

PUBLIC MEETING FOR  
PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT,  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

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HELD BY: : **REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT**  
MEETING DATE:  
: October 26, 2005  
MEETING TIME: 2:00 p.m.  
Bureau of Land Management :  
U.S. Department of Energy  
U.S. Forest Service

MODERATOR:  
Scott Powers, BLM

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1 have successfully, the local company being Questar, to  
2 provide federal regulated pipelines across the  
3 reservation. We believe that is best done between the  
4 service provider and the tribe itself, and we also think  
14:46:00 5 that's a requirement of law.

6 So we will be submitting written testimony  
7 for your consideration. We appreciate the opportunity.  
8 We understand the undertaking, but as you take a look at  
9 the west, you can't say "west" without saying "Indian  
14:46:20 10 reservation," and so there are literally, I believe,  
11 almost 30 million acres in the Rocky Mountains owned by  
12 tribal allottees and organizations. So thank you very  
13 much.

UT05

14 MR. POWERS: Thank you. Mr. James Tucker,  
14:46:39 15 Deseret Power.

16 MR. TUCKER: Pleased to be with you today to  
17 express concerns that have occurred in my lifetime over  
18 the last 30 years of transmission planning. They deal  
19 with the notion of trying to compact electric  
14:47:07 20 transmission lines into single corridors. Certainly the  
21 result that occurred a couple of years ago with the  
22 northeast blackout emphasized the notion -- the focus on  
23 reliability that occurs when transmission lines are in a  
24 single corridor, and subject to the same type of  
14:47:30 25 disturbance. Last summer, in St. George -- there's

1 three transmission lines that service St. George and  
2 they're all on same corridor, and fire took all three of  
3 them out. Two of the lines were able to be restored,  
4 they're on steel structures, and the outage was  
5 tolerable.

14:47:52

6 But the concern is that as you have a  
7 transmission corridor, the idea -- the normal inkling of  
8 everyone is to pack all the transmission lines in that.  
9 And with electricity it's a little bit different than  
10 gas. There is no storage of electricity. The load and  
11 the generation have to balance at every instant in time.  
12 And a half-second outage is enough to wipe out the  
13 system.

14:48:08

14 And so it's a concern that should be  
15 considered, particularly with the push for reliability  
16 that came out of the disturbance in the northeast last  
17 year and the push that America and others are doing to  
18 make sure that we plan the system so we can lose all the  
19 transmission lines on a corridor. You can see that if  
20 you have to plan to lose all the transmission lines on a  
21 corridor, but yet you're required to put all the  
22 transmission lines in the same corridor, I mean, there's  
23 no solution to that problem. And so I would just  
24 suggest that it's important to think about the physical  
25 nature of transmission -- electric transmission lines in

14:48:45

14:49:01

1 focusing on how much we pack into one corridor. Thank  
2 you. UT06

3 MR. POWERS: Thank you. Mike Peterson, Utah  
4 River Electric Association.

14:49:24

5 MR. PETERSON: Thank you. The Utah River  
6 Electric Association represents ten rural electric  
7 cooperatives that provide electricity to rural parts of  
8 Utah. We're excited about the prospect of streamlining  
9 the process for permitting and particularly want to make

14:49:46

10 sure that small organizations that have transmission and  
11 distribution facilities are also included in your  
12 corridors. One of our electric cooperatives, the  
13 service territory that has -- includes -- 95 percent of  
14 the land where it has transmission/distribution  
15 facilities are federal lands.

14:50:04

16 The cost of permitting right now for a  
17 particular line have already exceeded the costs to  
18 upgrade the line that is planned to be built. So we  
19 want to make sure and ensure that when we end up with a  
14:50:23 20 map that it does include some of those distribution  
21 facilities for those smaller utilities that serve across  
22 federal lands, park service, Forest Service, BLM, and  
23 make sure that that process is something that is doable  
24 for them.

14:50:40

25 We are willing to participate in any