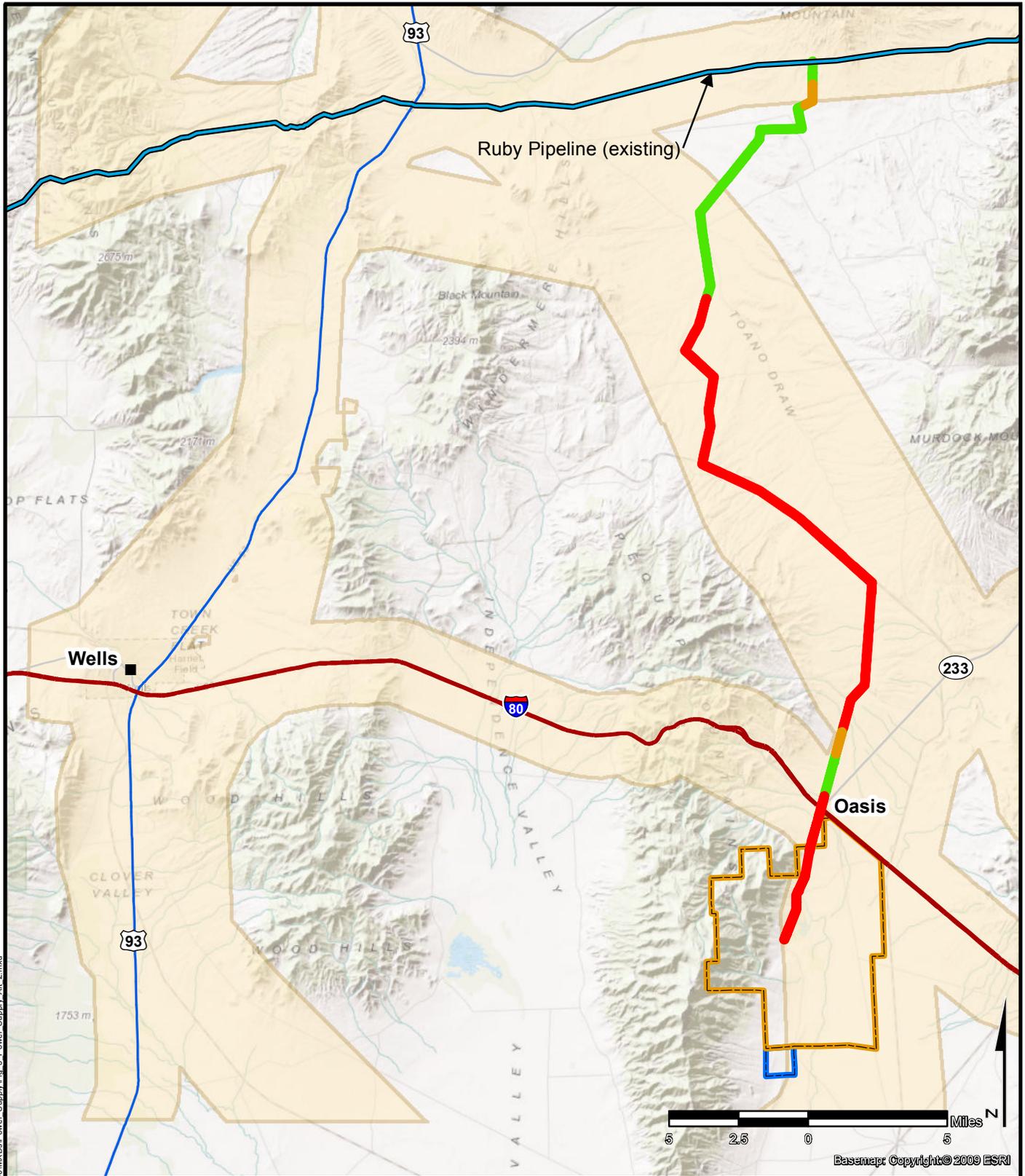
Basemap Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, Incentient P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI,

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Plan Boundary	Alternative 1, Pipeline
Area of Cities' Water Supply	Alternative 1, Transmission Line
West Wide Energy Corridor and Designated BLM Corridors	
Alternative 1 Impacts	
No Environmental Issues Identified, Pipeline	
Environmental Issues, Pipeline	
No Environmental Issues Identified, Transmission Line	
Environmental Issues, Transmission Line	

NEWMONT MINING CORPORATION LONG CANYON MINE POWER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVES SCREENING STUDY				
FIGURE 2 POWER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVE 1				
	DRAWN BY	JT	DATE DRAWN	6/12/2014
	SCALE	1 in = 5 miles		
	PROJECT	B.A12266.00		

