



BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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COMMISSIONERS

MIKE GLEASON, Chairman
WILLIAM A. MUNDELL
JEFF HATCH-MILLER
KRISTIN K. MAYES
GARY PIERCE

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

JUN -6 2007

DOCKETED BY nr

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF SALT RIVER PROJECT AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT AND POWER DISTRICT, IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, SECTIONS 40-360, et seq., FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING CONSTRUCTION OF A 230 kV TRANSMISSION LINE ORIGINATING AT THE DESERT BASIN GENERATING STATION IN CASA GRANDE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA AND TERMINATING AT A POINT ALONG CORNMAN ROAD WHERE THE LINE INTERSECTS WITH THE CERTIFICATED PINAL WEST-SOUTHEAST VALLEY / BROWNING LINE IN PINAL COUNTY.

CASE NO. 132

DOCKET NO. L-00000B-07-0130-00132

DECISION NO. 69647

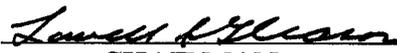
ORDER GRANTING CEC

The Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") has conducted its review, pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360.07. The Commission finds and concludes that the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility ("CEC") issued by the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee ("Committee") is hereby granted by this Order.

The Commission further finds and concludes that: (1) the Project is in the public interest because it aids in meeting the need for an adequate, economical and reliable supply of electric power; (2) in balancing the need for the Project with its effect on the environment and ecology of the state, the conditions placed on the CEC by the Committee effectively minimize its impact on the environment and ecology of the state; (3) the conditions placed on the CEC by the Committee resolve matters concerning the need for the Project and its impact on the environment and ecology of the state raised during the course of proceedings, and as such, serve as the findings on the matters raised; and (4) in light of these conditions, the balancing in the broad public interest results in favor of granting the CEC.

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**THE CEC ISSUED BY THE SITING COMMITTEE IS
INCORPORATED HEREIN AND IS APPROVED BY ORDER OF THE
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION**


CHAIRMAN

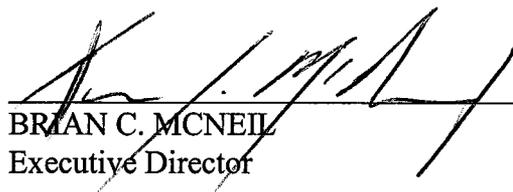

COMMISSIONER


COMMISSIONER


COMMISSIONER


COMMISSIONER

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I BRIAN C. MCNEIL, Executive Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this 6th day of June, 2007.


BRIAN C. MCNEIL
Executive Director

1	Laurie A. Woodall	Chairman, Designee for Arizona Attorney General, Terry Goddard
2		
3	David L. Eberhart, P.E.	Designee for Chairman, Arizona Corporation Commission
4		
5	Paul Rasmussen	Designee for Director, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
6		
7	Jack Haenichen	Designee for Director, Energy Department, Arizona Department of Commerce
8		
9	Jeff McGuire	Appointed Member
10		
11	Michael Palmer	Appointed Member
12		
13	A. Wayne Smith	Appointed Member
14		
15	Michael Whalen	Appointed Member
16		
17	Barry Wong	Appointed Member

14 The Applicant was represented by Laura Raffaelli and Robert Taylor of Salt River
15 Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District. The following parties were
16 granted intervention pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360.05: The Arizona Corporation
17 Commission Staff, represented by Robin R. Mitchell and Charles Hains; Abbott
18 Laboratories, represented by Patrick J. Black of Fennemore Craig, P.C.; Frito-Lay North
19 America, Inc., represented by Michelle De Blasi of Quarles & Brady LLP; the City of
20 Casa Grande, represented by Brett Wallace; and Mr. Patrick Dykes, representing himself.

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23 At the conclusion of the hearings, the Committee, having received the Application,
24 the appearances of the parties, the evidence, testimony, and exhibits presented at the
25 hearings, and being advised of the legal requirements of A.R.S. §§ 40-360 to 40-360.13,
26

1 upon motion duly made and seconded, found that the project requested and described in
2 the Application is environmentally compatible, and voted 9 in favor, 0 opposed, to grant
3 the Applicant a Certificate (Case No. 132) for authority to construct the following
4 facilities as requested and described in the Application and modified by the conditions
5 herein: an approximately 6 mile 230kV transmission line originating at the existing
6 Desert Basin Generating Station (DBGS) in Casa Grande, Arizona and terminating at a
7 point along Cornman Road where the new line intersects with the certificated Pinal West
8 – Southeast Valley/Browning 500/230kV line (Case No. 126), as described below (the
9 “Project”).
10

