



**Department of Energy**  
Western Area Power Administration  
P.O. Box 281213  
Lakewood, CO 80228-8213

**JAN 30 2013**

MEMORANDUM FOR GREGORY H. WOODS, GC-1  
GENERAL COUNSEL  
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

FROM:

ANITA DECKER *AW*  
ACTING ADMINISTRATOR *for*

SUBJECT:

Annual National Environmental Policy Act Planning Summary

In accordance with my responsibilities under DOE Order 451.1 B, Section 4.d, attached please find Western Area Power Administration's (Western) Annual National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Planning Summary for calendar year 2013. The summary identifies the status of ongoing NEPA compliance activities, environmental assessments (EA) we expect to begin during the next 12 months, environmental impact statements (EIS) we expect to begin during the next 24 months, and the planned cost and schedule for completion of each NEPA review. It is likely that Western will prepare other EAs or EISs not currently foreseeable. An electronic copy of the Annual NEPA Planning Summary will be provided to the Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance.

If you have any questions regarding this summary, please contact C. Shane Kimbrough, Natural Resources Manager, at (720) 962-7252.

Attachment

## Annual NEPA Planning Summary

### Environmental Assessments Ongoing or Expected to be Prepared in the Next 12 Months

*Western Area Power Administration*

1/31/2013

Title, Location, Document Number	Estimated Cost	Estimated Schedule (NEPA Milestones)		Description
<b>Sand Hills Wind Project, Wyoming DOE/EA1581</b>	Applicant Funded	EA Determination Date:	11/17/2006	Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is lead Federal agency, Western is cooperating agency. BLM, State of Wyoming, Tribal representatives requested additional cultural surveys and consultations following review January 2009. In December 2010, project scope was changed to avoid impacts to cultural resources. State and public review period ended 6/14/2011. BLM reports that the EA is delayed pending action by the applicant.
		Transmittal to State:	5/31/2011	
		EA Approval:		
		FONSI:		
<b>Windy Hollow Wind Project, Laramie County, Wyoming DOE/EA-1610</b>	Applicant Funded	EA Determination Date:	2/22/2008	Applicant revised project. Public scoping ended 7/5/2011. Public open house held in Harriman, Wyoming on 7/14/2011. EA is on hold.
		Transmittal to State:		
		EA Approval:		
		FONSI:		
<b>Big River Substation to Poston Substation 69-kV Transmission Line Project, Arizona and California DOE/EA-1671</b>	Western is a cooperating agency	EA Determination Date:	5/11/2009	Bureau of Indian Affairs is lead Federal agency; Western is a cooperating agency as of 5/11/2009.
		Transmittal to State:		
		EA Approval:		
		FONSI:		
<b>Limon Wind Project, Lincoln County, Colorado DOE/EA-1825</b>	Applicant Funded	EA Determination Date:	8/3/2010	Proponent has placed project on hold.
		Transmittal to State:		
		EA Approval:		
		FONSI:		
<b>Big Bend to Witten Transmission Line Project, South Dakota DOE/EA-1880</b>	Applicant Funded	EA Determination Date:	4/12/2011	Western is a cooperating agency; Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is the lead Federal agency. RUS EA NOI (76 FR 20311). Scoping meetings in Reliance (4/26/2011) and Winner (4/27/2011), South Dakota. Scoping period closed 5/27/2011.
		Transmittal to State:		
		EA Approval:		
		FONSI:		
<b>Northern Wind Interconnection Proect, Summit, South Dakota DOE/EA-1902</b>	Applicant Funded	EA Determination Date:	8/2/2011	Fish and Wildlife Service is a cooperating agency; USDA Rural Development is a potential cooperating agency. Scoping meeting held 10/13/2011 in Wilmot, South Dakota. Scoping period ended 11/10/2011.
		Transmittal to State:		
		EA Approval:		
		FONSI:		

