

Contact Us

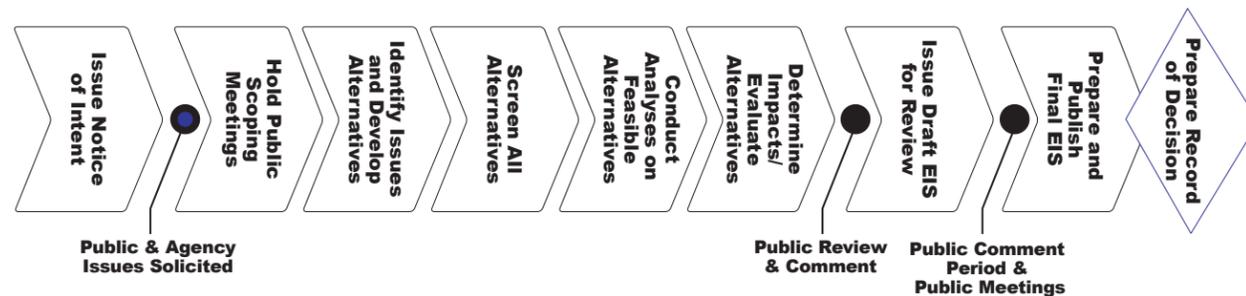
Project-related comments or questions can be directed to:

Mr. John Holt, Environmental Manager
Western Area Power Administration
P.O. Box 6457
Phoenix, AZ 85005-6457
Phone: (602) 352-2592
Fax: (602) 352-2630
Email: holt@wapa.gov

More information about the Big Sandy Energy Project are available from Mr. Holt, Dr. Carey, or on the project web site at www.wapa.gov/interconn/int sandy.htm

Dr. Dwight Carey, Project Manager
Bureau of Land Management
2475 Beverly Avenue
Kingman, AZ 86401
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Steps in an... Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Western Area Power Administration
P.O. Box 281213
Lakewood, CO 80228-1213



■ Draft Environmental Impact Statement available

The Big Sandy Energy Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) is now available for public review. Copies of the entire Draft EIS are located at:

Western Area Power Administration
615 South 43rd Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
2475 Beverly Avenue
Kingman, Arizona

Owens Elementary School
14109 E. Chicken Springs Rd
Wikieup, Arizona

DOE Reading Room
Forrestal Building
Washington, DC

Comments on the Draft EIS must be postmarked no later than August 6, 2001 to be addressed in the Final EIS. E-mail and faxed comments will be accepted until 11:59 p.m., August 6, 2001.

A copy of the Draft EIS or the Executive Summary may be obtained by contacting one of the names listed on the back of this newsletter. If you previously requested a copy of the Draft EIS, a copy has been shipped to you.

■ We're saving a seat for you

Western and the BLM invite you to attend our public meetings on the Draft EIS. We're hosting a public workshop July 10th to provide you with an overview of the proposed project and the conclusions outlined in the Draft EIS. We'll also answer your questions and gather comments about the Draft EIS. A public hearing on July 17th offers the opportunity to provide formal comment. Comments received at either meeting, or through mail, e-mail or fax, will become part of the public record on the Big Sandy Energy Project and will be considered by Western and BLM in their decision processes. All comments must be received by 11:59 p.m. on August 6, 2001 to be addressed in the Final EIS.