11 The transmission line alignment is depicted on Exhibit A to this Certificate and is
12 described as follows.
13

14 The Applicant is granted authority to construct a 230kV transmission line
15 originating at the existing Desert Basin Generating Station located in Section 13,
16 Township 6 South, Range 5 East in Casa Grande in Pinal County that will consist of two
17 segments. The initial segment leaves the DBGS and travels north on the west side of
18 Burris Road for 0.3 miles to Kortsen Road. The alignment turns west on the south side of
19 Kortsen Road along the northern portion of Frito-Lay’s property for approximately 1 mile
20 until it intersects the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) on the west side of the Maricopa
21 Gila Bend Highway. The Applicant will use its best efforts to locate the poles just inside
22 Frito-Lay’s fence line along the northern portion of their property, as depicted on the
23 schematic attached hereto as Exhibit B. Where possible, the Applicant will use vertical
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1 configuration structures with the arms facing north along Kortsen Road, and Frito-Lay's
2 fence will be routed around the structures. At the intersection with the UPRR, the line
3 will connect with the existing APS Desert Basin – Santa Rosa circuit. This segment is
4 required to replace the Desert Basin – Santa Rosa circuit that would be removed from the
5 existing double-circuit structures that exit the plant to the south. These structures
6 currently support the Desert Basin – Santa Rosa and Desert Basin – Casa Grande 230kV
7 lines (Case No. 94) from the DBGS south along Burriss Road to the UPRR. The
8 remaining Desert Basin - Casa Grande circuit would be moved to the west side of the
9 double-circuit structures.
10

11
12 The next segment leaves the DBGS going south for 0.5 miles along Burriss Road to
13 the intersection with the UPRR; this segment will utilize the east position on the existing
14 double-circuit 230kV structures along Burriss Road, within the Applicant's existing right-
15 of-way (ROW). At the intersection with the UPRR, the line then travels southeast
16 parallel to and north of the UPRR for 1.2 miles to the intersection with Thornton Road.
17

18 At Thornton Road the line turns south and follows Thornton Road for 3.5 miles to
19 Cornman Road, where it will intersect with the certificated Pinal West - Southeast
20 Valley/Browning 500/230kV line in Section 6, Township 7 South, Range 6 East. Along
21 Thornton Road, the Applicant would consolidate the new 230kV line with the existing
22 Western 115kV line on the east side of Thornton Road, within Western's existing ROW.
23 The existing Western 115kV line would be removed and replaced with a double-circuit
24 230kV line on single shaft steel poles. SRP's 230kV circuit would be on one side of the
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1 poles and Western's 230kV circuit would be on the other side. Western will own the
2 poles and the arms, the insulators, and the conductor on one side of the poles. SRP will
3 own the arms, insulators, and conductor on the other side of the poles. Western will own
4 the ROW.

5 The transmission structures will average about 115 feet but will not exceed 199
6 feet in height and will occupy a ROW width of 100 feet. Except where the Applicant has
7 identified the existing ROW or which side of the linear feature the line will be placed, the
8 ROW may be located within a 500-foot corridor centered on the centerline of the linear
9 feature that the alignment follows. Applicant's Figures G-1, G-3, G-4 and G-6 provide
10 representations of typical structures associated with the Project and are attached hereto as
11 Exhibit C.
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14 This approval shall not limit the ability of the Applicant to make reasonable
15 improvements, replacements, additions or modifications as needed to operate the system
16 in a safe, reliable and efficient manner.
17

18 The Committee recommends to the Commission that the Project described within
19 the Application balances the broad public interest for the need for an adequate,
20 economical, and reliable supply of electric power while minimizing the effect on the
21 environment and ecology of this state.
22

23 This Certificate is granted upon the following conditions:

- 24 1. This authorization to construct the Project will expire eighteen (18) years
25 from the date the Certificate is approved by the Arizona Corporation
26

1 Commission, unless construction is completed to the point that the line is
2 capable of operating at its rated capacity by that time; provided, however,
3 that prior to such expiration the Applicant or its Assignees may request that
4 the Arizona Corporation Commission extend the time limitation.

- 5
- 6 2. Applicant shall obtain all required approvals and permits necessary to
7 construct the Project.
- 8 3. Applicant shall comply with all existing applicable ordinances, master
9 plans and regulations of the United States, the State of Arizona, Pinal
10 County and any other governmental entities having jurisdiction.
- 11
- 12 4. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-844, if any archaeological, paleontological, or
13 historical site or object that is at least fifty years old is discovered on state,
14 county, or municipal land during plan-related activities, the person in
15 charge shall promptly report the discovery to the Director of the Arizona
16 State Museum, and in consultation with the Director, shall immediately
17 take all reasonable steps to secure and maintain the preservation of the
18 discovery. If human remains and/or funerary objects are encountered on
19 private land during the course of any ground-disturbing activities relating to
20 the development of the subject property, Applicant shall cease work on the
21 affected area of the Project and notify the Director of the Arizona State
22 Museum, pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-865.
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1 5. Within 45 days of the effective date of the Commission's decision
2 regarding the Certificate, the Applicant shall erect and maintain signs
3 throughout the entire approved certificated corridor providing public notice
4 that the property is the site of a future 230kV transmission line. Applicant
5 shall place the signs in prominent locations at reasonable intervals such that
6 the public is notified along the full length of the transmission line. The
7 signs shall advise:

- 8
- 9 (a) the site has been approved for the construction of Project facilities
10 including a 230kV line;
- 11 (b) the expected date of completion of the Project facilities;
- 12 (c) a phone number for public information regarding the Project;
- 13 (d) the name of the Applicant;
- 14 (e) the name of the Project; and,
- 15 (f) the Project website.

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18 6. Applicant shall design the transmission line so as to minimize impacts to
19 raptors.

20 7. Where practicable, Applicant shall use existing roads for construction and
21 access. The Applicant shall minimize vegetation disturbance outside of the
22 power line right-of-way, particularly in drainage channels and along stream
23 banks, and shall re-vegetate native areas of construction disturbance.
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8. The Applicant shall make every reasonable effort to identify and correct, on a case-specific basis, all complaints of interference with radio or television signals from operation of the Applicant's line and related facilities addressed in this Certificate. The applicant shall maintain written records for a period of five (5) years of all complaints of radio or television interference attributable to operation of the Applicant's line, together with the corrective action taken in response to each complaint. All complaints shall be recorded and include notations as to the corrective action taken. Complaints not leading to a specific action or for which there was no resolution shall be noted and explained. The Applicant will use its best efforts to work with Western to resolve any complaints of interference with radio or television signals related to the Western line.
 9. Applicant shall comply with applicable noise guidelines of the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Environmental Protection Agency.
 10. The Applicant shall, to the extent feasible, minimize the destruction of native plants during the Project construction and shall comply with the notice and salvage requirements of the Arizona Native Plant Law.
 11. The Applicant shall use non-specular conductor and dulled surfaces for transmission line structures.

1 Stipulate a maximum construction corridor width;

2 Reserve topsoil and native plant materials from right-of-way before
3 grading, and respread over the right-of-way after construction is
4 complete;

5 Imprint the restored right-of-way to provide indentations to catch
6 seed and water;

7 Implement best management practices to protect the soil;

8 Apply restoration methods that have been shown to work in the
9 desert environment; and
10

11 Prevent the spread of noxious weeds or other undesirable species.
12

13 14. Before commencing construction of Project facilities located parallel to and
14 within 100 feet of any existing natural gas or hazardous liquid pipeline, the
15 Applicant shall:

- 16 (a) perform the appropriate grounding and cathodic protection studies to
17 show that the Project's location within 100 feet of such pipeline
18 results in no material adverse impacts to the natural gas or hazardous
19 liquid pipeline or to public safety when both are in operation. A
20 report of studies shall be provided to the Commission Staff as part of
21 Applicant's compliance with the Certificate. If material adverse
22 impacts are noted in the studies, Applicant shall take appropriate
23 steps to ensure that such material adverse impacts are eliminated.
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1 Applicant shall provide to the Commission Staff written
2 documentation of the actions that will be taken and documentation
3 showing no material adverse impact will occur; and

4 (b) perform a technical study simulating an outage of the facility that
5 may be caused by the co-location of the Project parallel to and
6 within 100 feet of the existing natural gas or hazardous liquid
7 pipeline. This study should either: i) show that such outage does not
8 result in customer outages; or ii) include operating plans to minimize
9 any resulting customer outages. Applicant shall provide a copy of
10 this study to Commission Staff.
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13 15. Applicant shall provide copies of this Certificate to appropriate city and
14 county planning agencies, mayors and town councils, Pinal County Board
15 of Supervisors, Chairman of the Siting Committee at the Arizona Attorney
16 General's Office, State Historic Preservation Office, Arizona Game and
17 Fish Department, and Arizona State Land Department.
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19 16. Applicant shall publish a copy of this Certificate and the attachments on
20 Applicant's project website within 30 days of approval by the Arizona
21 Corporation Commission. Such publication shall continue until all
22 necessary right-of-way has been obtained.
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- 1 17. The Applicant shall avoid and/or minimize impacts to properties considered
2 eligible for inclusion in the Arizona Register of Historic Places to the extent
3 possible.
- 4 18. If all Register-eligible properties cannot be avoided, then the Applicant will
5 continue to consult, on the Committee's behalf, with the State Historic
6 Preservation Office ("SHPO") to resolve the negative impacts.
- 7 19. After final alignment is determined, any previously uninspected areas will
8 be surveyed to determine the presence or absence of cultural resources.
9 The resulting report and recommendations on Register-eligibility will be
10 submitted to SHPO for review and comment.
- 11 20. If the Applicant decides that Register-eligible or listed properties cannot be
12 avoided, then the Applicant will plan and implement a mitigation program
13 in consultation with SHPO.
- 14 21. After construction, the Applicant, in conjunction with any applicable land
15 managing agency, shall allow Arizona Site Stewards, a volunteer-staffed
16 SHPO program, to periodically inspect the sites within the corridor for
17 vandalism or other damage. Applicant shall use its best efforts to secure
18 access to the sites for the Arizona Site Stewards from Western for the
19 portion of the line sited within Western's right-of-way.
- 20 22. With respect to the Project, Applicant shall participate in good faith in state
21 and regional transmission study forums and shall coordinate transmission
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1 expansion plans related to the Project to resolve transmission constraints in
2 a timely manner.