Title, Location, Document Number	Estimated Cost	Estimated Schedule (NEPA Milestones)		Description
<b>Gila North Gila Rebuild and Upgrade Project, Yuma County, Arizona DOE/EA-1948</b>	\$180,000	EA Determination Date:	10/24/2012	Western anticipates that Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and Army Corps of Engineers will be cooperating agencies.
		Transmittal to State:		
		EA Approval:		
		FONSI:		
<b>Townsite Solar Project, Arizona</b>	Applicant Funded	EA Determination Date:		Expected to start in 2013.
		Transmittal to State:		
		EA Approval:		
		FONSI:		
<b>Freeman Solar Project, Arizona</b>	Applicant Funded	EA Determination Date:		Expected to start in 2013.
		Transmittal to State:		
		EA Approval:		
		FONSI:		
<b>Campbell County Wind Farm, Pollock, South Dakota</b>	Applicant Funded	EA Determination Date:		Expected to start in 2013.
		Transmittal to State:		
		EA Approval:		
		FONSI:		
<b>NECO Wind Project, Phillips County, Colorado Potential new EA or supplement existing DOE/EA-1812 (January 2012)</b>	Applicant Funded	EA Determination Date:		Applicant wishes to interconnect additional 30 MW and will require either a new EA or a supplemental EA to DOE/EA-1812 (January 2012).
		Transmittal to State:		
		EA Approval:		
		FONSI:		
<b>Spring Canyon Wind Project, Logan County, Colorado Will require review of EA-1571 (2005)</b>	Applicant Funded	EA Determination Date:		Applicant wishes to add 70 MW and will require either a new EA or a supplemental EA to EA-1571 (2005).
		Transmittal to State:		
		EA Approval:		
		FONSI:		
	<b>Total Estimated Cost</b>			
	\$180,000			

## Annual NEPA Planning Summary

### Environmental Impact Statements Ongoing or Expected to be Prepared in the Next 24 Months

*Western Area Power Administration*

1/31/2013

Title, Location, Document Number	Estimated Cost	Estimated Schedule (NEPA Milestones)		Description
<b>Windy Gap Firing Project, Colorado DOE/EIS-0370</b>	Western is a cooperating agency	EIS Determination Date:	7/1/2003	NOI (68 FR 52955). BOR is the lead Federal agency; Western is a cooperating agency. Scoping meetings held in Granby, Loveland, and Lyons, Colorado. Scoping period ended 11/07/2003. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) DEIS NOA (73 FR 50962). BOR DEIS NOA (73 FR 50999). Public hearings held in Loveland and Granby, Colorado. Public comment period ended 10/28/2008. BOR extended public comment period to 12/29/2008. BOR NOA for FEIS November 30, 2011; EPA NOA for FEIS December 9, 2011 (76 FR 76972).
		NOI:	9/8/2003	
		Scoping:	9/30/2003-10/2/2003	
		Draft	8/29/2008	
		Hearings	10/7/2008-10/9/2008	
		Final	11/30/2011	
<b>Granby Pumping Plant to Windy Gap Transmission Line Rebuild Project, Grand County, Colorado DOE/EIS- 0400</b>	\$854,000	EIS Determination Date:	6/29/2007	Based on potential for significant impacts identified during preparation of EA, Western decided not to complete DOE/EA-1520 and to prepare an EIS. US Forest Service, BLM, and Grand County are cooperating agencies. Public workshops/scoping meetings held 7/28/2005 and 11/25/2006, during EA process. NOI (72 FR 45040). Scoping meeting held in Granby, Colorado. Scoping period ended 9/17/2007. DEIS NOA (77 FR 19281). Public hearing 4/24/2012 in Granby, Colorado. Public comment period closed 5/29/2012.
		NOI:	8/10/2007	
		Scoping:	8/30/2007	
		Draft		
		Hearings	4/24/2012	
		Final		
<b>Upper Great Plains Programmatic Wind EIS DOE/EIS-0408</b>	\$1,470,643	EIS Determination Date:	9/2/2008	USFWS (Region 6) is co-lead agency. RUS and BOR are cooperating agencies. Montana, South Dakota, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs are potential cooperating agencies. NOI (73 FR 52855). Scoping meetings held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Bismark, North Dakota, and Billings, Montana. The estimated cost is as of 12/7/2012 and does not include money contributed by USFWS.
		NOI:	9/11/2008	
		Scoping:	9/30/2008-10/2/2008	
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final		
<b>Searchlight Wind Energy Project, Searchlight, Nevada DOE/EIS-0413</b>	Applicant funded	EIS Determination Date:	6/26/2008	BLM Las Vegas Field Office is Federal lead agency; Western is cooperating agency. BLM NOI (73 FR 73677). Scoping meetings held in Searchlight, Laughlin, and Boulder City, Nevada. DEIS NOA (77 FR 2999), DEIS public comment period closed 4/18/2012. Public hearings held in same locations as scoping meetings.
		NOI:	12/16/2008	
		Scoping:	1/27/2009-1/29/2009, 6/25/2009	
		Draft	1/20/2012	
		Hearings	2/21/2012-2/23/2012	
		Final	12/14/2012	
ROD				

