RECORD OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

A. **Proposed Action:** Western proposes to conduct maintenance on structure 6/6 of the existing Gila-Wellton-Mohawk 161-kV transmission line. This work will consist of replacing the structures cross arm. No access road improvements are needed to do this work. This work is necessary to maintain the safety and reliability of the bulk electrical system.

The attached map shows the project area situated within Sections 12 Township 9 South, Range 21 West on the Gila & Salt River Meridian, Yuma County, Arizona. The corresponding U.S.G.S. 7.5-minute topographic map is Ligurta, Arizona. This work is planned to begin in November, 2010.

B. **Categorical Exclusion Applied:** 10 CFR, Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B,B1.3: "Routine maintenance activities and custodial services for buildings, structures, right-of-way, infrastructures (e.g. pathways, roads and railroads), vehicles and equipment and localized vegetation and pest control during which operations may be suspended and resumed. "

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

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

   a. 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. This action falls under the Programmatic Agreement for routine maintenance activities, type II activities.

   b. The proposed action does not require the siting, construction, or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities.

   c. The proposed action does not disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminates, or CERLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled and unpermitted releases.

   d. The proposed action was reviewed and surveyed for impacts to cultural and sensitive biological resources. Sensitive biological resources have been determined to not be affected. An archaeological site adjacent to the structure will require an archaeological monitor.

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

3. 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: An archaeological monitor should be present during the cross arm replacement.

NOV 5 2010

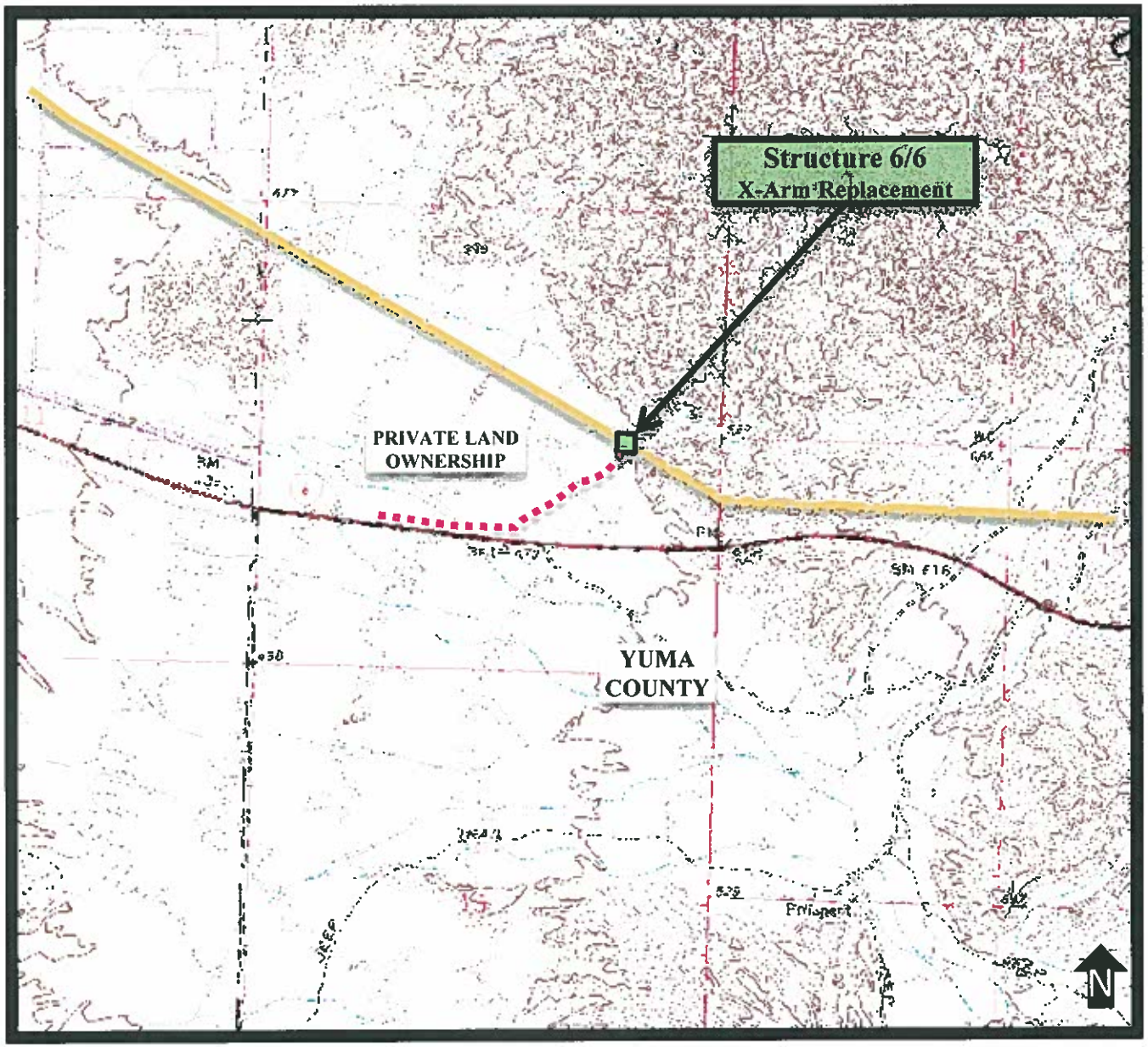
Mary Burgess

for John R. Holt
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date

Gila-Wellton-Mohawk 161-kV Transmission Line

Access Road & Structure Maintenance



Legal Description		
Section	Township	Range
12	9 S	21 W

Transmission Line

Structure

Access Road

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