



0000153554

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

**BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION**

**COMMISSIONERS**  
BOB STUMP - Chairman  
GARY PIERCE  
BRENDA BURNS  
BOB BURNS  
SUSAN BITTER SMITH

Arizona Corporation Commission

**DOCKETED**

MAY 23 2014

DOCKETED BY 

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
OF SOUTHWEST TRANSMISSION  
COOPERATIVE, INC., OR ITS ASSIGNEES,  
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY FOR  
THE MARANA TAP TO SANDARIO TAP  
TRANSMISSION LINE REBUILD  
PROJECT LOCATED IN PIMA COUNTY,  
ARIZONA.

DOCKET NO. L-00000CC-11-0127-00161  
CASE NO. 142  
ORDER MODIFYING DECISION NO. 72447  
**ORDER**

Open Meeting  
May 13 and 14, 2014  
Phoenix, Arizona

**BY THE COMMISSION:**

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. On March 21, 2014, Southwest Transmission Cooperative, Inc. ("SWTC" or "Company") filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") a request ("Application") for an extension of time to construct facilities authorized by the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility ("CEC") approved in Decision No. 72447 (June 28, 2011).

2. Decision No. 72447 approved a CEC granted by the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee for SWTC to rebuild an approximately 12 mile 115kV transmission line that connects the Marana Tap with the Sandario Tap ("Project").

3. In the Application, the Company states the purpose of the Project is to support future electric system growth as well as to allow SWTC to accommodate single contingency outage scenarios as studied under the North American Electric Reliability Corporation Planning Standards criteria.

...  
...

1           4.       The CEC grants a three year period to construct approved facilities. Based upon the  
2 date of approval, the CEC will expire on June 28, 2014.

3           5.       In its Application, the Company requests an extension of time to construct the  
4 transmission project until July 16, 2018. SWTC asserts that the Project is still needed to support  
5 future system growth as well as to accommodate system failures without unnecessary disruptions  
6 to service. SWTC further states that a segment of the existing transmission line is currently at  
7 capacity and will not be able to carry additional loads without failure under certain circumstances  
8 involving an outage elsewhere on the system.

9           6.       The Company's Application also states that most portions of the Project are already  
10 completed. Only the 0.2 mile portion connecting the SWTC's Marana substation to Western Area  
11 Power Authority's ("WAPA") Saguaro to Rattlesnake 115 kV transmission line remains to be  
12 completed.

13           7.       Staff reviewed the Company's Application and SWTC's January 30, 2014 Ten Year  
14 Transmission Plan ("Plan"). In the Plan, SWTC notes that an alternative to rebuilding the  
15 remaining 0.2 mile portion of the Project is under consideration. That alternative would loop  
16 WAPA's line into Marana substation, which could provide additional reliability benefits. SWTC  
17 notes in its Plan that progress on this alternative has not yet reached a point that a definitive in-  
18 service date can be set.

19           8.       In its Staff Memorandum evaluating the Application, Staff agrees with SWTC's  
20 choice to delay rebuilding of the 0.2 mile tap to the Marana Tap until SWTC and WAPA complete  
21 evaluating the loop in of WAPA's line into the Marana substation.

22           9.       Staff likewise states that the alternative of looping in Western's line to Marana has  
23 no impact on the need to rebuild the remaining approximately 11.8 miles of the SWTC line, but  
24 simply changes how the Marana substation is connected to Western's Saguaro to Tucson line.

25           10.      Although Staff agrees that a delay in the construction of the Project is appropriate,  
26 Staff believes that given SWTC's indication in its Application that this Project is needed in part to  
27 accommodate system failures under first contingency scenarios without unnecessary disruptions of  
28 service, an extension of two years instead of four years would be more appropriate. Staff goes on

1 to explain that if prior to that SWTC and Western have agreed to loop the Western line into  
2 Marana, SWTC will need to amend this subject CEC. If not, and SWTC has not completed the  
3 rebuild of the 0.2 mile of line, SWTC can request another extension at that time.

4 11. Staff therefore recommends approval of the requested extension from June 28, 2014  
5 to June 28, 2016.

6 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

7 1. The Commission has jurisdiction over Southwest Transmission Cooperative, Inc.  
8 and over the subject matter herein pursuant to Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S.  
9 §§ 40-252 and -360 *et seq.*

10 2. Notice of the proceeding and an opportunity to be heard has been given in the  
11 manner prescribed by law.

12 3. The Commission, having reviewed the request and considered the matter, finds that  
13 it is in the public interest to amend Decision No. 72447 to grant the extension of time to construct  
14 the Project until June 28, 2016.

15 ...  
16 ...  
17 ...  
18 ...  
19 ...  
20 ...  
21 ...  
22 ...  
23 ...  
24 ...  
25 ...  
26 ...  
27 ...  
28 ...

**ORDER**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Decision No. 72447 is modified to extend the time to construct the Project until June 28, 2016.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all other conditions of the CEC, as adopted by Decision No. 72447 shall remain in effect.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

**BY THE ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION**

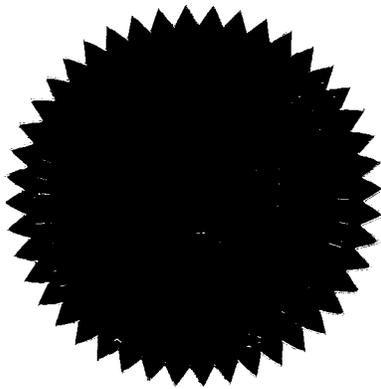
  
CHAIRMAN

  
COMMISSIONER

  
COMMISSIONER

  
COMMISSIONER

  
COMMISSIONER



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, JODI JERICH, 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 23rd day of May, 2014.

  
JODI JERICH  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DISSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

DISSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

SMO:EFS:sms\CHH

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

SERVICE LIST FOR: Southwest Transmission Cooperative, Inc.  
DOCKET NO. L-00000CC-11-0127-00161

John Foreman, Chairman  
Arizona Power Plant and Transmission  
Line Sitting Committee  
Office of Attorney General  
1275 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Michael M. Grant  
Gallagher and Kennedy P.A.  
2575 East Camelback Road  
Suite 1100  
Phoenix, AZ 85016  
Counsel for Applicant, SW Transco

Mr. Steven M. Olea  
Director, Utilities Division  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Ms. Janice M. Alward  
Chief Counsel, Legal Division  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Ms. Lyn Farmer  
Chief Administrative Law Judge, Hearing Division  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007