Title, Location, Document Number	Estimated Cost	Estimated Schedule (NEPA Milestones)		Description
<b>South Mountain Freeway Project, Arizona DOE/EIS-0417</b>	Western is a cooperating agency	EIS Determination Date:	3/12/2009	Federal Highway Administration (FHA) is the lead Federal agency. FHA NOI (66 FR 20345; 4/20/2001). Western is a cooperating agency, may need to move or reconfigure several transmission line towers.
		NOI:		
		Scoping:		
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final		
		ROD		
<b>Keystone XL Pipeline, Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska DOE/EIS-0433-S1</b>	Applicant funded	EIS Determination Date:	7/3/2012	The Department of State (DOS) is the lead agency; DOE is a cooperating agency, DOS NOI (77 FR 36032; 6/15/2012). Pubic scoping closed 7/30/2012.
		NOI:		
		Scoping:		
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final		
		ROD		
<b>Interconnection of the Proposed Hermosa West Wind Farm Project, Albany County, Wyoming DOE/EIS-0438</b>	Applicant funded	EIS Determination Date:	1/6/2010	NOI (75 FR 2138). Scoping meetings held 1/26/2010 in Cheyenne, Wyoming and 1/27/2010 in Laramie, Wyoming. Scoping period closed 3/1/2010. Wyoming Industrial Siting Division (part of Wyoming Dept. of Environmental Quality) is a cooperating agency. NOA (77 FR 60985). Public hearings held in Laramie and Cheyenne, Wyoming. Comment period ended 11/19/2012.
		NOI:	1/14/2010	
		Scoping:	1/26/2010-1/27/2010	
		Draft	10/5/2012	
		Hearings	10/29/2012-10/30/2012	
		Final		
		ROD		
<b>Quartzsite Solar Energy Project, La Paz County, Arizona DOE/EIS-0440</b>	Applicant funded	EIS Determination Date:	12/21/2009	NOI (75 FR 2133). BLM, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, and Arizona Game and Fish Department are cooperating agencies. Scoping meetings held 1/26-28/2010 in Yuma, Parker, and Quartzsite, Arizona. Scoping period closed 2/16/2010. EPA DEIS NOA (76 FR 70130). Western DEIS NOA (76 FR 70125; 11/10/2011). The comment period closed on 2/8/2012. Public hearings held in Yuma and Quartzsite, Arizona. EPA FEIS NOA (77 FR 75632). Western FEIS NOA (77 FR 76477); 12/28/2012.
		NOI:	1/14/2010	
		Scoping:	1/26/2010-1/28/2010	
		Draft	11/10/2011	
		Hearings	12/13/2011-12/14/2011	
		Final	12/21/2012	
		ROD		
<b>Mohave County Wind Farm Project, Mohave County, Arizona DOE/EIS-0441</b>	Applicant funded	EIS Determination Date:	9/1/2009	BLM is the lead Federal agency, Western is a cooperating agency. NOI (74 FR 60289). Scoping period ended 1/10/2010. Scoping meetings held in Dolan Springs, Kingman, and White Hills, Arizona. Due to change in project scope, additional scoping meetings in same locations. DEIS NOA (77 FR 25165). Public hearings on DEIS held in Peach Springs, Kingman, White Hills, and Dolan Springs, Arizona. Public comment period closed 6/11/2012.
		NOI:	11/20/2009	
		Scoping:	12/8/2009-12/10/2009, 8/24/2010-8/26/2010	
		Draft	4/27/2012	
		Hearings	5/14/2012-5/17/2012	
		Final		
		ROD		

