## ORIGINAL





January 31, 2017

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

Subject: Ten West Link DCR Transmission, LLC Ten Year Plan 2017

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To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to A.R.S. §40-360.02 (A) and (C), DCR Transmission, LLC ("DCR Transmission") hereby submits its Ten West Link project ("Ten West Link" or "Ten West" or "Project") to the Arizona Corporation Commission ("ACC") for its Ten Year Plan filing for the year 2017. The information requirements associated with A.R.S. §40-360.02 (C) are included as Appendix A to this filing.

Ten West Link, formerly referred to as the Delaney-Colorado River Transmission Project, is an approximately 114-mile long, 500 kV overhead transmission connection between Arizona Public Service Company's ("APS") Delaney substation located in Tonopah, Arizona and Southern California Edison Company's ("SCE") Colorado River substation located in Riverside County, California, west of the city of Blyth. A map of the Project is attached as Appendix B.

The Project was studied by the California Independent System Operator ("CAISO") as part of its 2013-2014 Transmission Plan and was recommended for approval by the CAISO Board of Governors ("CAISO Board") due to its significant economic, reliability, and policy benefits. In July of 2014, the CAISO Board approved the Project. Following approval, the CAISO conducted a Competitive Solicitation under FERC Order 1000 rules to select a Project Sponsor. On July 10, 2015, CAISO selected DCR Transmission as the Approved Project Sponsor. DCR Transmission and CAISO executed the Approved Project Sponsor Agreement on December 1, 2015.

Among other benefits, Ten West will facilitate efficient and increased sharing of generation resources between Arizona and California, thereby improving the efficiency of the bulk transmission network. In addition to the evaluated benefits, the proposed Project will also provide the following:



- Facilitate development and effective integration of renewable resources;
- Improved power system reliability, efficiency, and operational flexibility;
- Increased diversity of supply under normal and emergency conditions; and
- Support for the implementation of the Energy Imbalance Market.

The Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") is acting as a lead federal agency for the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") process and is overseeing the required Environmental Impact Study ("EIS"). DCR Transmission plans to prepare an Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility ("CEC") to file with the ACC after a draft EIS becomes available. In DCR Transmission's 2016 Ten Year Plan, it anticipated a draft EIS to be available in time to facilitate an October 2016 CEC Application filing; however, a draft EIS has not yet been released by BLM. DCR Transmission anticipates its release in the summer of 2017 and has adjusted its schedule accordingly and anticipates filing its CEC Application in the fall of 2017.

In accordance with SCE and APS requirements for a wire-to-wire interconnection, DCR Transmission filed applications with both of these companies to study what facilities are required to successfully interconnect and integrate the Ten West Project into the existing bulk transmission network. In addition to working with the two interconnecting utilities, DCR Transmission will be participating in the Western Electricity Coordinating Council's ("WECC") Comprehensive Progress Report Process and plans to engage in the Path Rating Process. DCR Transmission will also closely coordinate with siting authorities in both Arizona and California as the Project progresses. The Project will be regularly reviewed and discussed at regional planning forums such as WestConnect, the Southwest Area Subregional Transmission Planning Group ("SWAT") and SWAT's various subcommittees. The Project has been previously reviewed by the ACC as part of its 2014 8<sup>th</sup> and 2016 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Transmission Assessments.

This filing is intended to respond to the requirements of A.R.S. §40-360.02 (A) and (C) as they might apply to Ten West Link and its related electric facilities currently under study. Depending on both the timing and nature of future developments, DCR Transmission may have occasion to file an amendment to this Ten Year Plan for 2017.

Additional information on Ten West Link can be found at www.tenwestlink.com



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Please direct any questions that may arise from this report to either Ali Amirali at (916) 740-0990 (aamirali@starwood.com) or to the undersigned at (713) 828-1810 (rweiss@starwood.com).

Sincerely,

Thank to Win-

**Richard Weiss** Project Manager **DCR Transmission** 

Appendices (2)

Cc: Elijah Abinah, Utilities Division, Arizona Corporation Commission Timothy La Sota, Legal Division, Arizona Corporation Commission Charles Hains, Legal Division, Arizona Corporation Commission Meghan H. Grabel, Esq., Osborn Maledon, P.A.



## **APPENDIX "A"**

Ten West Link A.R.S. §40-360.02 (C) Information Requirements

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## 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 Project would include a proposed 500-kV transmission line between the APS Delaney Substation, located in Tonopah, Arizona, and the SCE Colorado River Substation, located just west of the City of Blythe in Riverside County, California. DCR Transmission submitted an Application for Transportation and Utility Systems and Facilities on Federal Land with the BLM on September 14, 2015. The Project would span approximately 114 miles, including 97 miles in Arizona and 17 miles in California.

The proposed route segments, the land category crossed (in miles), and the right-of-way land crossed is presented in Table 1-1. The proposed route largely follows BLM-designated utility corridors, which are 1 mile in width, and the transmission line would be considered a compatible use within these corridors. DCR Transmission would require a 200-foot ROW for the transmission line and proposes to use the existing access roads currently used to maintain SCE's existing DPV transmission line. The Project also would include requisite transmission line series compensation in the middle of the route. The proposed series compensation substation would be arranged parallel to an existing compensation substation located in Vicksburg, Arizona. Refer to Appendix B for the Project map.

Route Segment	Length of	Land Category Crossed	200' ROW Land Crossings
	Segment	(in Miles)	(in Acres)
Proposed Route	113.98 miles	BLM: 56.73 miles Yuma Test Range: 0.15 miles Reclamation: 1.54 miles State Trust: 9.27 miles Kofa: 24.85 miles	BLM: 1,376.84 acres Yuma Test Range: 3.74 acres Reclamation: 37.61 acres State Trust: 226.10 acres Kofa: 602.45 acres

Table 1-1. Land Categories and ROW Land Crossings of the Route Segments



#### 40-360.02 (C) (2)

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

The purpose of the Project is primarily driven by the need to provide additional high-voltage electrical transmission infrastructure to increase reliability of energy supply. The increase in supply enhances competition among energy suppliers, which reduces energy costs to customers. The proposed Project will have the capability to transmit 3,200 megawatts (MW) of electric supply, and the increase transfer capacity afforded by this Project will enable cost-effective energy dispatch in the southwestern US. During the 2013-2014 Transmission Planning Process, the CAISO justified the need for the Project based on the benefits associated with enhancing the high-voltage transmission path between Delaney Substation and Colorado River Substation. The Project will also increase:

- Enhanced system economics for Arizona consumers;
- Economic benefits in the form of increased taxes and business development;
- Deliverability between Arizona and California;
- Service reliability for California and Arizona consumers;
- Operational flexibility for generation dispatch and renewable integration;
- Interconnection capability of new renewable projects proposing to locate near the Project; and
- Transmission capacity needed to facilitate utility participation in the EIM.

#### 40-360.02 (C) (3)

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

Based on the current planning the Project would be placed in service no later than May 2020 in accordance with the Approved Project Sponsor Agreement.



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#### 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 territories.

Power flow studies, stability studies, dynamic system modeling and short-circuit studies will be prepared as part of the interconnection studies to be performed by APS and SCE. The Project will coordinate and review these study findings with Commission Staff as they become available.



# **APPENDIX "B"**

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Ten West Link Study Area Map

