



0000162122

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

1
 2 SUSAN BITTER SMITH
 Chairman
 3 BOB STUMP
 Commissioner
 4 BOB BURNS
 Commissioner
 5 DOUG LITTLE
 Commissioner
 6 TOM FORESE
 Commissioner
 7

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED
 MAY 19 2015

DOCKETED BY 

8 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
 9 OF ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE)
 10 COMPANY, PURSUANT TO ARIZONA)
 11 REVISED STATUTE § 40-252, FOR AN)
 12 AMENDMENT OF ARIZONA)
 13 CORPORATION COMMISSION DECISION)
 14 NO. 68063)

DOCKET NO. L-00000D-05-0128-00000
 CASE NO. 128
 ORDER MODIFYING DECISION NO
 68063
 DECISION NO. 75081
ORDER

14
 15 Open Meeting
 16 May 12 and 13, 2015
 17 Phoenix, Arizona

17 BY THE COMMISSION:

FINDINGS OF FACT

19 1. Arizona Public Service Company ("APS" or "Company") is a public service
 20 corporation providing electric utility service to eleven counties in the State of Arizona.

21 2. On May 2, 2005, APS filed an application for a Certificate of Environmental
 22 Compatibility ("CEC") before the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee
 23 ("Siting Committee") for authorization to site a transmission line and related facilities in Maricopa
 24 County. The project was referred to as the APS Palo Verde Hub to TS-5 Substation Project
 25 ("Project"). APS proposed to construct the line in an area west of the Phoenix metropolitan area.

26 3. Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") Utilities Division Staff ("Staff")
 27 intervened in the proceeding.

28 ...

1 4. After a full hearing, the Siting Committee issued APS a CEC for the line and related
2 facilities (“CEC 128”). The Siting Committee’s CEC sets forth the specific route that the line is
3 intended to follow. See Exhibit 2.

4 5. On August 17, 2005, the Commission issued Decision No. 68063, which approved the
5 CEC issued by the Siting Committee. That decision specifically approves and adopts the Siting
6 Committee’s description of the approved route.

7 6. On November 14, 2014, APS filed with the Commission a request to amend Decision
8 No. 68063 (“Application”), by extending the term of the CEC from August 17, 2015 to August 17,
9 2020 and by authorizing the use of three monopoles in lieu of lattice towers at the origination point of
10 the transmission line.

11 7. In its Application, APS requests that the Commission extend the time period to
12 construct the transmission line from the Delaney Switchyard (formerly Harquahala Junction
13 Switchyard) to the Sun Valley Substation, (Links 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, and 130 shown in
14 Exhibit 2). Additionally, APS requests the Commission approve the use of monopole structures in
15 three locations, rather than the lattice structures approved in CEC 128.

16 Term Extension Request

17 8. Condition 3 in CEC 128 authorized (1) a ten-year term for constructing the 500 kV
18 transmission line from the Delaney Switchyard to the Sun Valley Substation, and (2) a twenty-year
19 term for constructing the line from the Palo Verde Switchyard to the Delaney Switchyard, unless
20 construction was completed to the point that the Project was capable of operating by that time. The
21 Application requests a five-year extension for the Delaney to Sun Valley portion of the line from
22 August 17, 2015 to August 17, 2020; the time period for the portion of the line from the Palo Verde
23 Switchyard to the Delaney Switchyard will remain unchanged (August 17, 2025).

24 9. Development and associated electrical load growth in Arizona as a whole have slowed
25 down in recent years due to the economic downturn, and utilities have been delaying major
26 transmission projects to match the slowdown. APS states in the Application that its existing electric
27 system is sufficient to meet current customer load, but that the electrical facilities approved in CEC
28 128 will strengthen the entire APS metropolitan area transmission system by providing an additional

1 electrical transmission source to the Valley. The Company further states that the Project will also
2 increase transmission import capability into the Phoenix areas as well as increase transmission export
3 capability from the Palo Verde Hub in the coming years.

4 10. The project was first identified as a segment of a larger, regional transmission plan in
5 the Third Biennial Transmission Assessments (“BTA”), and has continued to be included in regional
6 and state-wide studies, including all BTAs up to and including the current Eighth BTA. The
7 conclusions reached in the Eighth BTA as well as other regional reliability studies have included the
8 Project transmission line with in-service dates consistent with those requested by APS in the
9 Application.