Title, Location, Document Number	Estimated Cost	Estimated Schedule (NEPA Milestones)		Description
<b>Forest Service reauthorization of Transmission Lines on Forest Service Lands in Colorado, Utah, and Nebraska for Routine Maintenance Practices including Changes in Vegetation Management DOE/EIS-0442</b>	\$1,200,000	EIS Determination Date:	9/11/2008	Western and US Forest Service are joint lead agencies. NOI (75 FR 17913). Scoping meetings in Denver and Grand Junction, Colorado; and Vernal, Utah. Public scoping closed 5/26/2010.
		NOI:	4/8/2010	
		Scoping:	4/22/2010-4/26/2010	
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final		
ROD				
<b>TransWest Express 600-kV Direct Current Transmission Project in Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Nevada DOE/EIS-0450</b>	\$10,000,000	EIS Determination Date:	4/30/2010	BLM and Western are joint lead agencies. NOI (76 FR 379). Scoping period (90 days) closed 4/4/2011. BLM and Western held 22 open-house scoping meetings in the 4 states, announced in local media and on project website.
		NOI:	1/4/2011	
		Scoping:	1/25/2011-3/10/2011	
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final		
ROD				
<b>Proposed Wilton IV Wind Energy Center Project and Lifting of the 50 Average Megawatt Generation Cap on the Existing Wilton I, Wilton II, and Baldwin Wind Energy Center Projects, Burleigh County, North Dakota DOE/EIS-0469</b>	Applicant funded	EIS Determination Date:	7/7/2011	NOI (76 FR 43324). Scoping meeting held in Wilton, North Dakota, after announcement by mail and local media before NOI issued. Scoping period closed 9/6/2011.
		NOI:	7/20/2011	
		Scoping:	7/26/2011	
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final		
ROD				
<b>Southline Transmission Project, Arizona and New Mexico DOE/EIS-0474</b>		EIS Determination Date:	7/11/2011	BLM and Western are joint lead agencies. NOI (77 FR 20411). Public meetings were held in Las Cruces, Deming, and Lordsburg, New Mexico; and Wilcox, Benson, and Tucson, Arizona. Public scoping period extended through 7/5/2012.
		NOI:	4/4/2012	
		Scoping:	5/18/2012-5/27/2012	
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final		
ROD				
<b>San Juan Basin Energy Connect Project, San Juan County, New Mexico and La Plata County, Colorado DOE/EIS-0477</b>	Western is a cooperating agency	EIS Determination Date:	11/28/2011	This project started out as an EA in 2009. BLM decided to change to an EIS based on public comment. Western's role: The Project Proponent (Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.) requested Western to allow an interconnection of a transmission line with Western's Shiprock Substation, near Farmington, New Mexico. Western signed an MOU with the BLM for cooperating agency status on November 28, 2011. NOI (BLM) (76 FR 4371).
		NOI:	1/25/2011	
		Scoping:	3/11/2011	
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final		
ROD				

