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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS

JIM O'CONNOR – CHAIRMAN
LEA MÁRQUEZ PETERSON
ANNA TOVAR
KEVIN THOMPSON
NICK MYERS

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

APR 17 2023

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JM

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 CONSTRUCTION OF AN APPROXIMATELY 0.6 MILE 500 KILOVOLT (KV) INTERCONNECTION TRANSMISSION LINE AND AMENDING CEC 135 TO AUTHORIZE USE OF A NEW TRANSMISSION STRUCTURE TYPE THAT WILL CONTACT THE PROVING GROUND SOLAR+STORAGE PROJECT TO THE HOODOO WASH SWITCHYARD LOCATED NEAR DATELAND, ARIZONA WITHIN UNINCORPORATED YUMA COUNTY, ARIZONA.

DOCKET NO. L-00000DA-23-0011-00214

CASE NO. 214

DECISION NO. 78914

ORDER

April 11, 2023
Open Meeting
Phoenix, Arizona

BY THE COMMISSION:

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360, *et seq.*, after due consideration of all relevant matters, the Arizona Corporation Commission (“Commission”) finds and concludes that the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (“CEC”) issued by the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee (“Siting Committee”) is hereby approved as granted by this Order.

The Commission, in reaching its decision, has balanced all relevant matters in the broad public interest, including the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power

1 with the desire to minimize the effect thereof on the environment and ecology of this state, and finds
2 that granting the Project a CEC is in the public interest.

3 The Commission further finds and concludes that in balancing the broad public interest in this
4 matter:

- 5 1. The Project is in the public interest because it aids the state in meeting the need for an
6 adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power.
- 7 2. In balancing the need for the Project with its effect on the environment and ecology of the
8 state, the conditions placed on the CEC effectively minimize its impact on the
9 environment and ecology of the state.
- 10 3. The conditions placed on the CEC resolve matters concerning the need for the Project and
11 its impact on the environment and ecology of the state raised during the course of
12 proceedings and, as such, serve as the findings on the matters raised.
- 13 4. In light of these conditions, the balancing in the broad public interest results in favor of
14 granting the CEC.

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1 THE CEC ISSUED BY THE SITING COMMITTEE IS INCORPORATED
2 HEREIN AND IS APPROVED BY ORDER OF THE
3 ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

4 **EXCUSED**

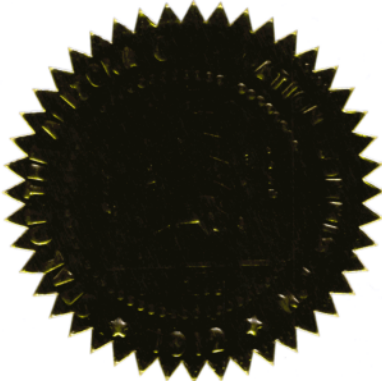
5 CHAIRMAN O'CONNOR

6 *Lea Marquez Peterson*
7 COMMISSIONER MARQUEZ PETERSON

8 *Anna Tovar*
9 COMMISSIONER TOVAR

10 *Ken Thompson*
11 COMMISSIONER THOMPSON

12 *WJ Myers*
13 COMMISSIONER MYERS



14 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, DOUGLAS R. CLARK,
15 Executive Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission,
16 have hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this
17 Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix,
18 this 17th day of April, 2023.

19 *Douglas R. Clark*
20 Douglas R. Clark,
21 Executive Director

22 DISSENT: _____

23 DISSENT: _____

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

3 IN THE MATTER OF THE
4 APPLICATION OF ARIZONA PUBLIC
5 SERVICE COMPANY, IN
6 CONFORMANCE WITH THE
7 REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA
8 REVISED STATUTES 40-360, ET SEQ.,
9 FOR A CERTIFICATE OF
10 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY
11 AUTHORIZING CONSTRUCTION OF
12 AN APPROXIMATELY 0.6 MILE 500
13 KILOVOLT (KV) INTERCONNECTION
14 TRANSMISSION LINE AND
15 AMENDING CEC 135 TO AUTHORIZE
16 USE OF A NEW TRANSMISSION
17 STRUCTURE TYPE THAT WILL
18 CONNECT THE PROVING GROUND
19 SOLAR+STORAGE PROJECT TO THE
20 HOODOO WASH SWITCHYARD
21 LOCATED NEAR DATELAND,
22 ARIZONA WITHIN UNINCORPORATED
23 YUMA COUNTY, ARIZONA.