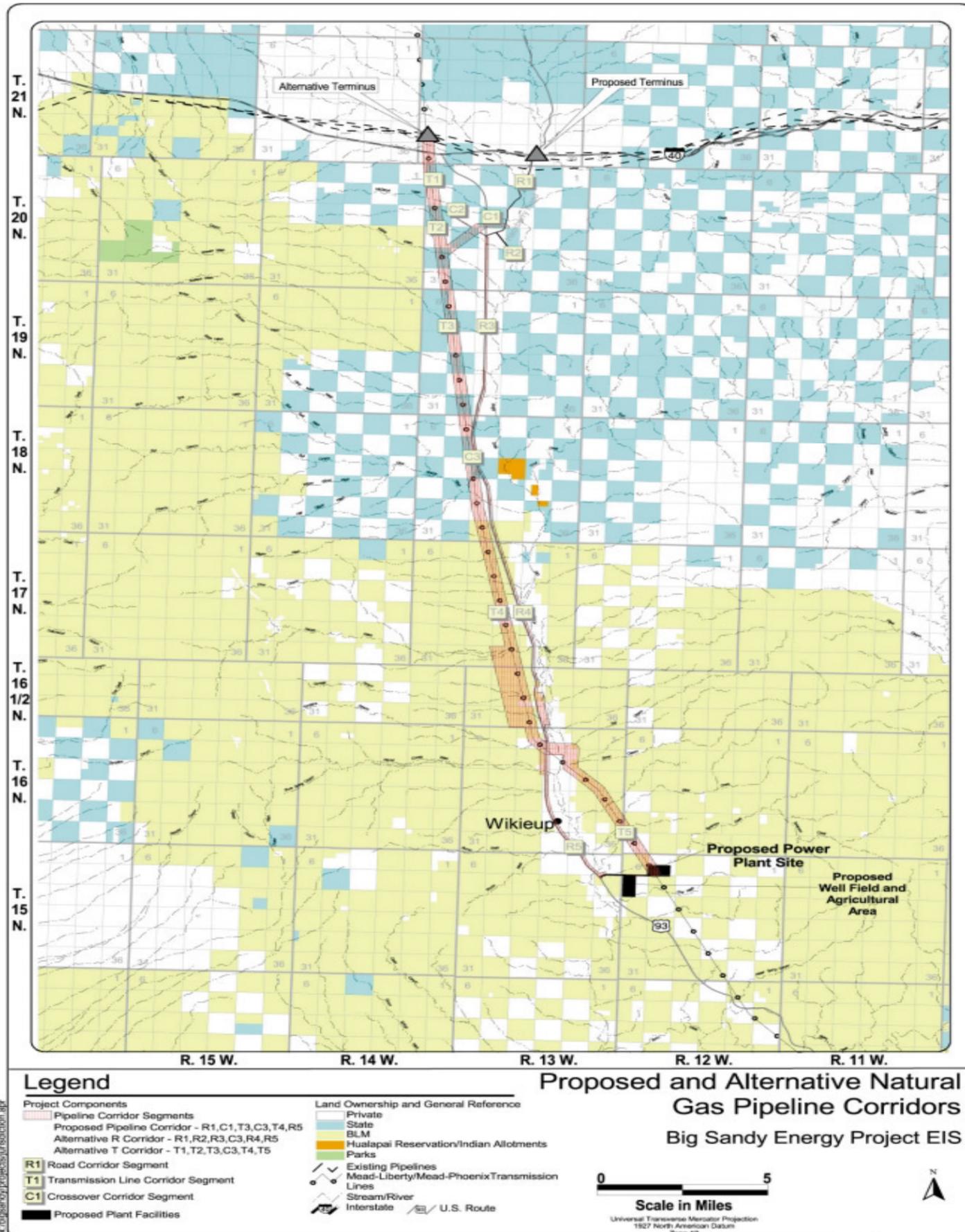
Meeting: Draft EIS Public Workshop
Date: July 10, 2001
Place: Wikieup Bible Church
Chicken Springs Road
Wikieup, Arizona
Time: 6-9 p.m.

Format: We are hosting an open house where you can come any time between 6 and 9 p.m. We'll have stations with displays on the project staffed by area experts who can answer your questions. We'll also have comment forms available to gather your input on the proposed project.

Meeting: Draft EIS Public Hearing
Date: July 24, 2001
Place: Wikieup Bible Church
Chicken Springs Road
Wikieup, Arizona
Time: 6-9 p.m.

Format: A Court Reporter will transcribe comments and the transcripts will be made available to the public.

Refreshments will be served at both meetings



■ Draft EIS concluded no significant impacts to most resources

The Big Sandy Energy Project Draft EIS studied impacts to many different areas including air, soils, groundwater and cultural resources. These areas are detailed in the Executive Summary and in Chapter 3 of the Draft EIS.

No significant impacts are projected for most of the resources considered. However, the project may adversely impact riparian habitat and the endangered southwestern willow flycatcher, as well as other sensitive wildlife and plant species. The Hualapai Tribe considers impacts of the project on archaeological sites to be a significant impact.

■ Mitigation Action Plans (MAP)

Western will prepare and approve the MAP after the release of the Final EIS, and the MAP will be issued with the ROD. The MAP will describe the mitigation that Western will commit to in the Record of Decision based upon the results of public comment found in the Final EIS. The MAP will also contain the schedule for completion of the mitigation.

BLM does not have a requirement for a MAP but does typically prepare a mitigation monitoring plan as part of the ROD package.

■ Project background

Caithness Sandy, LLC, proposes to construct the Big Sandy Energy Project, a 720-mega-watt natural gas-fired generating facility, on private lands near Wikieup, Arizona. Caithness, a private energy development and operating company, has applied to Western for an interconnection with the existing Mead-Phoenix Project 500-kV Transmission Line, and applied for permits to build portions of a natural gas supply pipeline along U.S. Highway 93 to Interstate 40 and a permanent access road and water pipeline system across public lands managed by the BLM.

■ Specific issues outlined

The Draft EIS studied the following major issues:

- Short-term and long-term effects on future water supplies in the Wikieup area.
- Direct and indirect effects on fish and wildlife resources and habitats.
- Direct and indirect effects on the community from construction activity, air emissions, future land use changes, landscape changes, noise and taxation changes.
- Direct and indirect effects on water quality and use in the Project area, including any effects from the proposed pipeline construction.
- Effects on cultural resources and traditional cultural values of Native Americans.
- Effects on existing land uses from the pipeline construction.
- Federal agency fulfillment of Indian Trust responsibilities.

Each issue was studied during the EIS process. Results of the studies are addressed in Chapter 3 of the Draft EIS.

Project Schedule

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
Notice of Availability	22					
Draft EIS ready for public review						
Draft EIS public workshop		10				
Draft EIS public hearing		24				
Final EIS distribution						
Records of Decision						
(Please note that there will be two separate records of decision - one by the BLM and one by Western)						