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BRYAN CAVE LLP, #00145700
Steven A. Hirsch, #006360
Andrew D. Gleason, #024394
Two N. Central Avenue, Suite 2200
Phoenix, AZ 85004-4406
Telephone: (602) 364-7000
Fax: (602) 364-7070

Attorneys for the Applicant SEP-II, LLC

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE
APPLICATION OF SEP-II, LLC, IN
CONFORMANCE WITH THE
REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA
REVISED STATUTES SECTION 40-
360, ET SEQ., FOR A CERTIFICATE
OF ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING
THE MESQUITE SOLAR GEN-TIE
230KV TRANSMISSION LINE,
ORIGINATING AT THE PROPOSED
MESQUITE SOLAR PHOTO VOLTAIC
GENERATING FACILITY IN SEC. 18,
T.1S., R.6W. G&SRB&M, MARICOPA
COUNTY, AND TERMINATING AT
THE EXISTING MESQUITE
GENERATING STATION 230KV
SWITCHYARD IN SEC. 15, T.1S.,
R.6W. G&SRB&M, IN MARICOPA
COUNTY, ARIZONA.

Docket No. L-00000KK-09-0299-00147

Case No. 147

**SEP-II, LLC'S REQUEST FOR
REVISION TO ITS CERTIFICATE
OF ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY UNDER
A.R.S. § 40-252**

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

JUN 20 2011

DOCKETED BY

SEP-II, LLC ("SEP-II") requests a revision to its Certificate of Environmental Compatibility authorizing the construction of a 230 kV generation-tie transmission line (the "Mesquite Solar Gen-Tie Line CEC"). This request is submitted pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-252. SEP-II seeks a minor amendment to Commission Decision No. 71320, docketed on October 30, 2009.

BRYAN CAVE LLP
TWO NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE, SUITE 2200
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85004-4406
(602) 364-7000

INTRODUCTION

1
2 Mesquite Power, an affiliate of SEP-II, LLC, owns and operates a 1250 megawatt
3 natural gas-fired combined cycle generating facility near Arlington, Maricopa County,
4 Arizona. This facility, the Mesquite Generating Station, is located approximately one mile
5 east of Wintersburg Road, just south of the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, and is
6 approximately 37 miles west of the Phoenix metropolitan area. The Mesquite Generating
7 Station was sited in Decision No. 63232 on December 5, 2000.

8 As part of the development of the Mesquite Generating Station, Mesquite Power also
9 acquired an approximately 3,000 acre property located two miles west of the plant site for
10 its water rights (the "Water Property"). In 2008, Sempra Generation, parent of Mesquite
11 Power, began undertaking the development of an approximately 500 megawatt photovoltaic
12 solar energy project (the "Mesquite Solar Project") on a portion of the Water Property, and
13 sought a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility for a gen-tie transmission line running
14 from the Mesquite Solar Project to the switchyard at the existing Mesquite Generating
15 Station. This application was the subject of a line siting hearing before the Arizona Power
16 Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee on August 13, 2009 in this docket.
17 Following that proceeding, SEP-II was granted a CEC for preferred and alternate routes for
18 the gen-tie line, consisting of approximately 4.5 to 5.1 miles of double circuit 230 kV
19 transmission line and ancillary facilities, terminating at the Mesquite Solar 230 kV
20 switchyard, within a 240-foot wide corridor. See Decision No. 71320 (October 30, 2009).
21 Since the CEC was granted, SEP-II has selected the preferred route, and gave notice of this
22 selection to the Commission on April 29, 2011. See Notice of Compliance filing regarding
23 condition No. 18 of the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility, docketed April 29,
24 2011.

25 As it relates to this request for revision, the 240 foot wide corridor of the preferred
26 route for the gen-tie line approaches the Mesquite Generating Station from the west along
27 the section line between sections 15 and 22. At approximately the mid-point of section 15,
28 the route turns north, within the area between the Mesquite Generating Station's evaporation

1 ponds and its eastern property line, and continues north on the Mesquite Generating site for
2 approximately .8 miles before turning west into the Mesquite Generating Station 230kV
3 switchyard. As the Gen-Tie line extends northward within this corridor north of the
4 northern edge of the evaporation ponds on Mesquite Power's own site, it encounters a gas
5 metering station operated by El Paso Natural Gas Company. In undertaking the final design
6 of the Gen-Tie line, El Paso officials insisted that the Gen-Tie line be offset from the gas
7 meter station a minimum of 200 feet. When the Gen-Tie line is moved to avoid the gas
8 meter station, it by necessity leaves the approved 240 foot corridor. The entirety of the line
9 and the corridor in this location is within the Mesquite Generating Station property.