DOCKET NO. L-00000D-23-0011-00214

Case No. 214

**CERTIFICATE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY**

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

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16 **A. INTRODUCTION.**

17 Pursuant to notice given as provided by law, the Arizona Power Plant and
18 Transmission Line Siting Committee (Committee) held a public hearing on February
19 13, 2023 through February 14, 2023 in Yuma, Arizona, in conformance with the
20 requirements of Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) §§ 40.360, *et seq.*, for the purpose of
21 receiving evidence and deliberating on the application (Application) of Arizona Public
22 Service Company (APS or Applicant) for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility
23 (Certificate) in the above-captioned case.

24 The following members and designees of members of the Committee were
25 present at one or more of the hearing days for the evidentiary presentations, public
26 comment, and/or the deliberations:
27
28

1	Paul A. Katz	Chairman, Designee for Arizona Attorney General Kris Mayes
2	Gabriela Saucedo Mercer	Designee of the Chairman, Arizona Corporation Commission (Commission)
3		
4	Leonard C. Drago	Designee for Director, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
5	David French	Designee for Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources
6		
7	Mary Hamway	Appointed Member, representing incorporated cities and towns
8	Rick Grinnell	Appointed Member, representing counties
9	James Palmer	Appointed Member, representing agricultural interests
10	Margaret "Toby" Little	Appointed Member, representing the general public
11		

12 The Applicant was represented by Linda J. Benally of Pinnacle West Capital
 13 Corporation and Matt Derstine of Snell & Wilmer, LLP. Agua Caliente Solar, LLC
 14 through counsel Christopher D. Thomas of Perkins Coie, LLP made a limited
 15 appearance.

16 At the conclusion of the hearing, the Committee, after considering the
 17 (i) Application, (ii) evidence, testimony and exhibits presented by Applicant, and
 18 (iii) comments of the public, and being advised of the legal requirements of A.R.S.
 19 §§ 40-360 through 40-360.13, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted 8 to 0 grant
 20 the Applicant, its successors and assignees, this Certificate for construction of the 500kV
 21 Interconnection Project that includes the amendment of CEC 135¹ all as described below
 22 (the Interconnection Project).

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 26 ¹ On January 6, 2023, APS filed its Notice of Filing Application for a Certificate of
 27 Environmental Compatibility for the Proving Ground 500kV Interconnection Transmission Line
 28 Project That Includes Request to Amend Decision No. 74206 to Allow Co-Location of New
 500kV Line with HANG2 Line in ACC Docket No. L-00000D-07-0566-00135.

1 **B. PROJECT OVERVIEW.**

2 The Interconnection Project consists of a 500kV generation intertie transmission
3 line that will connect APS's planned Proving Ground Solar+Storage Project (Solar
4 Project) to the regional electric grid at the existing Hoodoo Wash Switchyard.² The
5 Solar Project is a renewable energy development that includes a planned 250 megawatt
6 (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility with battery storage, double-circuit 69kV lead
7 lines, and associated step-up substations. The Interconnection Project will extend
8 approximately 3,000 feet from the Solar Project's planned 69kV step-up substation to
9 the Hoodoo Wash Switchyard.

10 The Interconnection Project will be constructed adjacent to or within a previously
11 established utility corridor in a relatively remote area of unincorporated Yuma County,
12 approximately 10 miles north of Dateland, Arizona. Approximately 1,600 feet of the
13 Interconnection Project will be on federal land administered by the Bureau of Land
14 Management (BLM) and within a BLM-utility corridor. The remainder of the
15 Interconnection Project traverses privately owned land.

16 The Interconnection Project will utilize a 200 foot wide right-of-way and a map
17 and corridor description are attached as **Exhibit A**.

18 **C. CEC AMENDMENT**

19 A segment of the Interconnection Project will be co-located with the existing
20 500kV Hassayampa-North Gila #2 transmission line (HANG2), which was authorized in
21 Decision No. 70127 and modified in Decision No. 74206 (CEC 135). Co-locating the
22 Interconnection Project with HANG2 requires the use of two double-circuit structures
23 and relocating a short segment of HANG2 from its existing alignment all within an
24 approximately 2,000 foot segment of HANG2.

25 Accordingly, the approval of the "Interconnection Project" as granted herein shall
26

27 ² Hoodoo Wash Switchyard is jointly owned by APS, Imperial Irrigation District (IID), and San
28 Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E). APS is the Operating Agent for the switchyard.

