



TRANSMISSION AGENCY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

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April 3, 2009

VIA EMAIL AND FEDERAL EXPRESS

Transmission Infrastructure Program
Western Area Power Administration
P.O. Box 281213
Lakewood, Colorado 80228-8213

To Whom It May Concern:

The Transmission Agency of Northern California (TANC) is pleased to submit its Comments in response to the Request for Public Comments (Request) posted by the Western Area Power Administration (Western) in the Federal Register, Vol. 74, No. 41, page 9391, on March 4, 2009. TANC understands the purpose of Western's Request is to solicit Public Comments regarding the development of principles, policies, and practices that will be implemented to guide Western's administration of a proposed Transmission Infrastructure Program (Program). As stated in the Federal Register, Western's Program is being proposed to implement Section 402 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act), which gives Western authority to construct, finance, facilitate, plan, operate, maintain, or study construction of new or upgraded electric power transmission lines and related facilities with at least one terminus within the area served by Western and for delivering or facilitating the delivery of power generated by renewable energy resources constructed or reasonably expected to be constructed. This Program will use the authority granted to Western under Section 402 of the Recovery Act to borrow funds from the U.S. Treasury to accomplish the aforementioned purposes.

In response to Western's Request, TANC has prepared comments that emphasize the importance of collaboration, coordination, advanced planning, and procedural flexibility as Western develops the principles, policies, and practices that will guide its Transmission Infrastructure Program. TANC is strongly encouraged that Congress included Section 402 in the Recovery Act and believes that implementation of an effective Program is a critical step required to overcome transmission infrastructure deficiencies within the Western Interconnection and to promote the development of renewable energy resources throughout the western United States.

Transmission Infrastructure Program
Western Area Power Administration
April 3, 2009
Page Two

We look forward to further participation in this process and to Western's implementation of the Program. If there are any questions with respect to these comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 852-1673.

Sincerely,



Bryan W. Griess
Assistant General Manager

Enclosure