

From: corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov
To: [Corridoreisarchives;](#)
CC:
Subject: Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS Comment 80058
Date: Monday, November 28, 2005 4:34:49 PM
Attachments:

Thank you for your comment, Robert Mitchell.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is 80058. Please refer to the tracking number in all correspondence relating to this comment.

Comment Date: November 28, 2005 04:34:37PM CDT

Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS Scoping Comment: 80058

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Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record

Comment Submitted:

Trans-Elect, Inc. is an independent transmission company that has been formed to acquire, develop, construct, own, manage, and operate transmission systems in the North America (www.trans-elect.com). In addition to ownership interest in AltaLink and METC, Trans-Elect completed the Path 15 transmission expansion project in a public/private partnership with Western Area Power Administration (Western) and PG&E. More recently, it has entered into a public/private partnership with Wyoming Infrastructure Authority and Western to expand the transmission capacity of the TOT 3

constraint located along the Wyoming-Colorado border consistent with the recommendations of the Rocky Mountain Area Transmission Study (RMATS). In addition, Trans-Elect is considering the development of nearly 20 different transmission expansion projects throughout the U.S. and as such, it has a strong interest in DOE's activities with regard to establishing transmission corridors.

Trans-Elect would like to commend the DOE for initiating its proactive efforts to identify energy infrastructure corridors. Such proactive efforts are seen as integral in streamlining the permitting process for transmission lines that are so badly needed the west. We are aware of a number of transmission projects that could have benefited from the proposed transmission designation process, particularly where several federal agencies are involved. Our recommendations with regard to the DOE's corridor study as it pertains to electrical transmission lines are largely consistent with and in support of comments submitted by the Western Business Roundtable and Southwest Area Transmission (SWAT), and are as follows:

- Ensure that corridors are of sufficient width to accommodate multiple transmission lines; such corridors should generally be at least 5 miles in width, recognizing that constrictions will be required in some instances; take also into consideration that individual transmission lines commonly require as little as 150 feet of right-of-way;
- Ensure that corridors are studied that intersect with non-federal lands (tribal, private, state, etc), since transmission projects commonly cross a multitude of jurisdictions; just because a transmission corridor intersects with non-federal lands doesn't mean it shouldn't be considered;
- Ensure that input from transmission infrastructure stakeholders is received throughout the process;
- Both new and existing corridors should be designated;
- Corridors should address and be focused on transmission constraints identified by the NIETC process;
- Recognition that multiple types of energy infrastructure may not be entirely compatible in a single corridor, and that transmission may need to be handled separately in some instances;
- Acknowledgement that the process is to identify suitable corridors, rather than preclude any corridors;
- Utilize stakeholder transmission planning studies to help identify suitable corridors where transmission is needed; and
- Set a goal for finding an appropriate number of transmission corridors that will serve to accommodate exports of remotely sited generation to load centers, particularly from Wyoming to adjoining states (including Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, and California).

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