

RECORD OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

- A. **Proposed Action:** Western proposes to conduct maintenance on structures 59/3 & 91/3 of the existing Parker-Gila 161-kV transmission line. This work will consist of replacing bad crossarms. Western will access structures using crew trucks and pickup trucks along existing access roads. This work is necessary to maintain the safety and reliability of the bulk electrical system.

The attached map shows the project areas are situated within Sections 34 Township 2 North Range 19 West & Section 11 Township 5 South Range 20 West on the Gila and Salt River Meridian, La Paz & Yuma County, Arizona. Work will be conducted within Western's right of way. The corresponding U.S.G.S. 7.5-minute topographic maps are Livingston Hills NW & Middle Mountains North, Arizona. This work is planned to begin November 1, 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):**

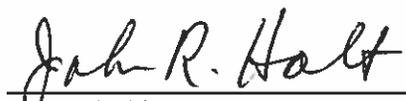
1. The proposed action fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix B to Subpart D.
 - a. The proposed action was reviewed for the requirements of the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the National Historic Preservation Act, and all applicable Department 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, contaminants, or CERCLA-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.

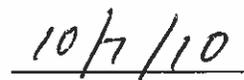
D. **Determination:** Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession (or attached) concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1A), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class of actions, the other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

E. **Special Conditions:**

1. **In the vicinity of structure 91/3, if a Desert Tortoise is encountered; follow the BLM guidelines for handling Desert Tortoise encounters.**



