

Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) Amendment to add 15kV Underground Line

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

OFFICE: Las Vegas Field Office, LLNVS05600

TRACKING NUMBER: DOI-BLM-NV-S010-S2014-0133

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER:N-59107

PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE: ROW for 15kV Underground Line. DNA is tiered off of the Las Vegas Valley Disposal Boundary Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD) signed December 23, 2004.

LOCATION/LEGAL DESCRIPTION: M.D.M. T. 22 S., R. 60 E., sec. 35 N½NW¼SE¼

APPLICANT (if any): Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy

A. Description of Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures

Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy (NVE) has applied for an amendment to add a portion of a 15kV underground that was not placed on the grant. This line is currently existing and is located near the intersection of Torrey Pines Drive and Erie Avenue.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

LUP Name*	<u>Las Vegas Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement</u>	Date Approved:	<u>October 1998</u>
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**List applicable LUPs (for example, resource management plans; activity, project, management, or program plans; or applicable amendments thereto*

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:

The proposed action is in conformance because it is specifically provided for in the Land Use Plan Decisions RW-1, and RW-1-h, in the approved Las Vegas Resource Management Plan.

RW-1 — “Meet public demand...providing an orderly system of development for transportation, including legal access to private holdings, communications, flood control, major utility transmission lines, and related facilities.”

RW-1-h — “All public land within the planning area...are available at the discretion of the agency for ROW’s under the authority of the Federal land Policy Management Act.”

The proposed action is in conformance to the Land Use Plan terms and conditions as required by 43 CFR 1610.5-3.

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

List by name and date other documentation relevant to the proposed action (e.g. biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report).

Las Vegas Resource Management Plan, EIS, ROD signed October 5, 1998

Las Vegas Valley Disposal Boundary EIS, ROD signed December 23, 2004.

Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 which allows for ROW’s on BLM administered lands.

43 CFR 2800 for ROW’s

The proposed action will DNA off of the Las Vegas Valley Disposal Boundary EIS, ROD signed December 23, 2004

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?

The proposed action is for the renewal of a 96-fiber proprietary fiber optic line with related appurtenances. The proposed area was previously analyzed under the Las Vegas Valley Disposal Boundary EIS, ROD signed December 23, 2004. The EIS, ROD was analyzed for all in valley ROW actions which includes transmission lines. Yes, the project is in the same analysis area.

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 value?

The proposed action for a ROW for a 15kV underground distribution line will not change the analyzation. The area is located in-valley. The amendment for the 15kV underground distribution line is an appropriate action with respect to the original analysis and will not affect any new environmental concerns, interests, or resource values for the area.

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?

The proposed ROW area is in a previously disturbed area. A total of 0.08 acres of public land will be used. This renewal would not change the 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?

Yes, the action is the same as was previously analyzed therefore, the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects would be the same.

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

Public Involvement and interagency reviews were completed in the analysis for the Las Vegas Valley Disposal Boundary EIS, ROD signed December 23, 2004.

E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted

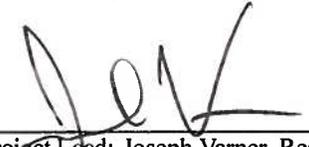
Refer to the EA/EIS for a complete list of the team members participating in the preparation of the original environmental analysis or planning documents.

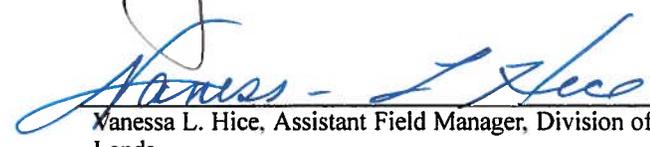
Table 1. List of Preparers

Name	Role	Discipline
Joseph Varner	NEPA Project Creator	Planning & Environmental Coordinator
Vivian Browning	Author, Editor, Reviewer, Project Administrator, Team Lead	Realty Specialist
Lisa T. Christianson	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazardous Materials Specialist
Mark Boatwright	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Cultural Resources, Native American Interests, Paleontological Resources
Boris Poff	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Hydrologist, Soils, Water Quality, Water Rights
Benjamin Klink	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Fire Management Specialist, Noxious Weeds
Lorri Dukes	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Geologist, Minerals
George J. Varhalmi	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Minerals, Geologist
Fred S. Edwards	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Botanist, T&E Species Specialist
Katherine E. Kleinick	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Biologist, Botanist, T&E Species Specialist
Chris Linehan	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Recreation
Marilyn E. Peterson	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Recreation
Krystal Johnson	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Wild Horse & Burro Specialist
Sendi Kalcic	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Wilderness
Melanie Cota	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Biologist, T&E Species Specialist
Mathew E Hamilton	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Biologist, T&E Species Specialist
Kirsten Cannon	Author, Editor, Public Affairs	Public Affairs
Ashley Fisher	Author, Editor, Reviewer	T&E Species Specialist
Stanley Plum	Author, Editor, Reviewer, Data Entry	Archaeologist
Randy S Kyes	Editor, Author, Reviewer	Wildlife Biologist
Evan S. Allen	Author, Editor, Reviewer	Minerals

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.


Project Lead: Joseph Varner, Realty Specialist


Vanessa L. Hice, Assistant Field Manager, Division of
Lands

Date 9/23/14

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.