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**BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT
AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE**

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
OF ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE
COMPANY, IN CONFORMANCE WITH
THE REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA
REVISED STATUTES §§ 40-360, ET SEQ.,
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY
AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF
A SECTION OF THE PINAL ELECTRICAL
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT CONSISTING
OF APPROXIMATELY 20 MILES OF A
NEW DOUBLE-CIRCUIT 230KV
TRANSMISSION LINE WHICH
ORIGINATES AT THE MILLIGAN
SUBSTATION AND TERMINATES AT THE
CONNECTION POINT WITH THE
SUNDANCE TO PINAL CENTRAL 230KV
TRANSMISSION LINE (CEC 136)
LOCATED NEAR THE PINAL CENTRAL
SUBSTATION, ALL LOCATED WITHIN
PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA.

DOCKET NO. L-00000D-25-0154-
00247

Case No. 247

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**CERTIFICATE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY**

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A. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to notice given as provided by law, the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee (“Committee”) held public hearings on September 8 through September 10, 2025, in Casa Grande, Arizona, in conformance with the requirements of Arizona Revised Statutes (“A.R.S.”) §§ 40-360, *et seq.*, for the purpose of receiving evidence and deliberating on the Application of Arizona Public Service Company (“APS” or “Applicant”) for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (“Certificate”) in the above-captioned case.

The following members and designees of members of the Committee were present at one or more of the hearing days for the evidentiary presentations, public comment, and/or for the deliberations:

27 Adam Stafford

Chairman, Designee for Arizona Attorney
General Kris Mayes

Leonard Drago	Designee for Director, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (“ADEQ”)
David French	Designee for Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources (“ADWR”)
Nicole Hill	Designee for Director, Governor’s Energy Office
Michael Comstock	Designee of the Chairman, Arizona Corporation Commission (“Commission”)
Douglas Fant	Appointed Member, representing the general public
Sal DiCiccio	Appointed Member, representing cities and towns
Margaret “Toby” Little	Appointed Member, representing the general public
David Kryder	Appointed Member, representing agricultural interests
Gabby Saucedo Mercer	Appointed Member, representing the general public

Applicant was represented by Linda J. Benally of Pinnacle West Capital Corporation and J. Matthew Derstine of Snell & Wilmer, LLP. No parties requested intervention pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360.05.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the Committee, after considering the (i) Application, (ii) evidence, testimony, and exhibits presented by the Applicant, and (iii) comments of the public, and being advised of the legal requirements of A.R.S. §§ 40-360 through 40-360.13, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted 10 to 0 to grant the Applicant, its successors and assigns, this Certificate for construction of a section of the Pinal Electrical Improvement Project (“Project”) as described below.

1
2 **B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

3 The Project consists of a new, approximately 20-mile, double-circuit 230 kilovolt
4 (“kV”) transmission line (with a non-jurisdictional 69kV underbuild) that will connect the
5 existing APS 230kV Milligan Substation, located at the southeast corner of Eleven Mile
6 Corner Road and Milligan Road in Eloy, Arizona, to the connection point with the future
7 Sundance to Pinal Central 230kV transmission line (CEC 136), located at the southwest
8 corner of Eleven Mile Corner Road and Hackler Lane in Coolidge, Arizona, near the Pinal
9 Central Substation. The Project will be primarily located on privately owned land and
10 State Trust Land managed by the Arizona State Land Department (“ASLD”). Short
11 segments of the line less than an eighth of a mile in length will cross other jurisdictions,
12 as set forth in the Application. The map and description of the final approved Project,
13 including the Project corridor, is included as **Exhibit A**. The proposed width of the
14 corridor for the Project varies from 200 feet to 2,800 feet. The final right-of-way (“ROW”)
15 for the Project shall be no greater than 120 feet.

