

TransWest Express Transmission Project *Draft Environmental Impact Statement*

Lead and Cooperating Agencies' Roles and Responsibilities

Lead Agencies

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Western Area Power Administration (Western) are preparing the environmental impact statement (EIS) as joint lead agencies.

BLM's purpose and need:

- Respond to Right-of-Way (ROW) application per Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and ROW regulations to manage the public lands for multiple uses, including electric energy transmission

BLM's decisions to be made:

- Locate transmission line on public lands
- Approve ROW application, terms and conditions
- Approve land use plan amendments

Western's purpose and need:

- Facilitate renewable energy development and transmission expansion per the 2009 amendment of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984

Western's decisions to be made:

- Finance construction and retain joint ownership of transmission facilities, if approved

Cooperating Agencies

Eight federal agencies, four states, 21 counties, six conservation districts, one grazing board and one tribe have been granted cooperating agency status for the NEPA process. These are government agencies with jurisdiction by law or special expertise on environmental issues addressed in the EIS.