

# *Record of Public Workshop*

Big Sandy Energy Project  
Peach Springs, Arizona  
30 August 2000

An open house was held at the community center in Peach Springs from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The meeting was intended to provide information for people living in the vicinity of Peach Springs, particularly members of the Hualapai Tribe.

Cheryle Beecher, who is leading an ethnographic study that the Hualapai Tribe Cultural Resource Department is conducting, assisted with arrangements. She indicated that one of the elderly tribal members had been taken to the hospital the day of the meeting and some of the elders were there and would not be attending. Nine people attended the workshop [in addition to the project staff Dwight Carey (EMA/BLM), Dave Swanson (Western), Dan McBrearty (Caithness), Jerry Koblitz (Greystone), Dave Carr and Gene Rogge (URS Dames & Moore)]. Those in attendance included tribal staff [Cheryle Beecher and Loretta Jackson (Cultural Resources) and Annette Morgan (Water Resources)], as well as some elders and those with ties to the Big Sandy parcels of the reservation (either through allotments or having lived there when they were young). Most of those attending stayed for an hour or more.

The graphics prepared for the meeting were used to describe the project to those in attendance and answer questions. Concerns generally focused on potential impacts to the Big Sandy reservation parcels, and whether the project had potential benefits for the Hualapai Tribe. It was explained that the reservation parcels would not be directly affected, being 1 to 1.5 miles from a possible route of the natural gas pipeline, and that other resource impacts, including water supplies and air quality were being assessed. The nature of the construction and operation work forces were described and it was indicated that Hualapais would apply for jobs just like anyone else. At one point, several of the Hualapais in attendance discussed traditional Hualapai occupation of the Big Sandy, and the "salt songs" that are associated with a cave in the Big Sandy Valley and trails through the valley.

Although attendance was low, the efforts to hold a special meeting for the reservation community were appreciated.