16 **CONDITIONS**

17 This Certificate is granted upon the following conditions:

18 1. The authorization to construct the first circuit of the Project on the Preferred
19 Route shall expire ten (10) years from the date this Certificate is approved by the
20 Commission, with or without modification. Construction of the first circuit of the Project
21 shall be completed and in service upon the expiration of the ten-year timeframe. The
22 authorization to construct the second circuit of the Project on the Preferred Route shall
23 expire twenty (20) years from the date this Certificate is approved by the Commission,
24 with or without modification. Construction of the second circuit of the Project shall be
25 completed and in service upon the expiration of the twenty-year timeframe. However,
26 prior to the expiration of the time period approved for each circuit, the Applicant may
27 request that the Commission extend either time limitation.
28

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2 2. In the event that the Project requires an extension of the terms of this
3 Certificate prior to completion of construction, the Applicant shall file such time extension
4 request at least one hundred and eighty (180) days prior to the expiration of the Certificate.
5 The Applicant shall use reasonable means to promptly notify Pinal County, the Arizona
6 Department of Transportation ("ADOT "), ASLD, the City of Eloy, the City of Coolidge,
7 and all landowners and residents within a one (1) mile radius of the centerline of the
8 Project, all persons who made public comment at this proceeding who provided a mailing
9 or email address, and all parties to this proceeding. The notification provided will include
10 the request and the date, time, and place of the hearing or open meetings during which the
11 Commission will consider the request for extension. Notification shall be no more than
12 three (3) business days after the Applicant is made aware of the hearing date or the open
13 meeting date.

14 3. During the development, construction, operation, maintenance, and
15 reclamation of the Project, the Applicant shall comply with all existing applicable air and
16 water pollution control standards and regulations, and with all existing applicable statutes,
17 ordinances, master plans and regulations of any governmental entity having jurisdiction
18 including, but not limited to, the United States of America, the State of Arizona, Pinal
19 County, the Cities of Eloy and Coolidge, and their agencies and subdivisions including,
20 but not limited to, the following:

- 21 A. All applicable land use regulations;
- 22 B. All applicable zoning stipulations and conditions including, but not limited
23 to, landscaping and dust control requirements;
- 24 C. All applicable water use, discharge and/or disposal requirements of the
25 ADWR and ADEQ;
- 26 D. All applicable noise control standards; and
- 27 E. All applicable regulations governing storage and handling of hazardous
28 chemicals and petroleum products.

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2 4. The Applicant shall obtain all approvals and permits necessary to construct,
3 operate and maintain the Project required by any governmental entity having jurisdiction
4 including, but not limited to, the United States of America, the State of Arizona, Pinal
5 County, the City of Eloy, the City of Coolidge, and their agencies and subdivisions.

6 5. The Applicant shall comply with the Arizona Game and Fish Department
7 (“AGFD”) guidelines for handling protected animal species, should any be encountered
8 during construction and operation of the Project, and shall consult with AGFD or U.S.
9 Fish and Wildlife Service, as appropriate, on other issues concerning wildlife. The
10 Applicant shall, to the extent feasible, follow AGFD’s recommendations found in the
11 Letter from AGFD, dated May 9, 2025, marked as Exhibit H-2a. The Applicant commits
12 to follow the mitigation measures on pages C-23 to C-24 and D-11 to D-12 of the
13 Application, as applicable and feasible.

14 6. The Applicant shall design the Project’s facilities to incorporate reasonable
15 measures to minimize electrocution of and impacts to avian species in accordance with
16 the Applicant’s avian protection program. Such measures will be accomplished through
17 incorporation of Avian Power Line Interaction Committee guidelines set forth in the
18 current versions of *Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines* and
19 *Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines* manuals.

20 7. The issuance of a Certificate by the Commission is a state action pursuant
21 to A.R.S. §§ 41-861 through 41-864, also known as the State Historic Preservation Act
22 (“State Act”). The Applicant shall consult with the Arizona State Historic Preservation
23 Office (“SHPO”) regarding the Project and its impact on historic properties. Construction
24 shall not commence until SHPO has had an opportunity to review and comment in
25 accordance with the State Act. The Applicant shall, in cooperation with the landowner,
26 complete a Class III cultural inventory of the portion of the final ROWs that have not been
27 previously surveyed to modern standards. If any historic property will be substantially
28 altered or demolished as a result of the construction or operation of the Project, the

1 Applicant shall take timely steps to make appropriate documentary recordation in
2 accordance with the standards established by SHPO.

3
4 8. If any archaeological, paleontological, or historical site or a significant
5 cultural object is discovered on state, county, or municipal land during the construction or
6 operation of the Project, the Applicant or its authorized representative shall promptly
7 report the discovery to the Director of the Arizona State Museum ("ASM"), and in
8 consultation with the Director, shall immediately take all reasonable steps to secure and
9 maintain the preservation of the discovery as required by A.R.S. § 41-844.