10 SEP-II desires to construct its Gen-Tie line so that it will be located a minimum of
11 200 feet away from the gas meter station. In order to give SEP-II the flexibility of placing
12 the Gen-Tie line within these constraints, SEP-II requests an amendment of the 240 foot
13 corridor to 750 feet but only within the narrow area starting north of the evaporation ponds
14 to the point where the Gen-Tie line turns west into the existing 230 kV switchyard at the
15 Mesquite Generating Station. The dimensions and layout of the requested limited expansion
16 of the corridor are shown on Exhibit "A" attached to this Request.

17 Specifically, the existing CEC, in relevant part at p. 3, ll. 9-11, reads as follows:

18 At approximately the midpoint of Section 15, the Preferred Route
19 turns north and continues on the Mesquite Generating Station site
20 for approximately 0.8 mile before turning west at the existing
Mesquite Generating Station switchyard."

21 In this request, SEP-II requests that the existing CEC language quoted above be amended as
22 follows:

23 At approximately the midpoint of Section 15, the Preferred Route
24 turns north and continues on the Mesquite Generating Station site
25 for approximately 0.7 mile until reaching the northern extent of
26 the existing evaporation ponds on the Mesquite Generating
Station site, at which point the corridor shall expand to 750 feet
27 in width before turning west at the existing Mesquite Generating
28 Station switchyard."

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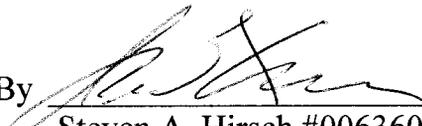
CONCLUSION

This request is for the limited purpose of expanding the corridor in a small, discrete area in order to provide sufficient width for the Gen-Tie line to avoid the El Paso Gas Meter Station located at the Mesquite Generating Station. The applicant itself is the only party affected. The proposed change to the Gen-Tie location is consistent with all land use regulations administered by Maricopa County but will likely require an administrative amendment to the special use permit issued for the Mesquite Generating Station to reflect the proposed change to the Gen-Tie location. The applicant will obtain any required amendment to the Mesquite Generating Station's special use permit prior to construction.

SEP-II therefore respectfully requests an amendment to the Mesquite Solar Gen-Tie CEC granted in Decision 71320 (October 30, 2009) that would expand the approved corridor as part of the preferred route from 240 feet to 750 feet for that location of the Preferred Route that is located north of the northern extent of the existing evaporation ponds on the Mesquite Generating Station to the point where the corridor turns west into the existing Mesquite Generating Station switchyard area, as shown on Exhibit A. SEP-II believe this change can be adequately considered at a Commission Open Meeting and does not justify a full evidentiary hearing, and therefore requests placement of this request on the Open Meeting agenda at the Commission's earliest convenience. If the Commission desires than an evidentiary hearing be held, SEP-II stands ready to cooperate fully to provide whatever additional information in necessary.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 20th day of June, 2011.

BRYAN CAVE LLP

By 

Steven A. Hirsch #006360
Andrew D. Gleason #024394
Two N. Central Avenue, Suite 200
Phoenix, AZ 85004-4406
Attorneys for Applicant SEP-II, LLC

1 **ORIGINAL and 25 COPIES** of the foregoing
2 filed with Docket Control this 20th day of
3 June, 2011:

4 Docket Control
5 Arizona Corporation Commission
6 1200 W. Washington Street
7 Phoenix, AZ 85007

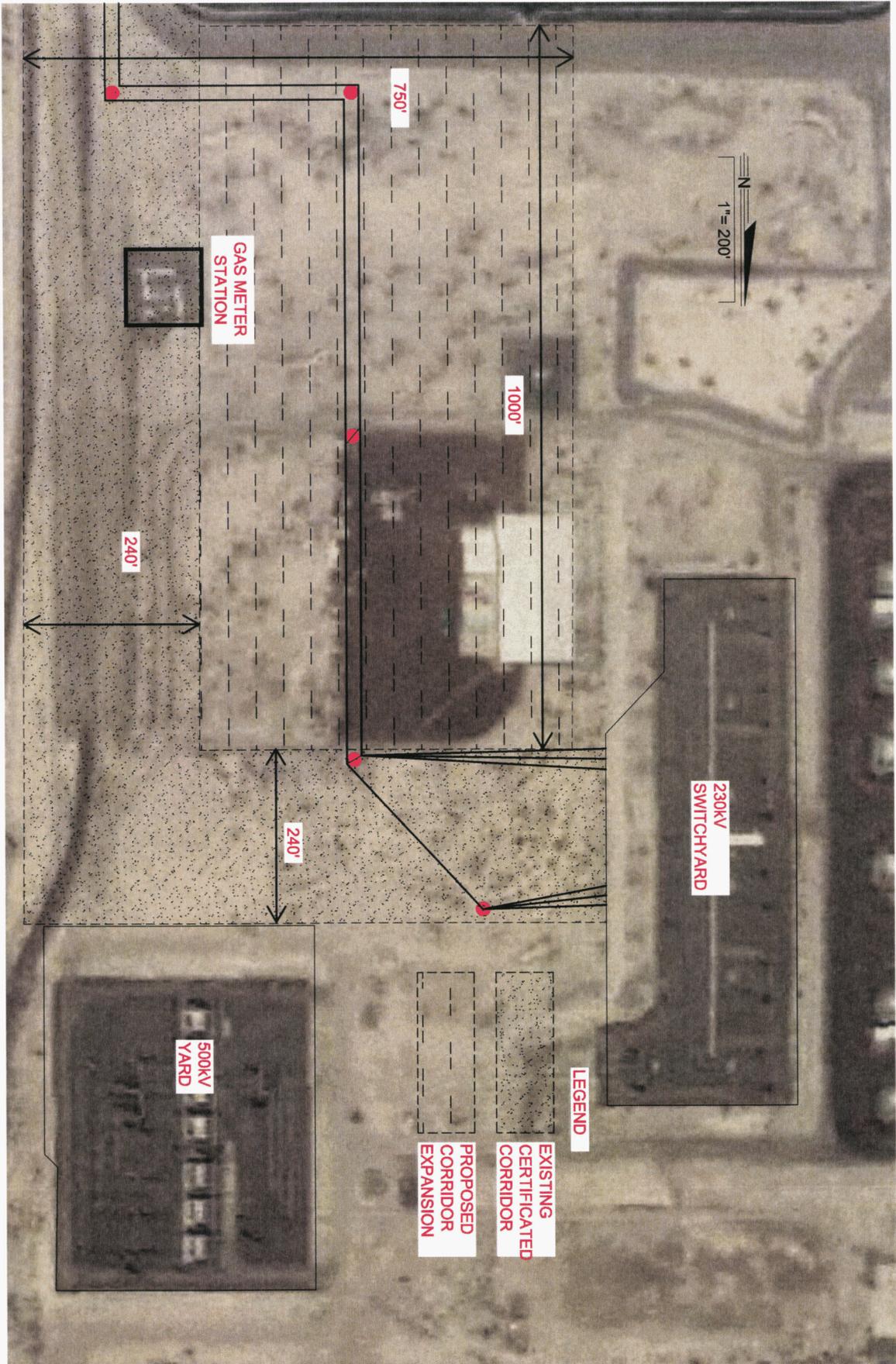
8 **COPY** of the foregoing hand-delivered
9 this 20th day of June, 2011, to:

10 Janice Alward, Chief Counsel
11 Legal Division
12 Arizona Corporation Commission
13 1200 W. Washington Street
14 Phoenix, AZ 85007

15 Mr. Stephen M. Olea
16 Director, Utilities Division
17 Arizona Corporation Commission
18 1200 W. Washington Street
19 Phoenix, AZ 85007

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Exhibit A



NO	DATE	REVISIONS AND RECORD OF ISSUE	BY	CHK/APP	ENGINEER M.L.P	DRAWN	DATE	SEMPRA - MESQUITE 230KV GENERATION TIE LINE MODIFICATION TO GENERATION TIE LINE AT THE GAS METER STATION	PROJECT 169394	DRAWING NUMBER SK 060911
						BLACK & VEATCH	JUN 6/14/11			SH. 1 OF 1