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 Plan Boundary	Alternative 2 Pipeline Impacts
 Area of Cities' Water Supply	 No Environmental Impacts
 West Wide Energy Corridor and Designated BLM Corridors	 Potential Environmental Impacts
	 Environmental Impacts for Alternative 2

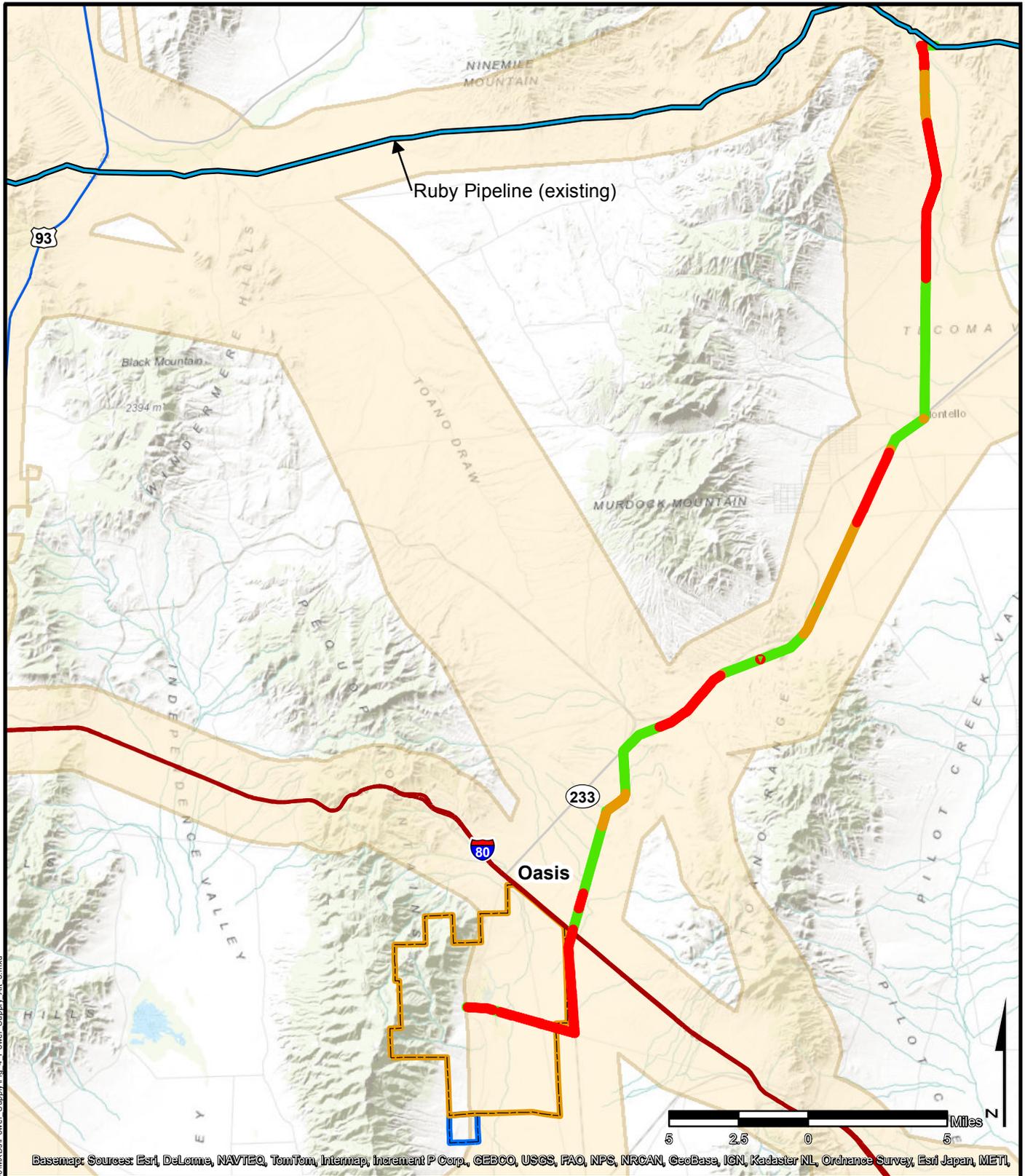
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LONG CANYON MINE POWER SUPPLY
ALTERNATIVES SCREENING STUDY**

**FIGURE 3
POWER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVE 2**

	DRAWN BY	JT	DATE DRAWN	6/2/2014
	SCALE	1 in = 5 miles		
	PROJECT	B.A12266.00		

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Basemap: Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, Increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI,

- Plan Boundary
 - Area of Cities' Water Supply
 - West Wide Energy Corridor and Designated BLM Corridors
- Alternative 3 Pipeline Impacts**
- No Environmental Impacts
 - Potential Environmental Impacts
 - Environmental Impacts for Alternative 3