3 23. Prior to the date this transmission line is put into commercial service, the
4 Applicant shall provide homebuilders and developers within one-half mile
5 of the center line of the certificated route the identity, location, and a
6 pictorial depiction of the type of line being constructed, accompanied by a
7 written description, and encourage the developers and homebuilders to
8 include this information in the developers' and homebuilders' homeowners'
9 disclosure statement.
10

11 24. The Applicant shall propose and use its best efforts to incorporate
12 provisions in the agreements with Western to allow compliance with this
13 Certificate as it relates to the Applicant's facilities.
14

15 GRANTED this 26 day of April, 2007.

16
17 **ARIZONA POWER PLANT AND**
18 **TRANSMISSION LINE SITING**
19 **COMMITTEE**

20 By: Laurie A Woodall

21 Laurie A. Woodall, Chairman
22 Assistant Attorney General
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EXHIBIT A

Exhibit A: Approved Alignment

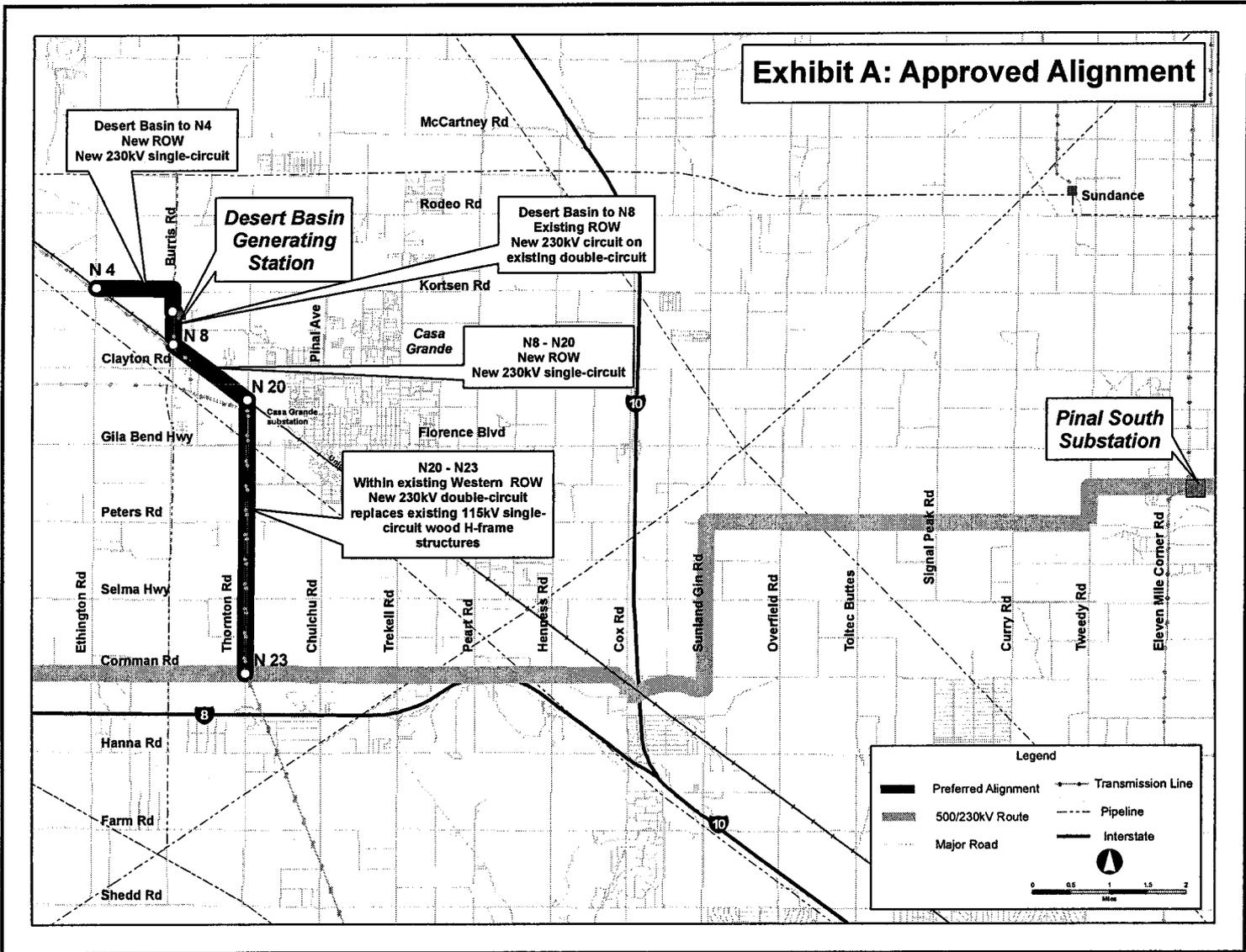


EXHIBIT B

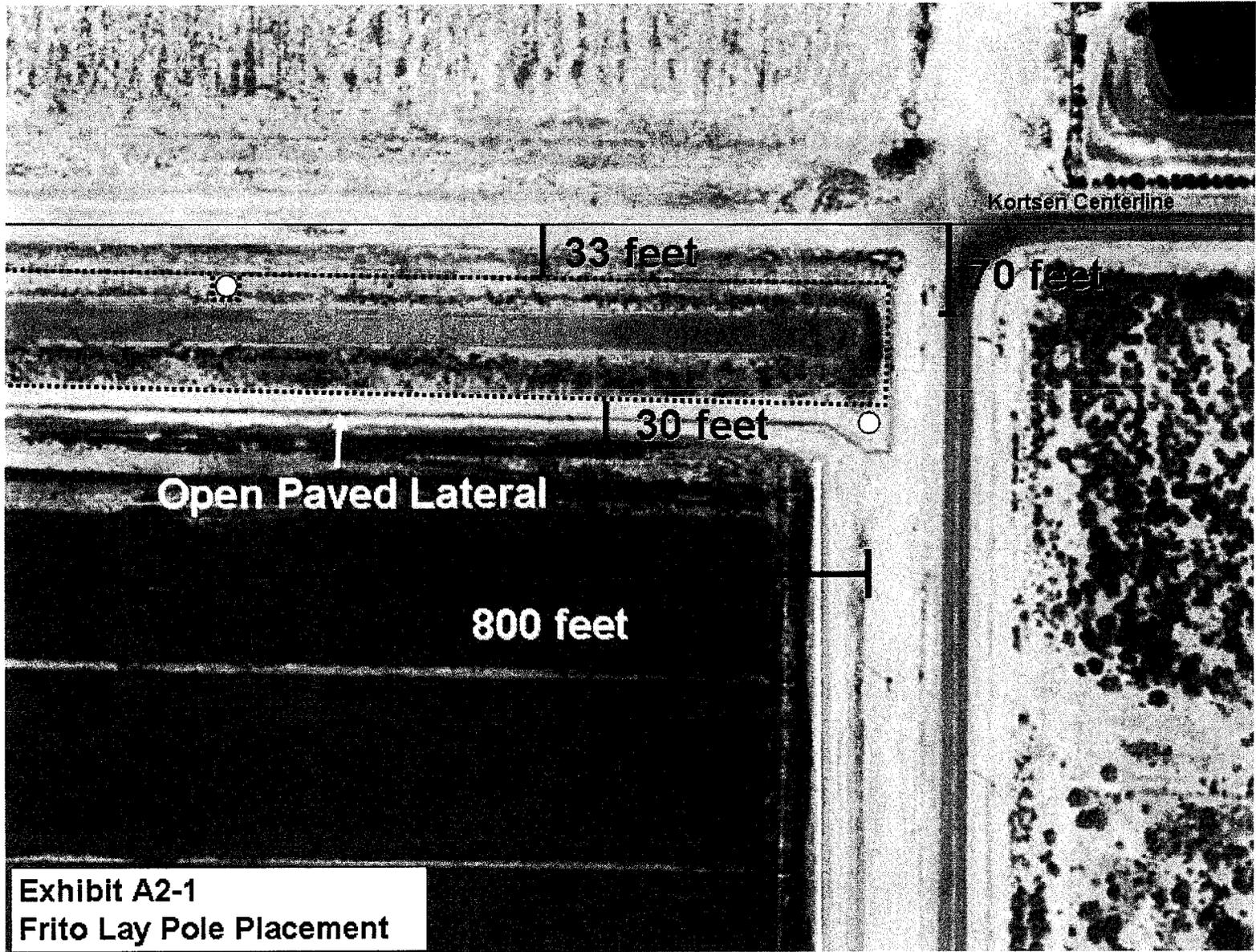
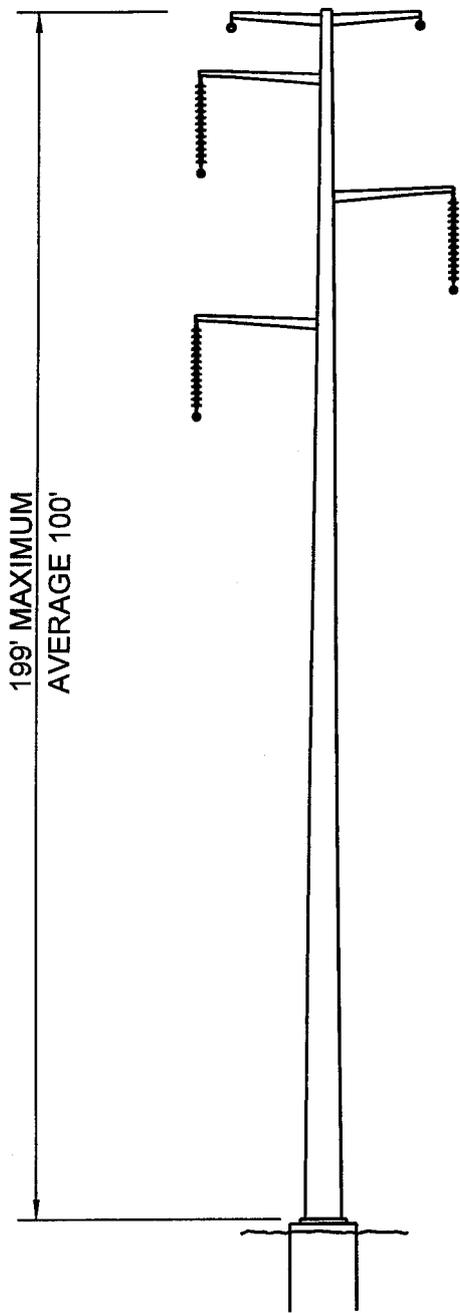
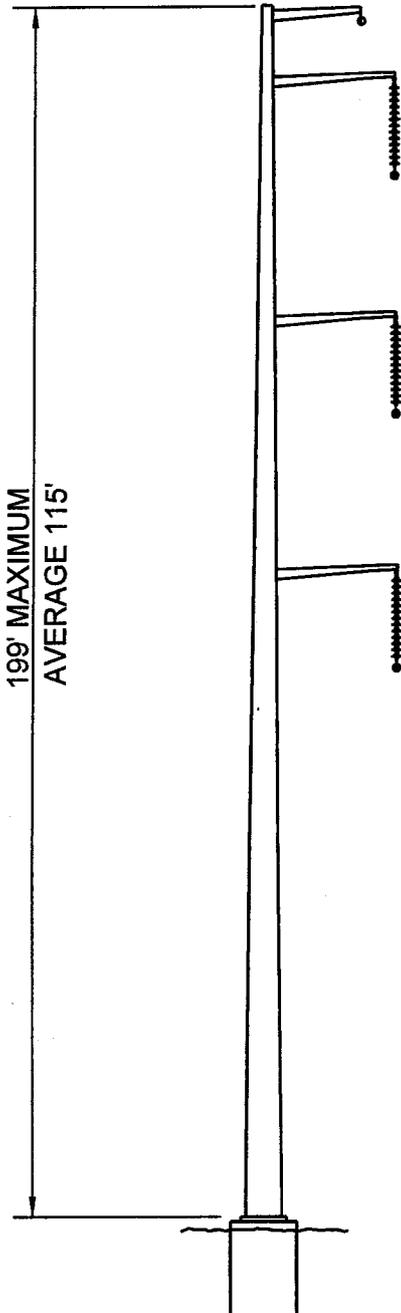


