

## Corridor EIS Archives

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**From:** corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2006 3:03 PM  
**To:** corridoreisarchives,  
**Subject:** Preliminary Draft Corridor Map Comment M0099

**Attachments:** WestWideEnergyCorridorPEISresponse\_M0099.wpd



WestWideEnergyCc  
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Thank you for your comment, Elizabeth Warren.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is M0099. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: July 10, 2006 03:02:48PM CDT

Preliminary Draft Corridor Map Comment: M0099

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Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record  
Attachment: C:\Documents and Settings\Owner\My Documents  
\WestWideEnergyCorridorPEISresponse.wpd

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at:  
corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Preliminary Draft Corridor Map Webmaster at  
(630)252-6182.

OLD SPANISH TRAIL ASSOCIATION  
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Re: West-Wide Energy Corridors Programmatic EIS

The Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA) is a non-profit organization devoted to the study, preservation and protection of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail. OSTA is concerned that the proposed expanded energy corridors will impact negatively on the physical traces and the viewsheds of the several branches of this historic pack train route. A number of segments and sites have been affected by the energy corridors already in place; additional corridors included in the current proposal will affect more segments and, as importantly, their viewsheds.

The map currently available on the website for this project is inadequate to identify specifically where proposed corridors cross the trail and where and how the related vistas will be involved. We urge the land managing agencies to identify the routes of all impacted National Scenic and Historic Trails on the maps connected with all transmission corridors, both existing and proposed.

In general, OSTA supports the use of existing corridors rather than designation of new ones. Further, we urge that every effort be made in the design and construction of any new transmission lines, whether inside existing corridors or in new routes, to minimize impacts by using careful design for the towers and cables required for energy transmission. Towers should be kept as small as possible and made of a material that blends with the background landscape. The idea should be that these lines “disappear” when viewed from a distance of as short as one-quarter mile. Careful attention should be paid to those places where a transmission line crosses the Old Spanish Trail, and no towers should be constructed down any trail alignment. Best management practices should be adopted for corridor construction, and we request confirmation that Section 106 review processes be fully implemented for each new line and corridor.

OSTA supports the California Energy Commission’s position that lands “unsuitable for transmission corridors” be identified and such lands removed from consideration. Unsuitable lands, at the very least, should include national parks and conservation areas, wildlife refuges and wetlands, national trails and other Congressionally designated special use public lands.

Concurrently with the proposal to develop new energy corridors, as far as possible within the limits of their respective missions, the land managing agencies should offer active support to enlist public cooperation in energy conservation, thereby reducing the need for new energy transmission lines and the corridors that they require.

OSTA appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed programmatic agreement on the WestWide Energy Corridor Proposal, and ask that we be included in any and all future notices so that we may take appropriate action. OSTA’s representative to this project has registered to receive e mail notices on these issues.