

draft Finding of No Significant Impact

Environmental Assessment (EA) DOI-BLM-NV-S010-2010-0195, Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy, N-88975

Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy has submitted a right-of-way (ROW) application to install and operate fifteen new background monitoring wells in five well clusters and to operate seven existing monitoring wells at the Reid Gardner Station (Station). Additionally, the application requests authorization for three unpaved roads that are needed to provide access to the existing wells and two of the new well clusters. The wells will be used to establish background conditions for soil and groundwater at the Station as required by an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) that NV Energy entered into with NDEP on February 22, 2008.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be available for public comment from December 7, 2010, through December 23, 2010. In order to best evaluate representative background conditions surrounding the Station, NV Energy needs to have access to the data that will be collected at the wells proposed by this authorization. The duration of the time period for commenting has been determined by the need for NV Energy to begin gathering data on background water quality at the Station as soon as possible.

I have reviewed the EA to authorize ROW N-88975. Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in EA DOI-BLM-NV-S010-2010-0195, I have determined that the proposed actions with the mitigation measures described in the EA will not have any significant impacts on the environment and an Environmental Impact Statement is not required to be prepared.

Mitigation Measures:

Mitigation measures identified for the proposed action in the environmental impacts section of the attached environmental assessment have been formulated into stipulations. These stipulations should be incorporated into the grant.

Signatures:

Recommended by:

	Kristina K. Tryon	
	Realty Specialist, Power Project Team	

Approved by:

	Program Manager	Date
	Power Project Team Division of Lands	