**NEWMONT MINING CORPORATION
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ALTERNATIVES SCREENING STUDY**

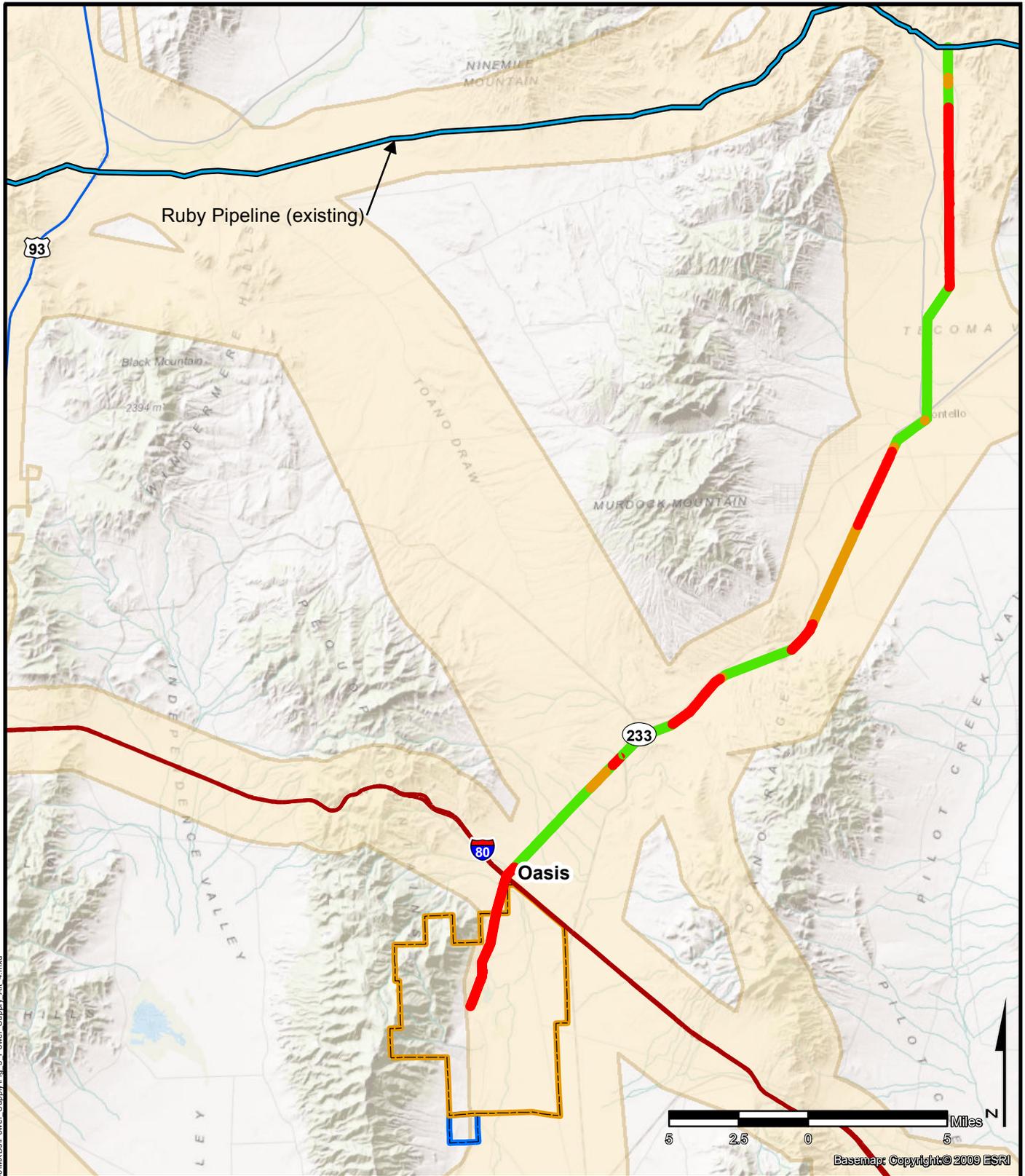
**FIGURE 4
POWER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVE 3**



