RECORD OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

A. Proposed Action: Western plans to replace a damaged or broken cross arm at Structure 10/3, which is a wood pole structure, on the Davis Kingman Tap 69-kV Transmission Line. The project's purpose is to maintain the reliability and safety of the bulk electric system.

Western's maintenance activities could use any or all of the following equipment: bucket truck, crew truck, pickup truck, flatbed truck, bulldozer, backhoe, motor grader, tractor trailer, or crane. Existing dirt access roads are adequate, and road improvements are not planned.

The project area occurs southeast of State Route 68, in the Black Mountains, 10 miles east of Bullhead City, Mohave County, Arizona. Western's 100-foot-wide right-of-way crosses land managed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Kingman Field Office. The project is located within Sections 22 and 23 in Township 21 North, Range 20 West on the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian. The corresponding USGS topographic map is Union Pass, Arizona.

Western plans to begin this maintenance project during the week of January 10, 2011 and complete it by March 11, 2011.

B. Categorical Exclusion Applied: 10 CFR, Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, B4.6: "Additions or modifications to electric power transmission facilities that would not affect the environment beyond the previously developed facility area including, but not limited to… changing insulators, circuit breakers, conductors, transformers, and cross arms."

C. Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410 (b):

a. The proposed action fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix B to Subpart D.

   i. The proposed action was reviewed for the requirements of the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the National Historic Preservation Act, and all applicable Department of Energy Orders.
   ii. The proposed action does not require the siting, construction, or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities.
   iii. The proposed action does not disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled and unpermitted releases.

iv. The proposed action was reviewed and surveyed for impacts to cultural and sensitive biological resources. Cultural and sensitive biological resources have been determined to not be affected.

b. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and

c. The proposal is not "connected" to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211.

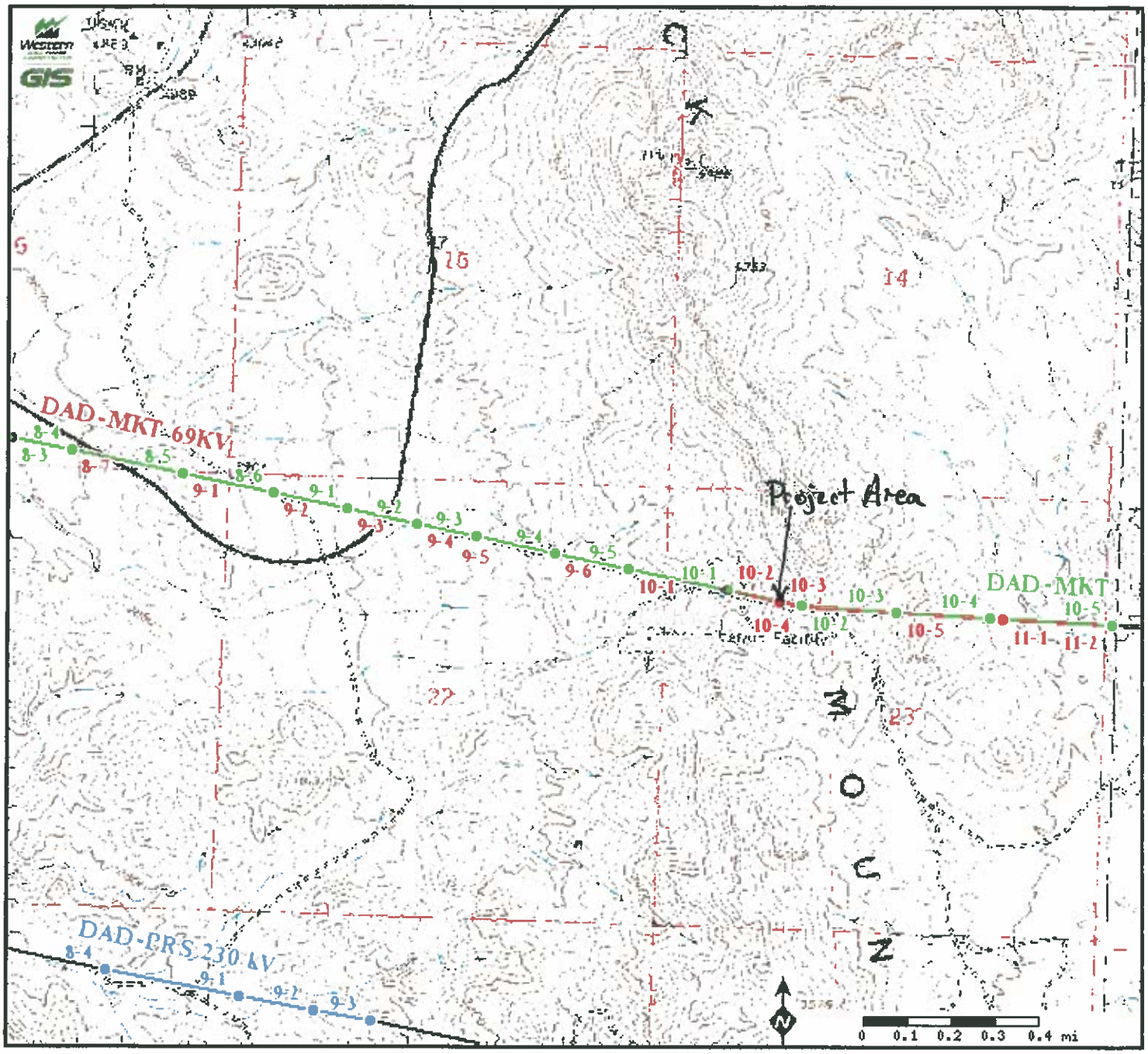
D. **Determination:** Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession (or attached) concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1A), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class of actions, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

E. **Special Conditions:** None

John R. Holt
NEPA Compliance Officer

12/28/10
Date

Desert Southwest Region



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12/28/2010 9:42 A.M.

Western Area Power Administration
An agency of the U.S. Department of Energy

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