10 9. If human remains and/or funerary objects are encountered during the course
11 of any ground-disturbing activities related to the construction of the Project, the Applicant
12 shall cease work on the affected area of the Project and notify the Director of the ASM as
13 required by A.R.S. § 41-865 for private land, or as required by A.R.S. § 41-844 for state,
14 county, or municipal lands.

15 10. The Applicant shall comply with the notice and salvage requirements of the
16 Arizona Native Plant Law (A.R.S. §§ 3-901 *et seq.*) and shall, to the extent feasible,
17 minimize the destruction of native plants during the construction and operation of the
18 Project.

19 11. The Applicant shall make every reasonable effort to promptly investigate,
20 identify, and correct, on a case-specific basis, all complaints of interference with radio or
21 television signals from operation of the Project addressed in this Certificate and where
22 such interference is caused by the Project, take reasonable measures to mitigate such
23 interference. The Applicant shall maintain written records for a period of five (5) years of
24 all complaints of radio or television interference attributable to operations, together with
25 the corrective action taken in response to each complaint. All complaints shall be recorded
26 and shall include notation on the corrective action taken. Complaints not leading to
27 specific action or for which there was no resolution shall be noted and explained. Upon
28 request, the written records shall be provided to the Staff of the Commission. The

1 Applicant shall respond to complaints and implement appropriate mitigation measures. In
2 addition, the Project shall be evaluated on a regular basis so that damaged insulators or
3 other line materials that could cause interference are repaired or replaced in a timely
4 manner.

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6 12. Within one hundred twenty (120) days of the Commission's decision
7 approving this Certificate, the Applicant shall post signs in or near public rights-of-way,
8 to the extent authorized by law, reasonably adjacent to the Project giving notice of the
9 Project. Such signage shall be no smaller than a roadway sign. The sign shall advise:

- 10 A. The future site of the Project;
- 11 B. A phone number and website for public information regarding the Project;
- 12 and
- 13 C. Refer the public to the Docket;

14 Such signs shall be inspected at least once annually and, if necessary, be repaired or
15 replaced, and removed at the completion of construction.

16 The Applicant shall make every reasonable effort to communicate the decision
17 either approving or disapproving the Certificate in digital media.

18 13. Upon approval of this Certificate by the Commission, the Applicant shall
19 provide Pinal County, ADOT, ASLD, the City of Eloy, the City of Coolidge, and known
20 builders and developers who are building upon or developing land within one (1) miles of
21 the centerline of the Project with a written description, including the approximate height
22 and width measurements of all structure types of the Project. The written description shall
23 identify the location of the Project and contain a pictorial depiction of the facilities being
24 constructed. The Applicant shall also encourage the developers and builders to include
25 this information in their disclosure statements. Upon approval of this Certificate by the
26 Commission, the Applicant may commence construction of the Project.

27 14. The Applicant shall use non-specular conductor and non-reflective surfaces
28 for the transmission line structures on the Project.

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2 15. The Applicant shall be responsible for arranging that all field personnel
3 involved in the Project receive training as to proper ingress, egress, and on-site working
4 protocols for environmentally sensitive areas and activities. Contractors employing such
5 field personnel shall maintain records documenting that the personnel have received such
6 training.

7 16. The Applicant shall follow the most current Western Electricity
8 Coordinating Council ("WECC") and North American Electric Reliability Corporation
9 ("NERC") planning standards, as approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory
10 Commission ("FERC"), National Electrical Safety Code ("NESC") standards, and Federal
11 Aviation Administration ("FAA") regulations.

12 17. The Applicant shall provide Commission Staff with a copy of all completed
13 final relevant studies that show the reliability impact of the Project within thirty (30) days
14 of completion of such studies.

15 18. The Applicant shall participate in good faith in state and regional
16 transmission study forums to coordinate transmission expansion plans related to the
17 Project and to resolve transmission constraints in a timely manner.