10 11. Staff agrees that while the need for the transmission line was delayed, there continues
11 to be a need for the Project. In addition, Staff believes that the delayed construction time requested in
12 the Application will not compromise transmission grid reliability.

13 Structure Change Notification

14 12. APS requests authority to use monopole structures in three specific locations at the
15 origination point of the transmission line, which is immediately adjacent to the Palo Verde Switchyard,
16 marked as Link 10 in both Exhibit 1 and Exhibit 2 attached. CEC 128 authorized APS to construct
17 eight transmission structures in Link 10 using lattice towers to match existing transmission structures,
18 see Exhibit 1. CEC 128 approves the use of a monopole structure, although it is not approved for use
19 in Link 10.

20 13. The Application states that since the time CEC 128 was granted in 2005, there have
21 been significant physical changes on the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (“PVNGS” or
22 “Plant”) property due to operational and security upgrades at the Plant. APS finalized its design and
23 engineering for the transmission line considering the changes at PVNGS, which requires the use of
24 monopole structure in three locations (marked as structures 1, 2, and 3 on Exhibit 1). The monopole
25 structure, which is a tubular steel pole, will have a reduced footprint and minimize encroachment on
26 an existing distribution line, roads, parking lot, and new drainage areas.

27 ...

28 ...

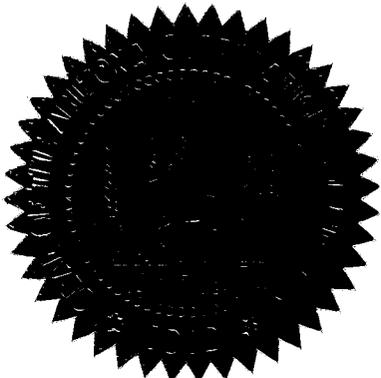
1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Decision No. 68063 is modified to permit Arizona Public
2 Service Company to use steel monopole structures in the three locations in Link 10 of the Project
3 noted on Exhibit 1.

4 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all other conditions of the Certificate of Environmental
5 Compatibility approved by Decision No. 68063 shall remain in effect.

6 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this decision shall become effective immediately.

7
8 **BY THE ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION**

		
CHAIRMAN	COMMISSIONER	
		
COMMISSIONER	COMMISSIONER	COMMISSIONER



15 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, JODI JERICH, Executive
16 Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have
17 hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this
18 Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of
19 Phoenix, this 19th day of May, 2015.