DRAWN BY	JT	DATE DRAWN	6/2/2014
SCALE	1 in = 5 miles		
PROJECT	B.A12266.00		

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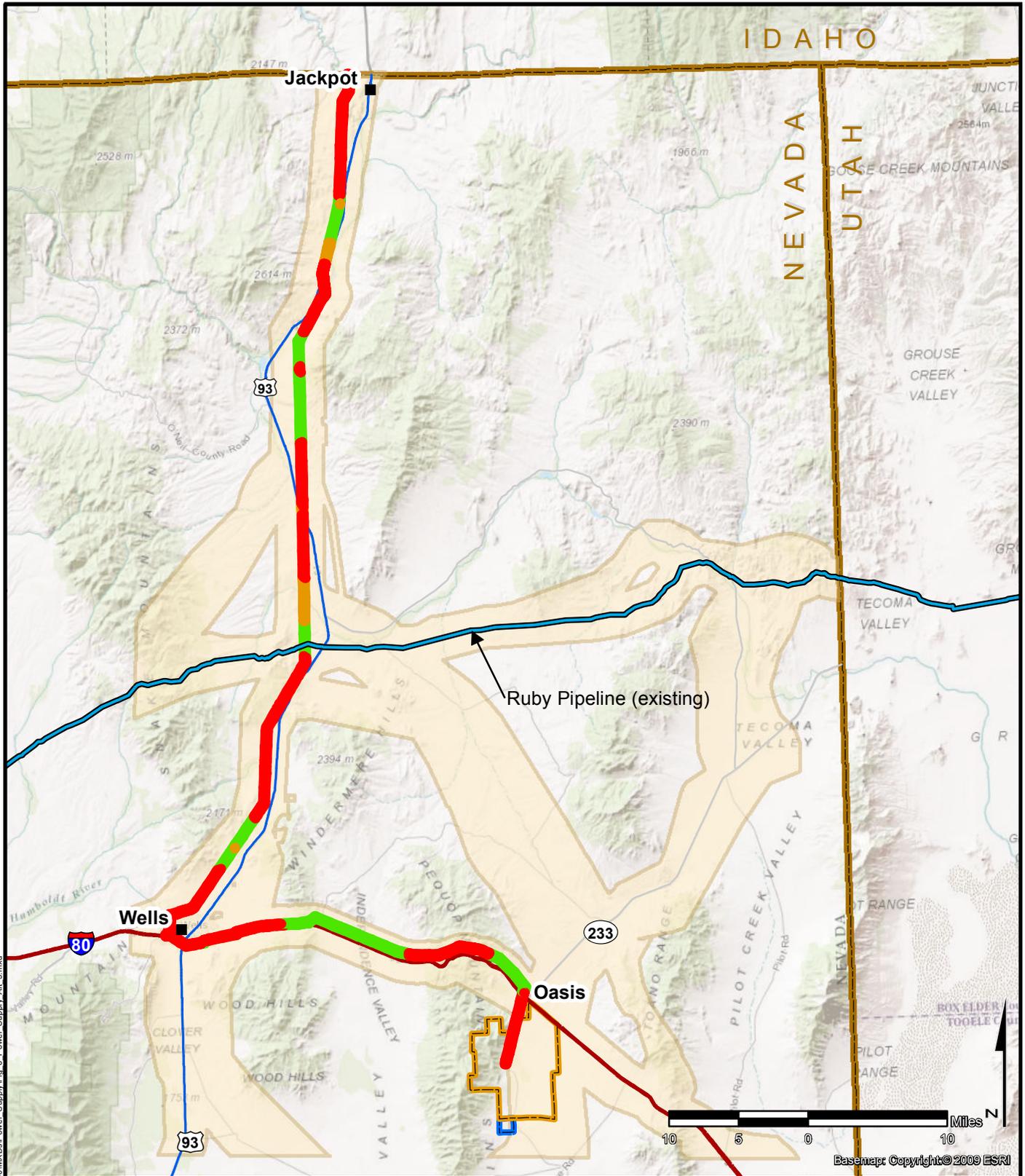
-  Plan Boundary
 -  Area of Cities' Water Supply
 -  West Wide Energy Corridor and Designated BLM Corridors
- Alternative 4 Pipeline Impacts**
-  No Environmental Impacts
 -  Potential Environmental Impacts
 -  Environmental Impacts for Alternative 4

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**FIGURE 5
POWER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVE 4**

	DRAWN BY	JT	DATE DRAWN	6/2/2014
	SCALE	1 in = 5 miles		
	PROJECT	B.A12266.00		

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	Plan Boundary	Alternative 5 Pipeline Impacts
	Area of Cities' Water Supply	 No Environmental Impacts
	West Wide Energy Corridor and Designated BLM Corridors	 Potential Environmental Impacts
		 Environmental Impacts for Alternative 5

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LONG CANYON MINE POWER SUPPLY
ALTERNATIVES SCREENING STUDY**

**FIGURE 6
POWER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVE 5**

	DRAWN BY	JT	DATE DRAWN	6/2/2014
	SCALE	1 in = 10 miles		
	PROJECT	B.A12266.00		

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