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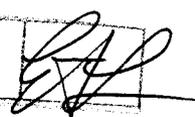
January 28, 2015

ORIGINAL

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

JAN 30 2015

Docket Control
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

DOCKETED BY 

Subject: SunZia Southwest Transmission Project
SunZia Transmission, L.L.C.
Ten Year Plan for 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360.02 (A) and (C), SunZia Transmission, L.L.C. (“SunZia”) hereby submits its Ten Year Plan filing for the year 2015. The information requirements associated with A.R.S. § 40-360.02 (C) are included as Appendix “A” to this filing.

The SunZia Southwest Transmission Project (“Project”) is comprised of up to two extra high voltage transmission lines, substations and termination facilities that would create a new interconnection between Arizona and New Mexico. The Project would allow delivery of remotely-located power generation resources, including renewables, to power markets in the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (“WECC”), while improving regional grid reliability and power transfer across this area.

On January 23, 2015, the Record of Decision (“ROD”) was executed by Janice Schneider, Assistant Secretary of the Department of Interior, Land and Minerals Management. Issuance of the ROD concludes the six-and-a-half year effort of the Bureau of Land Management (“BLM”) to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act. Appendix “B” includes a map of the BLM’s final route of the SunZia Project as documented in the ROD.

SunZia plans to start preparing an application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility. Submittal of the application is expected during Q2 2015.

SunZia coordinates closely with siting jurisdictions in both Arizona and New Mexico as the Project progresses. The Project is regularly reviewed and discussed at regional planning forums such as WestConnect, the Southwest Area Subregional Transmission Planning Group ("SWAT") and SWAT's various subcommittees.

This informational filing is intended to be responsive to the requirements of A.R.S. § 40-360.02 (A) and (C) as they might apply to the SunZia Southwest Transmission Project and its related electric facilities currently under study. Depending on both the timing and nature of future development, the Project may have occasion to file an amendment to this Ten Year Plan for 2015.

Additional information on the SunZia Project can be found at www.sunzia.net.

Please direct any questions that may arise from this report to the undersigned at (602) 808-2004.

Sincerely,



Tom C. Wray
Project Manager
SunZia Southwest Transmission Project

Appendices (2)

Cc: File

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Appendix “A”

**SunZia Southwest Transmission Project
A.R.S. § 40-360.02 (C) Information Requirements**

Appendix "A"

Information Requirements Pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360.02 (C)

40-360.02 (C) (1).

The size and proposed route of any transmission lines or location of each plant proposed to be constructed.

The SunZia Southwest Transmission Project (Project or SunZia) proposes to permit and construct up to two new single-circuit 500 kilovolt (kV) alternating current (AC) transmission lines originating at a new substation called the SunZia East to be located in Lincoln County, New Mexico and terminating at the Pinal Central Substation in Pinal County, Arizona. The 500 kV transmission lines are planned to interconnect with the underlying EHV grid in both New Mexico and Arizona. Depending on technical analysis of power flows and the commercial demand for transmission capacity, the Project may construct and operate one of the proposed transmission lines as a direct current bipolar facility.

The estimated length of the proposed transmission line route is approximately 515 miles. Approximately 200 miles of the proposed route is inside the state of Arizona, and is largely located on state trust lands managed by the Arizona State Land Department, a Cooperating Agency to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Environmental Impact Statement process. The final alignment selected by the BLM in the Record of Decision is depicted in Appendix "B."

SunZia achieved Phase 3 of the Three Phase Rating Process of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) on March 25, 2011, which granted the Project an accepted rating of 3,000 MW for two single-circuit 500 kV AC transmission facilities.

Beginning in November 2013, SunZia reconvened the SunZia Project Review Group (PRG) for the purpose of conducting system studies that reflected a change to the plan of service that would avoid interconnection to WECC Path 47 in southwest New Mexico. This change was requested by the path operator, El Paso Electric Company. Several meetings of the SunZia PRG were held during 2014 to review power flow, transient stability and post-transient stability studies. During November 2014, the PRG approved the final SunZia Path Rating Re-Study Report, dated September 25, 2014. This report was provided to the WECC Planning Coordination Committee, Technical Studies Committee and Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee on January 14, 2015. On January 27, 2015, WECC confirmed SunZia's Accepted Rating of 3,000 MW.

40-360.02 (C) (2).

The purpose to be served by each proposed transmission line or plant.

The Project is conceived as a power transfer facility to transport generation from energy resources, including remotely-located renewable energy projects, to markets in the WECC, improve power transfers across the region and increase general reliability and relieve congestion of the interconnected EHV grid between Arizona and New Mexico.

40-360.02 (C) (3).

The estimated date by which each transmission line or plant will be in operation.

Current planning indicates the first phase of the Project would be in service by 2020.

40-360.02 (C) (4).

The average and maximum power output measured in megawatts of each plant to be installed.

Not applicable.

40-360.02 (C) (5).

The expected capacity factor for each proposed plant.

Not applicable.

40-360.02 (C) (6).

The type of fuel to be used for each proposed plant.

Not applicable.

40-360.02 (C) (7).

The plans for any new facilities shall include a power flow and stability analysis report showing the effect on the current Arizona electric transmission system. Transmission owners shall provide the technical reports, analysis or basis for projects that are included for serving customer load growth in their service territories.

Power flow studies, stability studies, dynamic system modeling and short-circuit studies will be prepared as the Project's electrical definition matures. The Project will coordinate and review these study findings with Commission Staff as they become available.

Appendix “B”

**SunZia Southwest Transmission Project
Final Alignment included
in the BLM Record of Decision**

(As of January 2015)

