RECORD OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

A. **Proposed Action:** Western proposes to replace a broken wood pole that is a part of a three-pole turning structure and repair guy wires and anchors as needed at Structure 9/7 on the North Gila-Senator Wash 69-kV Transmission Line. The work consists of augering a new hole, erecting a new pole, removing the broken pole, attaching guy wires, setting guy wire anchors, and attaching conductors and hardware. We may use the following equipment to perform the work: bucket truck, crane, auger, line truck, crew trucks, and a flatbed truck with trailer for poles. Existing access roads and previously disturbed areas will be used to reach the work area and set up equipment. This work is necessary to safely restore power on this transmission line and maintain the reliability of the bulk electrical system.

The attached map shows the project area situated within Section 14, Township 7 South, Range 22 West on the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian. It is located north of Yuma in Yuma County, Arizona. It occurs at the north end of the North Gila Valley adjacent to the Colorado River, just south of Laguna Dam. Western's right of way in the project area crosses private land. The corresponding U.S.G.S. 7.5-minute topographic map is Laguna Dam, Arizona. This work is planned to begin November 3, 2010 and end by November 10, 2010.

B. **Categorical Exclusion Applied:** 10 CFR, Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, B4.6: "Additions or modifications to electrical power transmission facilities that would not affect the environment beyond the previously developed facility area including, but not limited to... tower modifications, changing insulators, and replacement of poles..."

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.

   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. Cultural and sensitive biological resources have been determined to not be affected.

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.

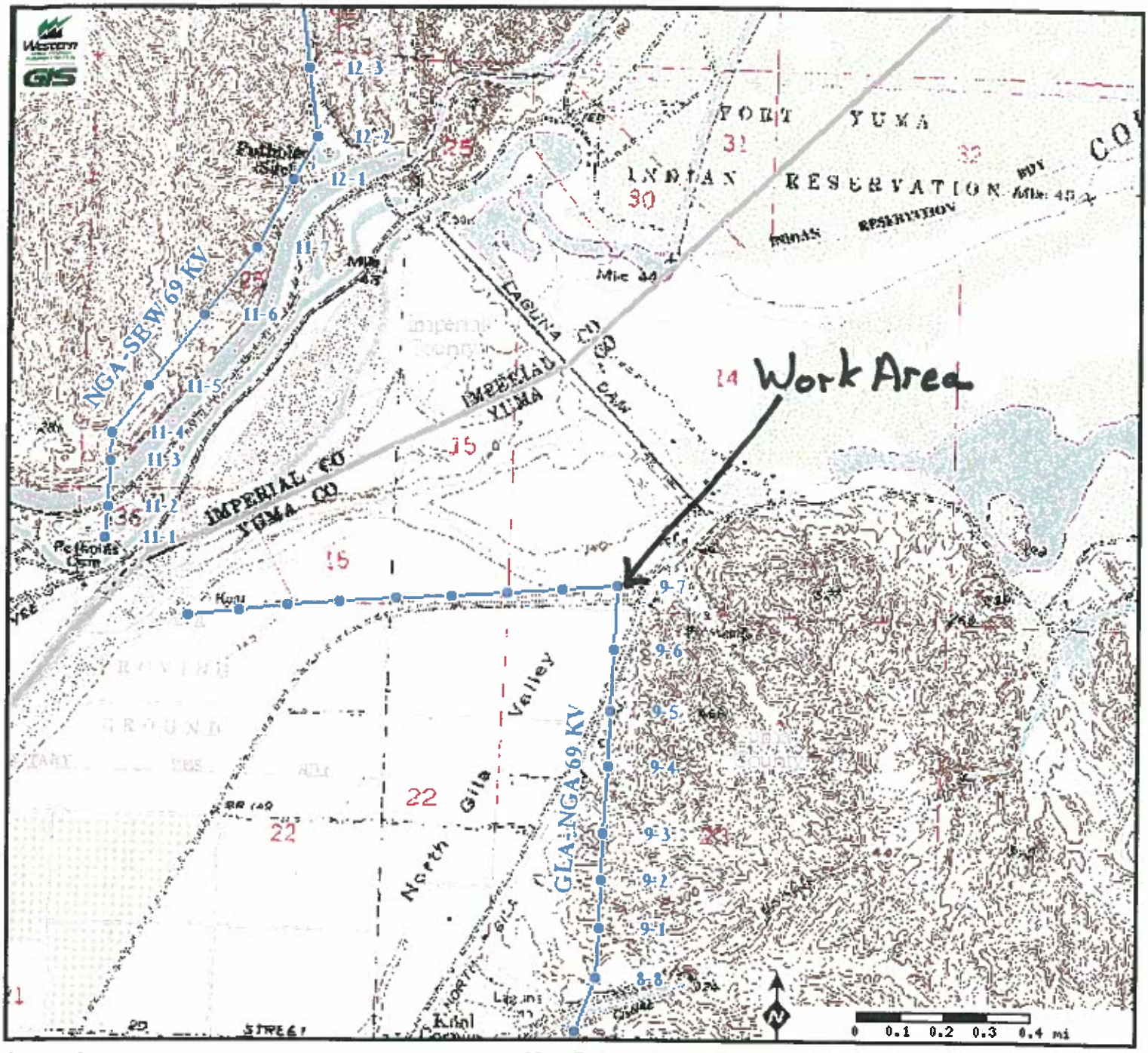
E. Special Conditions: none.

John R. Holt

John R. Holt
NEPA Compliance Officer

11/3/10
Date

Desert Southwest Region



Legend

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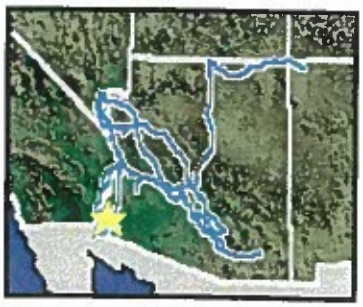
11/3/2010 12:50 P.M.



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

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