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# SLTP

## San Luis Transmission Project

Newsletter #3

August 2015

### Draft EIS/EIR Now Available for Public Review!

The San Luis Transmission Project (SLTP) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is now available for public review at [www.sltpeis-eir.com](http://www.sltpeis-eir.com).

Two public meetings will be held on August 10 and 11 to provide information to and receive comments from the public on the Draft EIS/EIR. Comments will be accepted through August 31, 2015.

**Questions?**  
 Contact: Don Lash, NEPA Document Manager  
 Western Area Power Administration  
 916-353-4048  
 Email: [SLTPEIS-EIR@wapa.gov](mailto:SLTPEIS-EIR@wapa.gov)

## ABOUT SLTP

Western Area Power Administration (Western) and the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (Authority) are in the process of preparing a joint EIS/EIR for the proposed SLTP in accordance to the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The proposed SLTP includes construction, operation, and maintenance of:

- A 500-kilovolt (kV) transmission line about 65 miles in length between the new Tracy East and Los Banos West Substations;
- A 230-kV transmission line about three miles in length between the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) existing Los Banos Substation, or the new Los Banos West Substation and Western's existing San Luis Substation;
- A 230-kV transmission line about 20 miles in length between Western's existing San Luis and Dos Amigos Substations or a 230-kV transmission line about 18 miles in length between the new Los Banos West Substation and Western's existing Dos Amigos Substation;
- An interconnection with the existing Western 500-kV Los Banos-Gates No. 3 transmission line just south of PG&E's existing Los Banos Substation into the new Los Banos West Substation;
- A 70-kV transmission line about seven miles in length between the existing San Luis and O'Neill Substations; and
- Substation improvements, communication facilities, improvements to existing access roads, new permanent access roads, and temporary access roads to facilitate construction activities.

Refer to [www.sltpeis-eir.com](http://www.sltpeis-eir.com) for additional information on the Proposed Project.

## SLTP EIS/EIR TIMELINE

Spring  
2016

Final EIS/EIR

Record of Decision/  
Notice of Determination

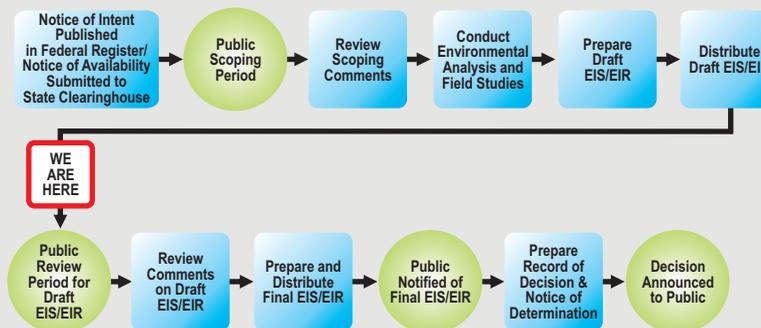
**Why is the SLTP needed?** The United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) entered into a contract with PG&E in 1965 for power transmission service between Western's Tracy Substation and Reclamation's San Luis Unit facilities. The existing transmission contract with PG&E expires in March 2016, and PG&E has stated it will not renew it. Although after March 2016 transmission service is available under the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) Tariff, such service would substantially increase Reclamation's transmission costs compared to service under PG&E's contract. Reclamation submitted a transmission service request to Western to consider various transmission service arrangements, including the construction of new federal transmission lines to support Reclamation's continued economic delivery of federal water after the PG&E contract expires. In October 2013, an eligible transmission customer submitted a separate transmission service request to Western for transmission service within the area as requested by Reclamation. Western is evaluating both requests jointly in order to determine if it can satisfy Reclamation's need and the eligible customer's request with a single project.

## JOIN US AT OUR PUBLIC MEETINGS

**Tracy**  
Holiday Inn Express – Banquet Room  
3751 N. Tracy Boulevard  
Tracy, CA 95376  
**August 10, 2015**  
4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**Los Banos**  
Community Center – Grand Ballroom  
645 Seventh Street  
Los Banos, CA 93635  
**August 11, 2015**  
4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

## NEPA/CEQA PROCESS



## PROPOSED PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

The Draft EIS/EIR considers six corridor alternatives and the No Action/No Project Alternative (see map). An additional seven corridor alternatives were considered in a screening process and eliminated from further review in the EIS/EIR. The Agency Preferred Alternative will be identified in the Final EIS/EIR following analysis of public comments on the Draft EIS/EIR and further internal review of the Draft EIS/EIR.

## DRAFT EIS/EIR PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Western and the Authority would like to hear your comments on the Draft EIS/EIR. The most useful comments are those that reasonably question the accuracy of, methodology for, or assumptions used in the environmental analysis; present new information relevant to the analysis; present alternatives other than those analyzed and cause changes or revisions in one or more alternatives; or identifies evidence for why an alternative is preferable. Written comments can be provided by mail, by fax, or e-mail; verbal comments can be provided at the public meetings. All comments received or post-marked before or on August 31, 2015 will be considered and responded to in the Final EIS/EIR.

## REVIEW THE DRAFT EIS/EIR

<https://www.wapa.gov/regions/SN/environment/Pages/san-Luis-transmission-project.aspx>

[www.sltpeis-eir.com](http://www.sltpeis-eir.com)

Printed copies can also be obtained from Western by contacting Don Lash (contact information below).

## SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS

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NEPA Document Manager

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