EXHIBIT C

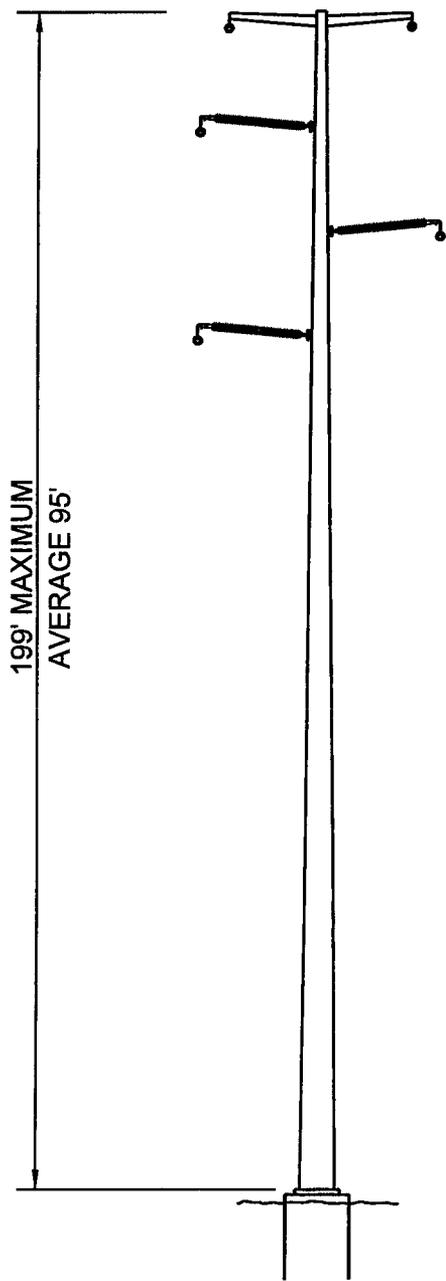


DELTA



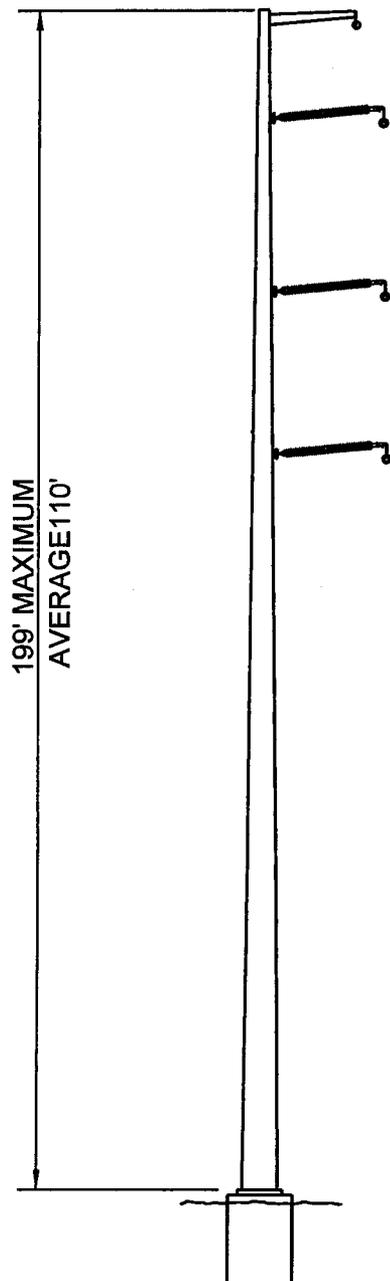
VERTICAL

CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY		
EXHIBIT G-1		
SINGLE CIRCUIT 230KV TUBULAR STEEL STRUCTURES (POLES) WITH I-STRINGS		
DESERT BASIN 230KV POWER LINE PROJECT		
DATE: 1/11/07	EXHIBIT G-1	JRH/GLL



199' MAXIMUM
AVERAGE 95'