18 19. When Project facilities are located parallel to and within one hundred (100)
19 feet of any existing natural gas or hazardous pipeline, the Applicant shall:

- 20 A. Ensure grounding and cathodic protection studies are performed to show
21 that the Project's location parallel to and within one hundred (100) feet of
22 such pipeline results in no material adverse impacts to the pipeline or to
23 public safety when both the pipeline and the Project are in operation. The
24 Applicant shall take appropriate steps to ensure that any material adverse
25 impacts are mitigated. The Applicant shall provide to Staff of the
26 Commission, and file with Docket Control, a copy of the studies performed
27 and additional mitigation, if any, that was implemented as part of its annual
28 compliance-certification letter; and

1
2 B. Ensure that studies are performed simulating an outage of the Project that
3 may be caused by the collocation of the Project parallel to and within one
4 hundred (100) feet of the existing natural gas or hazardous liquid pipeline.
5 The studies should either: (i) show that such simulated outage does not result
6 in customer outages; or (ii) include operating plans to minimize any
7 resulting customer outages. The Applicant shall provide a copy of the study
8 results to Staff of the Commission and file them with Docket Control as part
9 of the Applicant's annual compliance certification letter.

10 20. The designation of the corridor in this Certificate, as shown in **Exhibit A**,
11 does not authorize ROWs greater than 120 feet wide for the Project, nor does it grant the
12 Applicant exclusive rights within the corridor outside of the final designated transmission
13 ROW. The maximum height of the structures shall not exceed 200 feet.

14 21. The Applicant shall submit a compliance certification letter annually,
15 identifying progress made with respect to the current status of each condition contained
16 in this Certificate. The letter shall be submitted to the Commission's Docket Control
17 commencing on December 1, 2026. Attached to each certification letter shall be
18 documentation explaining how compliance with each condition was achieved. Copies of
19 each letter, along with the corresponding documentation, shall be submitted to the Arizona
20 Attorney General's Office. With respect to the Project, the requirement for the compliance
21 letter shall expire on the date the second circuit of the Project is placed into operation.
22 Notification of such filing with Docket Control shall be made to Pinal County, ADOT,
23 ASLD, the City of Eloy, the City of Coolidge, all parties to this Docket, and all parties
24 who made a limited appearance in this Docket.

25 22. The Applicant shall provide a copy of this Certificate to Pinal County,
26 ADOT, ASLD, the City of Eloy, and the City of Coolidge.

27 23. Any transfer or assignment of this Certificate shall require the assignee or
28 successor to assume, in writing, all responsibilities of the Applicant listed in this

1 Certificate and its conditions as required by A.R.S. § 40-360.08(A) and Rule R14-3-
2 213(F) of the Arizona Administrative Code.

3
4 24. In the event the Applicant, its assignee, or successor, seeks to modify the
5 Certificate terms at the Commission, it shall provide copies of such request to Pinal
6 County, ADOT, ASLD, the City of Eloy, the City of Coolidge, and all parties to this
7 Docket, and all parties who made a limited appearance in this Docket.

8 25. The Certificate Conditions shall be binding on Applicant, its successors,
9 assignee(s) and transferees, and any affiliates, agents, or lessees of the Applicant who have
10 a contractual relationship with the Applicant concerning the construction, operation,
11 maintenance, or reclamation of the Project. The Applicant shall provide in any
12 agreement(s) or lease(s) pertaining to the Project that the contracting parties and/or
13 lessee(s) shall be responsible for compliance with the Conditions set forth herein, and the
14 Applicant's responsibilities with respect to compliance with such Conditions shall not
15 cease or be abated by reason of the fact that the Applicant is not in control of or responsible
16 for the operation and maintenance of the Project facilities.

17 **FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

18 This Certificate incorporates the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of
19 Law:

20 1. The Project aids the State and the Southwest Region of the United States in
21 meeting the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power.

22 2. When constructed in compliance with the conditions imposed in this
23 Certificate, the Project aids the State, preserving a safe and reliable electric transmission
24 system.

25 3. During the course of the hearing, the Committee considered evidence on the
26 environmental compatibility of the Project as required by A.R.S. §§ 40-360 *et seq.*

27 4. The Project and the conditions placed on the Project in this Certificate
28 effectively minimize the impact of the Project on the environment and ecology of the State.

1
2 5. The Conditions placed on the Project in this Certificate resolve matters
3 concerning balancing the need for the Project with its impact on the environment and
4 ecology of the State arising during the course of the proceedings and, as such, serve as
5 findings and conclusions on such matters.