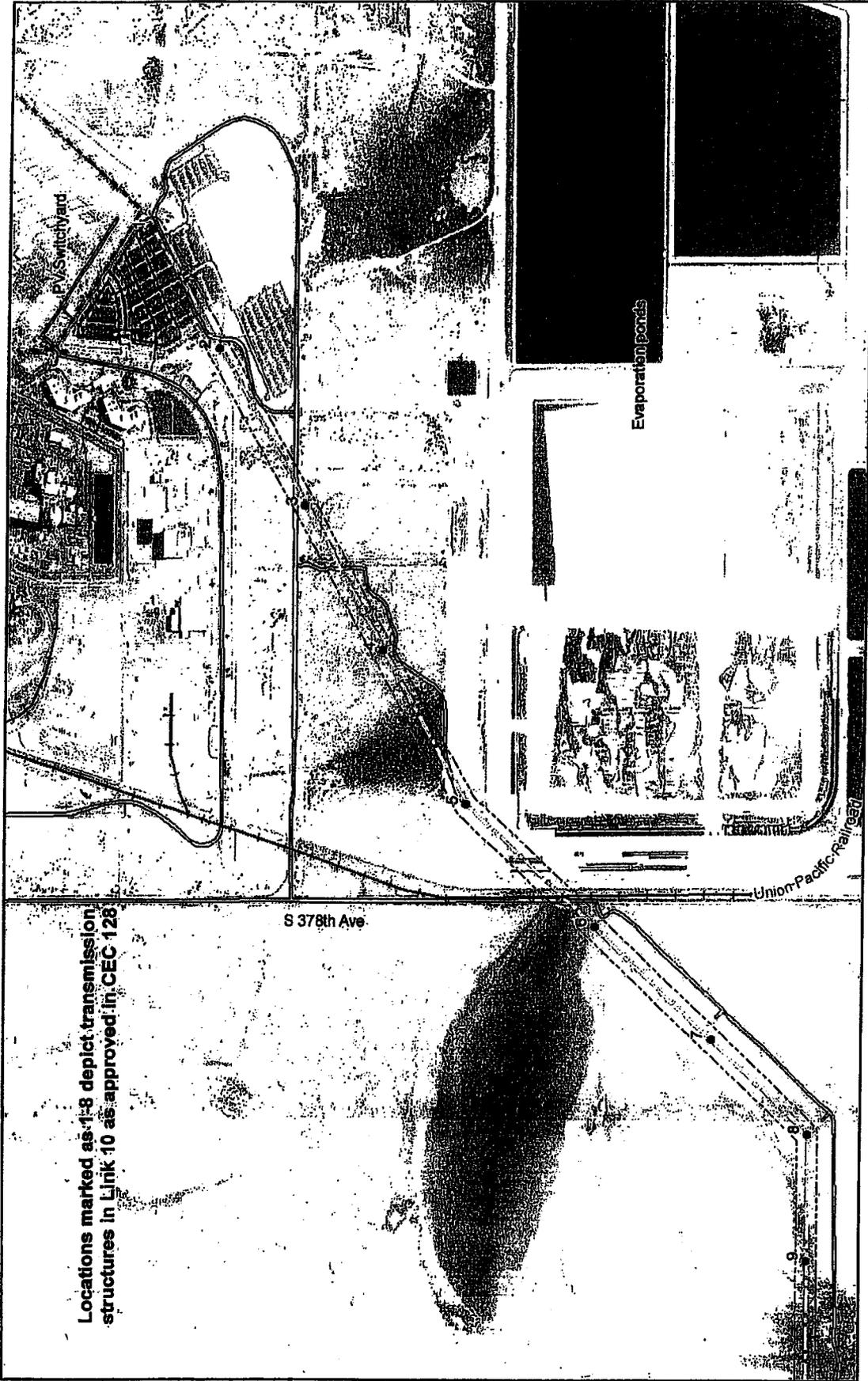
20 
21 JODI JERICH
22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

23 DISSENT: _____

24 DISSENT: _____

25 SMO:ML:red\CHH

- 1 SERVICE LIST FOR: Arizona Public Service Company
DOCKET NO. L-00000D-05-0128-00000
- 2
- 3 Ms. Melissa M. Kruegar
4 Ms. Linda J. Benally
Attorneys for Arizona Public Service Company
5 400 North 5th Street, MS 8695
Phoenix, Arizona 85004
- 6
- 7 Ms. Lisa Malagon
Arizona Public Service Company
8 Mail Station 9712
PO Box 53999
9 Phoenix, Arizona 85072-3999
- 10 Mr. John Foreman
Chairman
11 Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee
Office of the Attorney General
12 PAD/CPA
13 1275 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
- 14
- 15 Mr. Steven M. Olea
Director, Utilities Division
Arizona Corporation Commission
16 1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
- 17
- 18 Ms. Janice M. Alward
Chief Counsel, Legal Division
19 Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington Street
20 Phoenix, Arizona 85007
- 21 Ms. Lyn Farmer
22 Chief Administrative Law Judge,
Hearings Division
23 Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington Street
24 Phoenix, AZ 85007
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28

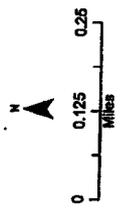


Locations marked as 1-8 depict transmission structures in Link 10 as approved in CEC 128

- Legend**
- Structure Locations
 - Substation
 - Proposed Centerline
 - Existing Roads
 - - - Improved Roads
 - ⊥ Railroad
 - - - - - ROW Corridor

Palo Verde to Delaney 500kV Transmission Line
Overview Structures 1 to 8

EXHIBIT 1
Page 1 of 1



Source: Proposed Transmission Line: APS 2013
Base map: ALPWS 1997-2012