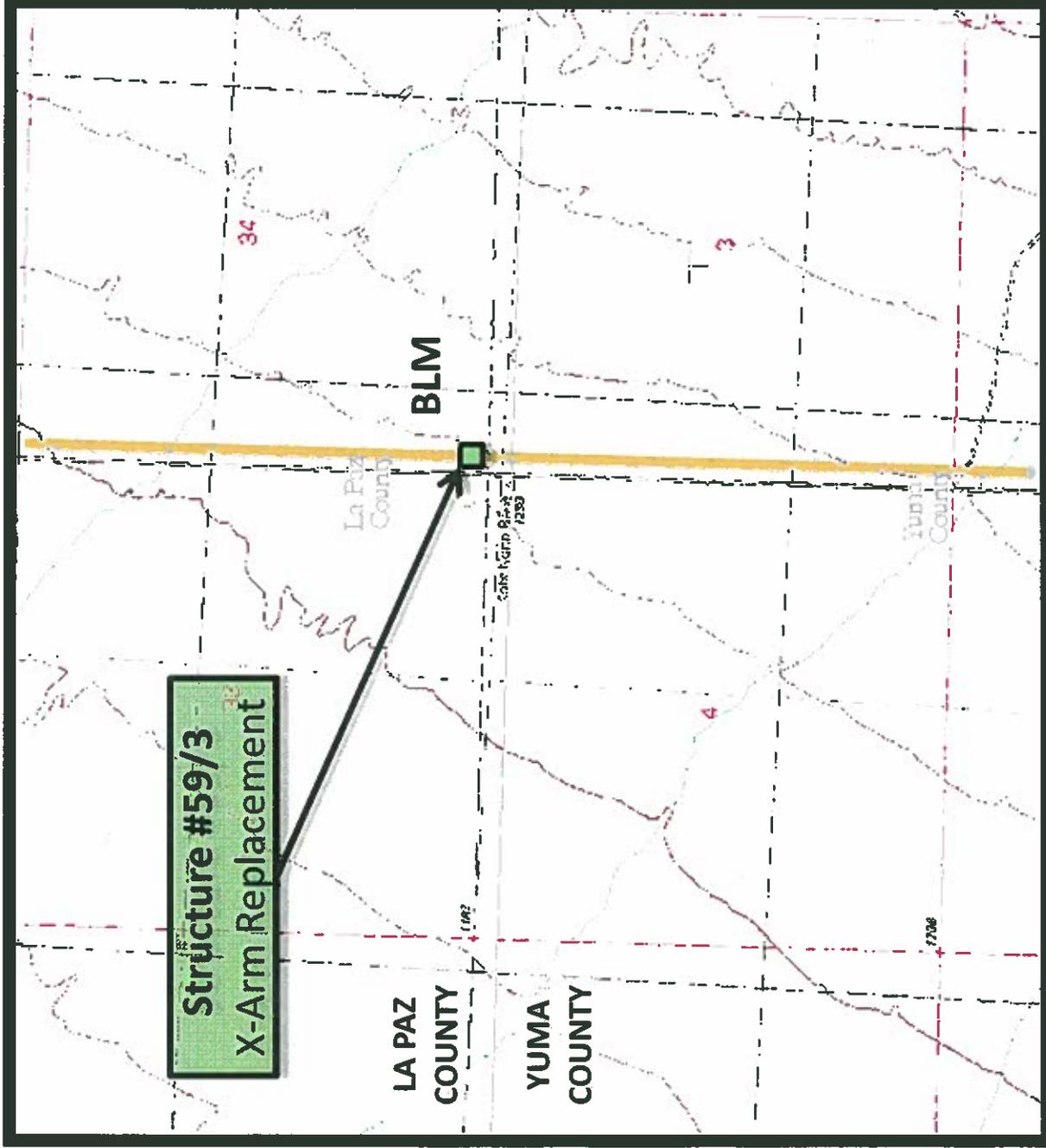
John R. Holt
NEPA Compliance Officer



Date

Parker – Gila 161-kV Transmission Line

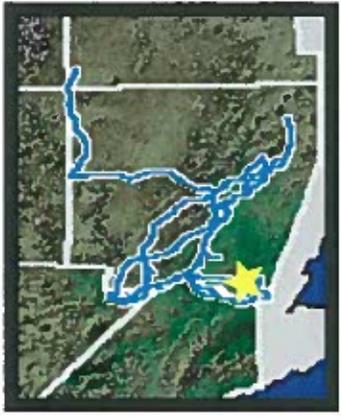
Structure Maintenance



Legal Description		
Section	Township	Range
34	2 N	19 W

Transmission Line

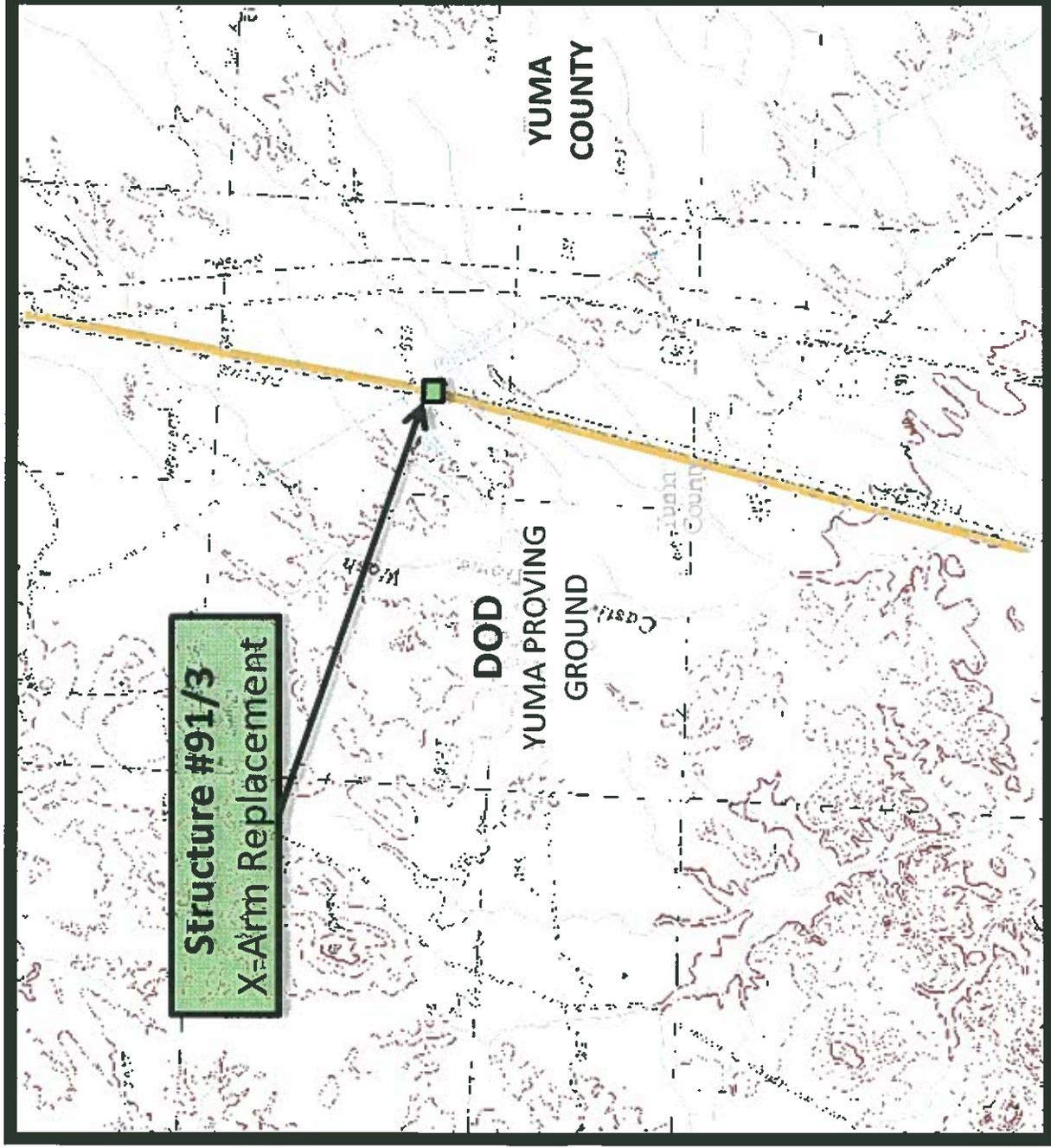
Structure



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

Parker – Gila 161-kV Transmission Line

Structure Maintenance



Legal Description		
Section	Township	Range
11	5 S	20 W

Transmission Line

Structure