6 6. The Project is in the public interest because the Project's contribution to
7 meeting the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power
8 outweighs the minimized impact of the Project on the environment and ecology of the
9 State.

10
11 DATED this 17th day of September, 2025.

12 THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT AND
13 TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE

14 

15
16 By: _____
17 Adam Stafford, Chairman

1 Original e-filed this 17th day of September, 2025 with:

2 Docket Control Arizona Corporation Commission
3 1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

4 Copy of the above was e-mailed
5 this 17th day of September, 2025 to:

6 Legal Division
7 ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
8 1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007
9 legaldiv@azcc.gov

10 Utilities Division
11 ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
12 1200 West Washington Street
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14 Pinnacle West Capital Corporation
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and

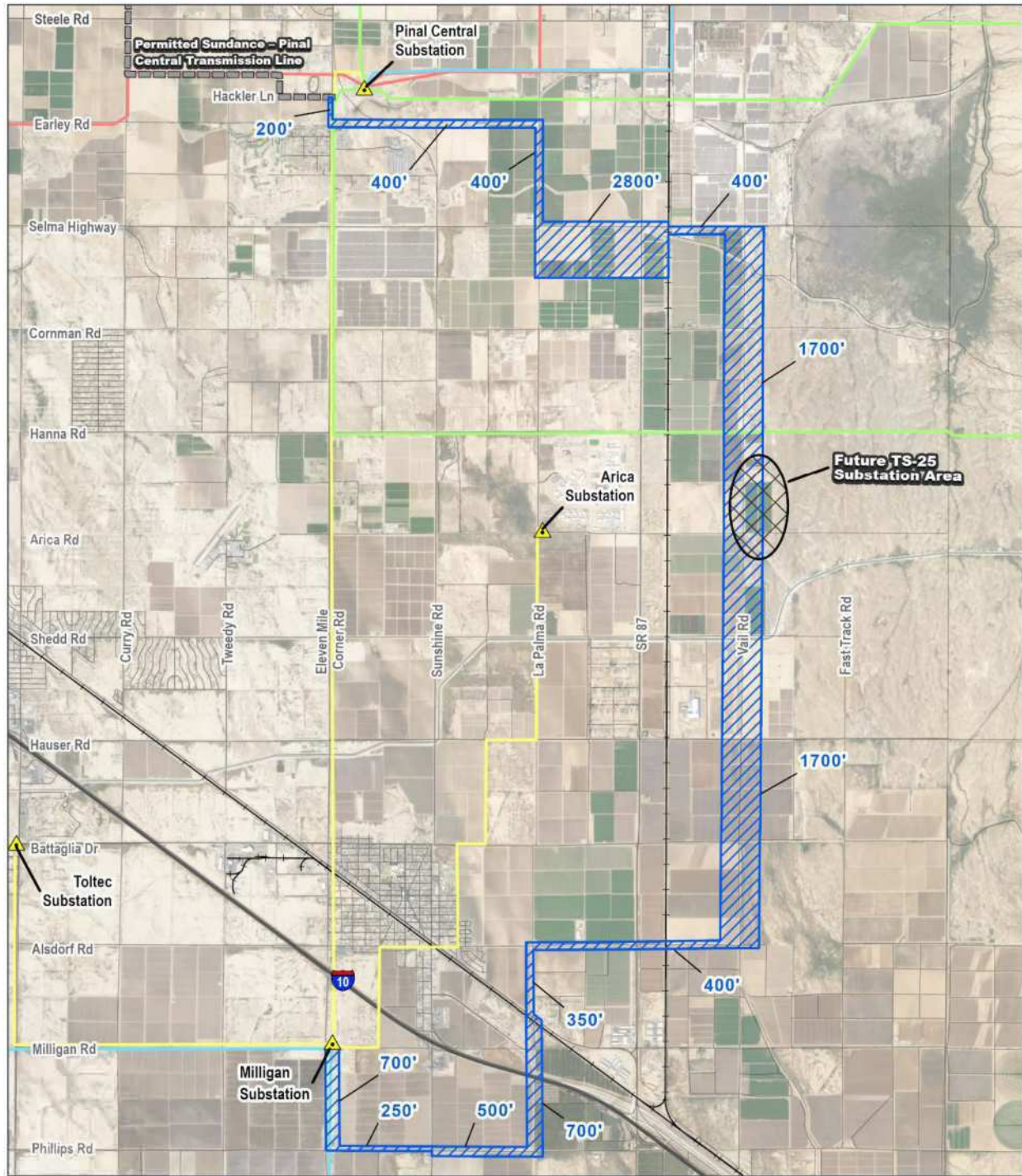
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21 Counsel for Applicant Arizona Public Service Company