Title, Location, Document Number	Estimated Cost	Estimated Schedule (NEPA Milestones)		Description
<b>Antelope Valley Station to Neset 345 kV Transmission Project, Western North Dakota DOE/EIS-0478</b>	Applicant funded	EIS Determination Date:	1/24/2012	RUS is the lead Federal agency. Western is a cooperating agency. RUS NOI (76 FR 67670). Scoping meetings held in Williston and Killdeer, North Dakota. Public scoping closed 12/2/2011. DEIS NOA (77 FR 73029). Public hearings held in Killdeer and Williston, North Dakota. Public comment period closed 1/22/2013.
		NOI:	11/2/2011	
		Scoping:	11/14-16/2011	
		Draft	12/7/2012	
		Hearings	1/15-16/2013	
		Final ROD		
<b>North-of-the-Delta Offstream Storage (NODOS) Investigation, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, California DOE/EIS-0479</b>	Western is a cooperating agency	EIS Determination Date:	12/12/2011	BOR is the lead Federal agency for preparing an EIS and the California Department of Water Resources is the lead agency for preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Investigation. Western's Sierra Nevada Region proposes to cooperate in the preparation of the joint EIS/EIR document to satisfy any National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements that Western may have as a result of the NODOS Investigation and to provide special expertise in power marketing issues.
		NOI:		
		Scoping:		
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final ROD		
<b>Long Term Experimental and Management Plan (LTEMP) for Operation of Glen Canyon Dam, Arizona DOE/EIS-0480</b>	Western is a cooperating agency	EIS Determination Date:	1/11/2012	BOR and National Park Service (NPS) are joint lead Federal agencies; Western is a cooperating agency. BOR-NPS NOI (76 FR 39435), meetings announced (76 FR 64104; 10/17/2011). Meetings held in Phoenix, Flagstaff, and Page, Arizona; Salt Lake City, Utah; Las Vegas, Nevada; and Lakewood, Colorado. Scoping period closed 1/31/2012.
		NOI:	7/6/2011	
		Scoping:	11/7/2011-11/17/2011	
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final ROD		
<b>Rerouting and Renovating of Estes-Flatiron Three Transmission Lines to Double Circuit 115-kV, Larimer County, Colorado DOE/EIS-0483</b>	\$845,000	EIS Determination Date:	2/7/2012	Based on scoping comments on DOE/EA-1899, Western determined to prepare an EIS for this proposal. US Forest Service is a cooperating agency. NOI (77 FR 22774). Initial scoping meetings and additional scoping meetings, as alternative workshops, held in Estes Park and Loveland, Colorado. Public scoping extended through 10/19/2012.
		NOI:	4/17/2012	
		Scoping:	8/6/2012-8/7/2012, 10/2/2012-10/4/2012	
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final ROD		
<b>Interconnection of the Grande Prairie Wind Farm, Holt County, Nebraska DOE/EIS-0485</b>	Applicant funded	EIS Determination Date:	4/6/2012	NOI (77 FR 22569). Scoping meeting held in O'Neill, Nebraska. Public scoping period closed 5/16/2012.
		NOI:	4/16/2012	
		Scoping:	4/24/2012	
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final ROD		
<b>Centennial West Transmission Project, New Mexico, Arizona, and California</b>		EIS Determination Date:		BLM and Western are joint lead agencies. NOI anticipated in Spring 2012. Centennial West is a +/- 600 kV high voltage (HV) direct current (DC) transmission line that would gather energy from renewable energy generation projects in eastern New Mexico and surrounding areas, and transmit it to load centers in southern California.
		NOI:		
		Scoping:		
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final ROD		

Title, Location, Document Number	Estimated Cost	Estimated Schedule (NEPA Milestones)		Description
<b>Ridgeline Wind Project, Wyoming (a.k.a. Lewis Ranch Wind Project Interconnection)</b>	Applicant funded	EIS Determination Date:		This is a proposed 200 MW Wind Project in southeastern Wyoming. The applicant would like to interconnect with Western's transmission system. Western would be the lead. Possible cooperating agency would be Department of Defense.
		NOI:		
		Scoping:		
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final		
<b>Sterling Solar Project, Arizona</b>	Applicant funded	EIS Determination Date:		This is a proposed 1,200 MW solar project in Arizona. The applicant would like to interconnect with Western's transmission system. Western would be the lead. Possible cooperating agency would be the BLM.
		NOI:		
		Scoping:		
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final		
<b>Dolan Springs Wind Farm, Arizona</b>	Applicant funded	EIS Determination Date:		This is a proposed wind project in Nevada. The applicant would like to interconnect with Western's transmission system. Western would be a cooperating agency with the BLM as the lead agency.
		NOI:		
		Scoping:		
		Draft		
		Hearings		
		Final		
	<b>Total Estimated Cost</b>			
	\$14,369,643			

**Annual NEPA Planning Summary**  
**Mitigation Action Plan (MAP) Tracking**

*Western Area Power Administration*  
 1/31/2013

NEPA Document Title, Location, Document Number	Key Dates in MAP Implementation		Discussion of Mitigation Commitments and Implementation Status
<b>Lovell-Yellowtail and Lovell-Basin                      Transmission Line Rebuild EA, Wyoming                      and Montana DOE/EA-1617</b>	ROD/FONSI date:	9/23/2011	Archaeological site testing and avoidance-ongoing with National Park Service.
	MAP date:	9/1/2011	
	Mitigation report 1:		
	Mitigation report 2:		
	Mitigation report 3:		
	Mitigation report 4:		
Mitigation report 5:			