

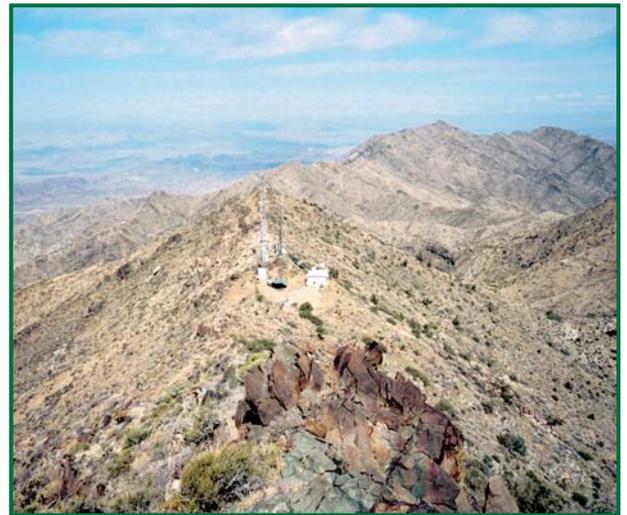
Crossman Peak Communications Facility Project

(DOE/EA-2023)

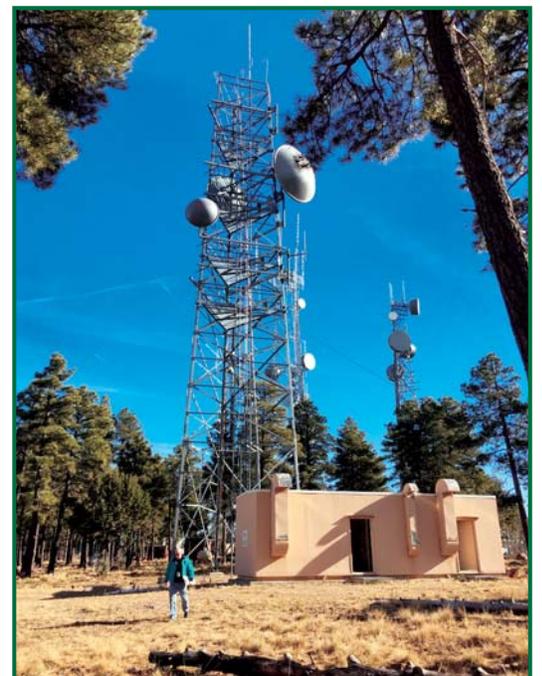
What is the Proposed Action?

Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) proposes to own, construct, operate, and maintain a new communications facility located adjacent to an existing, privately-owned facility near Crossman Peak, east of Lake Havasu City in Mohave County, Arizona. The proposed action consists of three components:

- **Communications Facility.** WAPA plans to construct a communication facility composed of a 100-foot-tall, self-supporting tower with attachments such as microwave dishes, a prefabricated equipment shelter, a backup generator, a propane tank, and associated concrete slab foundations on a 0.1-acre parcel.
- **Access Road to Communications Facility.** WAPA plans to use an existing six-mile-long dirt access road across Arizona State Land Department, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Lake Havasu Field Office, and private lands on the west side of Crossman Peak. On private land, WAPA plans to widen the road's switchback turns for safety.
- **Distribution Line and Access Road.** WAPA plans to contract with UniSource Energy Services (UNS) to provide electrical service to the communication facility. UNS would construct an approximately 14-mile long distribution line using steel or wood structures across private and BLM land on the east side of Crossman Peak. It would connect to their existing Franconia Substation near Interstate 40. UNS would use existing roads to the extent possible and construct new dirt roads as needed.



Existing communications facility on Crossman Peak (facing west).



Example of similar 100-foot-tall communications tower.



WAPA is also working cooperatively with the BLM Lake Havasu Field Office on this project. BLM is considering approval of UNS's right-of-way application to construct the 14-mile-long distribution line and to construct and improve access roads as needed.

What is the purpose of the project?

WAPA's proposed action will maintain the reliability and safety of the bulk electric system by establishing an interference-free microwave path at a new operating band between WAPA's facilities along the Colorado River. WAPA is upgrading equipment operating in the 2320-2345 megahertz (MHz) band with new equipment operating in the 7125-8025 MHz band to meet the President's goal of making 500 MHz of spectrum available for licensed commercial use.



How can I get involved?

For more information, visit the project website:

<https://www.wapa.gov/regions/DSW/Environment/Pages/Crossman-Peak-Communications-Facility-Project.aspx>

Public scoping comments are requested by November 15, 2016, but will also be accepted after this date.

Submit comments by email, phone, fax, or mail:

Email: DSW-EA2023PublicComment@wapa.gov

Phone: (602) 605-2536 **Fax:** (602) 605-2630

Mail: Western Area Power Administration
Matthew Bilsbarrow, NEPA Document Manager
P.O. Box 6457, Phoenix, AZ 85005

You will also have a chance to comment on the Draft EA when it is distributed in February 2017.