22 Lisa L. Glennie
23 Glennie Reporting Services, LLC
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24 admin@glennie-reporting.com
Court Reporter

25 T. Brewer
26 CEC 247

Exhibit A



APS PINAL ELECTRICAL
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
**Updated Project
Corridor**



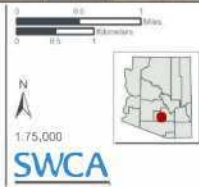
Project Features
 Project Corridor

Reference Features
 Existing Substation
 Road
 Interstate
 Railroad

Existing Transmission Lines *
 69kV Transmission Line
 115kV Transmission Line
 230kV Transmission Line
 500kV Transmission Line
 * Various owners

Pinal County, AZ
 NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N
 32 79887N 111 53632W

Base Map: Esri ArcGIS Online
 Accessed August 2020
 Metadata: 5/16/2020
 Project No: 77387
 Layout: EEC Project Corridor
 App: 77387_CEO_Typing



Pinal Electrical Improvement Project
Corridor Description

Beginning at the southwest corner of Eleven Mile Corner Road and Hackler Lane with a 200-foot-wide corridor along the west side of Eleven Mile Corner Road, heading south with its east boundary coincident with the centerline of Eleven Mile Corner Road, approximately 0.25 mile, to the centerline of the Earley Road alignment.

At this point the corridor widens to 400 feet, including 200 feet on each side of the centerline of Earley Road/Earley Road alignment, and heads east approximately two (2) miles to the centerline of La Palma Road.

The corridor remains 400 feet wide, including 200 feet on each side of the centerline of La Palma Road, and heads south approximately one (1) mile to the centerline of Selma Highway

At this point the corridor widens to 2,800 feet, including 250 feet on the north side and 2,550 feet on the south side of the centerline of Selma Highway, as it heads east approximately 1.25 miles to the centerline of the Union Pacific Railroad.

The corridor then narrows to 400 feet as it continues east along the south side of Selma Highway, with its northern boundary coincident with the centerline of Selma Highway, approximately 0.75 miles to the center of the Vail Road alignment.

At this point the corridor widens to 1,700 feet, including 1,000 feet on the west side and 700 feet on the east side of the centerline of the Vail Road alignment, as it proceeds south approximately seven (7) miles to the centerline of Alsdorf Road. The intent for the 1,700-foot width of this portion of the corridor is to encompass and extend approximately 100 feet beyond the westerly and easterly boundaries of the 1,500-foot-wide Arizona Department of Transportation North/South Corridor.

The corridor then narrows to 400 feet, including 200 feet on each side of the centerline of Alsdorf Road, and heads west approximately two (2) miles to the centerline of La Palma Road.

The corridor then narrows to 350 feet as it proceeds south along the west side of La Palma Road, with its eastern boundary coincident with the centerline of La Palma Road, approximately 0.68 miles to a point approximately 150 feet north of the centerline of Frontier Street/Casa Grande Picacho Highway.

The corridor then widens to 700 feet, including 350 feet on each side of the centerline of La Palma Road/La Palma Road alignment, as it proceeds south approximately 1.32 miles, crossing the Union Pacific Railroad and Interstate 10, to the centerline of Phillips Road

At this point the corridor narrows to 500 feet, including 250 feet on each side of the centerline of Phillips Road, and heads west approximately one (1) mile to the centerline of Sunshine Boulevard.

The corridor then narrows to 250 feet as it continues west along the north side of Phillips Road, with its southern boundary coincident with the centerline of Phillips Road, approximately one (1) mile to the centerline of Eleven Mile Corner Road.

The corridor then widens to 700 feet as it heads north along the east side of Eleven Mile Corner Road, with its west boundary coincident with the centerline of Eleven Mile Corner Road, approximately one (1) mile, to a point of terminus at the centerline of Milligan Road.