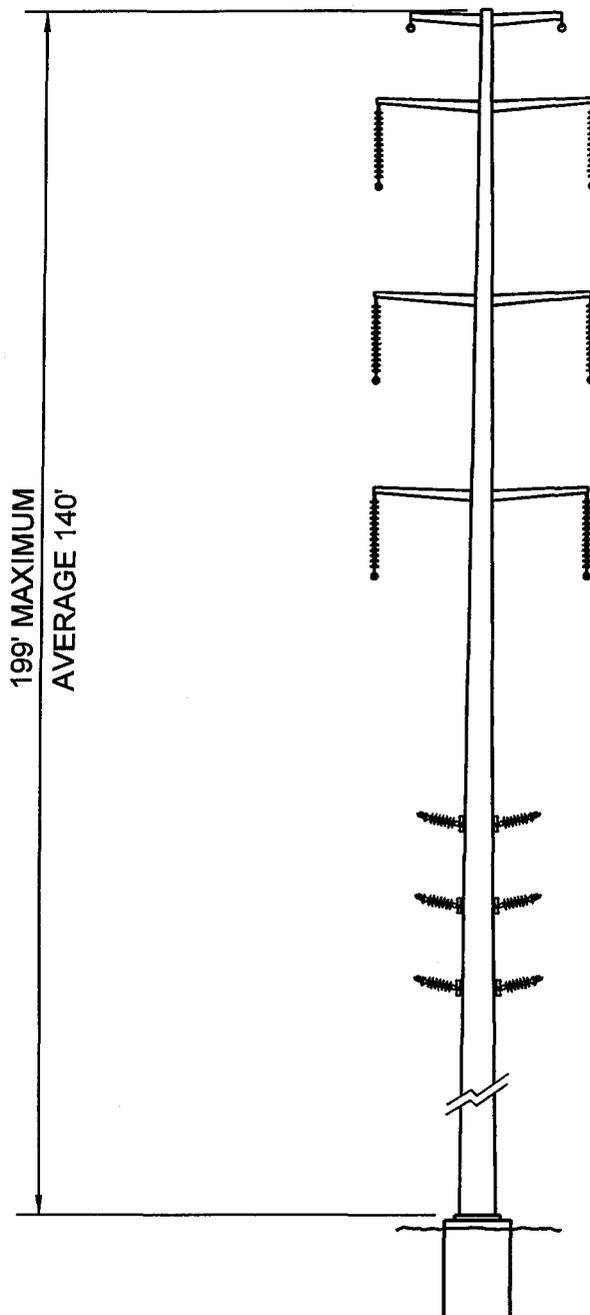
DELTA



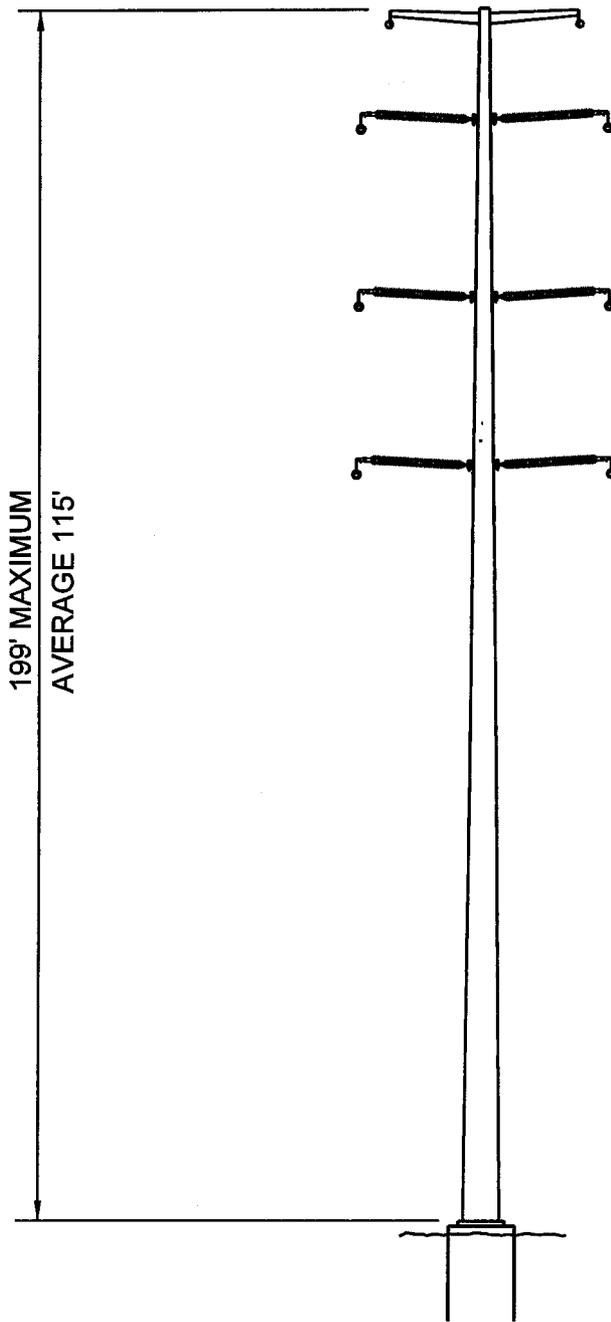
199' MAXIMUM
AVERAGE 110'

VERTICAL

CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY		
EXHIBIT G-3 SINGLE CIRCUIT 230KV POLES WITH LINE POSTS		
DESERT BASIN 230KV POWER LINE PROJECT		
DATE: 1/11/07	EXHIBIT G-3	JRH/GLL



CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY		
EXHIBIT G-4		
DOUBLE CIRCUIT 230KV POLE WITH I-STRINGS & DOUBLE CIRCUIT 69KV UNDERBUILD		
DESERT BASIN 230KV POWER LINE PROJECT		
DATE: 1/11/07	EXHIBIT G-4	JRH/GLL



CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY		
EXHIBIT G-6 DOUBLE CIRCUIT 230KV POLE WITH LINE POSTS		
DESERT BASIN 230KV POWER LINE PROJECT		
DATE: 1/11/07	EXHIBIT G-6	JRH/GLL