BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE

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

Docket No.: L-00000D-23-0011-00214

Case No. 214

NOTICE OF FILING CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY

RECEIVED

AZ CORP COMMISSION '
DOCKET COMMISSION '

Paul A. Katz, designee of the Attorney General of Arizona, Mark Brnovich, as Chairman and Presiding Officer of the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee, gives notice of a separately filed Certificate of Environmental Compatibility with Docket Control of the Arizona Corporation Commission.

DATED this 17⁷ day of February, 2023.

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

FEB 17 2023

DOCKETED BY

Paul A. Katz, Chairman

Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee

Assistant Attorney General

Paul.Katz@azag.gov

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1	Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-3-204,
2	the Original and 26 copies were
	filed this day of February, 2023 with:
3	
4	Docket Control
	Arizona Corporation Commission
5	1200 W. Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007
6	Filoelix, AZ 83007
7	Copy of the above was mailed
	this / 7 day of February, 2023 to:
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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 SEO., 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 CONNECT THE PROVING GROUND SOLAR+STORAGE PROJECT TO THE

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

Case No. 214

CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

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INTRODUCTION. A.

HOODOO WASH SWITCHYARD LOCATED NEAR DATELAND,

YUMA COUNTY, ARIZONA.

ARIZONA WITHIN UNINCORPORATED

Pursuant to notice given as provided by law, the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee (Committee) held a public hearing on February 13, 2023 through February 14, 2023 in Yuma, 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 (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 the deliberations:

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
6	w m - water	Resources
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 repre	sented by Linda J. Benally of Pinnacle West Capital

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

At the conclusion of the hearing, the Committee, after considering the (i) Application, (ii) evidence, testimony and exhibits presented by 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 8 to 0 grant the Applicant, its successors and assignees, this Certificate for construction of the 500kV Interconnection Project that includes the amendment of CEC 135¹ all as described below (the Interconnection Project).

¹ On January 6, 2023, APS filed its Notice of Filing Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility for the Proving Ground 500kV Interconnection Transmission Line 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.

B. PROJECT OVERVIEW.

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

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

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

C. CEC AMENDMENT

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

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

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

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be deemed to include the amendment of CEC 135 pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-252 to specifically authorize the use of double-circuit structures to allow for the co-location of the Interconnection Project with HANG2 within the original corridor. The amendment of CEC 135 only relates to the co-location of the Interconnection Project with the HANG2 line as described above. All other terms and conditions of CEC 135 shall remain unchanged.

CONDITIONS

This Certificate is granted upon the following conditions:

- 1. This authorization to construct the Interconnection Project shall expire ten (10) years from the date this Certificate is approved by the Arizona Corporation Commission, with or without modification. Construction of the Interconnection Project shall be complete such that the Interconnection Project is in-service within this ten-year timeframe. However, prior to the expiration of the time period, the Applicant may request that the Commission extend the time limitation.
- 2. In the event that the Interconnection Project requires an extension of the term(s) of this Certificate prior to completion of construction, the Applicant shall file such time extension request at least one hundred and eighty (180) days prior to the expiration of the Certificate. The Applicant shall use reasonable means to promptly notify the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD), the BLM, the Board of Supervisors for Yuma County, all landowners and residents within a two (2) mile radius of the centerline of the Interconnection Project, all persons who made public comment at this proceeding who provided a mailing or email address, and all parties to this proceeding. The notification provided will include the request and the date, time, and place of the hearing or open meetings during which the Commission will consider the request for extension. Notification shall be no more than three (3) business days after the Applicant is made aware of the hearing date or the open meeting date.
- 3. During the development, construction, operation, maintenance and reclamation of the Interconnection Project, the Applicant shall comply with all existing

applicable air and water pollution control standards and regulations, and with all existing applicable statutes, ordinances, master plans and regulations of any governmental entity having jurisdiction including, but not limited to, the United States of America, the State of Arizona, the Board of Supervisors for Yuma County, and their agencies and subdivisions, including but not limited to the following:

- a. All applicable land use regulations;
- b. All applicable zoning stipulations and conditions including but not limited to landscaping and dust control requirements;
- All applicable water use, discharge and/or disposal requirements of the Arizona Department of Water Resources and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality;
- d. All applicable noise control standards; and
- e. All applicable regulations governing storage and handling of hazardous chemicals and petroleum products.
- 4. The Applicant shall obtain all approvals and permits necessary to construct, operate and maintain the Interconnection Project required by any governmental entity having jurisdiction including, but not limited to, the United States of America, the State of Arizona, the Board of Supervisors for Yuma County, and their agencies and subdivisions.
- 5. The Applicant shall comply with the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) guidelines for handling protected animal species, should any be encountered during construction and operation of the Interconnection Project, and shall consult with AGFD or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as appropriate, on other issues concerning wildlife.
- 6. The Applicant shall design the Interconnection Project's facilities to incorporate reasonable measures to minimize electrocution of and impacts to avian species in accordance with the Applicant's avian protection program. Such measures will be accomplished through incorporation of Avian Power Line Interaction Committee guidelines set forth in the current versions of Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines and Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines manuals.

- 7. The Applicant shall consult the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) with respect to cultural resources. If any archaeological, paleontological, or historical site or a significant cultural object is discovered on state, county or municipal land during the construction or operation of the Interconnection Project, the Applicant or its representative in charge shall promptly report the discovery to the Director of the Arizona State Museum (ASM), and in consultation with the Director, shall immediately take all reasonable steps to secure and maintain the preservation of the discovery as required by A.R.S. § 41-844.
- 8. The Applicant shall comply with the notice and salvage requirements of the Arizona Native Plant Law (A.R.S. §§ 3-901 *et seq.*) and shall, to the extent feasible, minimize the destruction of native plants during the construction and operation of the Interconnection Project.
- 9. The Applicant shall make every reasonable effort to promptly investigate, identify and correct, on a case-specific basis, all complaints of interference with radio or television signals from operation of the Interconnection Project addressed in this Certificate and where such interference is caused by the Interconnection Project take reasonable measures to mitigate such interference. The Applicant shall maintain written records for a period of five (5) years of all complaints of radio or television interference attributable to operations, together with the corrective action taken in response to each complaint. All complaints shall be recorded to include notation on the corrective action taken. Complaints not leading to a specific action or for which there was no resolution shall be noted and explained. Upon request, the written records shall be provided to the Staff of the Commission. The Applicant shall respond to complaints and implement appropriate mitigation measures. In addition, the Interconnection Project shall be evaluated on a regular basis so that damaged insulators or other line materials that could cause interference are repaired or replaced in a timely manner.
- 10. If human remains and/or funerary objects are encountered during the course of any ground-disturbing activities related to the construction or maintenance of

the Interconnection Project, the Applicant shall cease work on the affected area of the Interconnection Project and notify the Director of the ASM as required by A.R.S. § 41-865 for private land, or as required by A.R.S. § 41-844 for state, county, or municipal lands.

- 11. Within one hundred twenty (120) days of the Commission's decision approving this Certificate, the Applicant shall post signs in or near public rights-of-way, to the extent authorized by law, reasonably adjacent to the Interconnection Project giving notice of the Interconnection Project. Such signage shall be no smaller than a roadway sign. The signs shall advise:
 - a. Future site of the Interconnection Project;
 - b. A phone number and website for public information regarding the Interconnection Project; and
 - c. Refer the Public to the Docket:

https://edocket.azcc.gov/Search/Docket-Search

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

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

12. Within ninety (90) days after approval of this Certificate by the Commission, the Applicant shall provide ASLD, BLM, the Board of Supervisors for Yuma County, and known builders and developers who are building upon or developing land within one (1) mile of the due centerline of the Interconnection Project with a written description, including the approximate height and width measurements of all structure types, of the Interconnection Project. The written description shall identify the location of the Interconnection Project and contain a pictorial depiction of the facilities being constructed. The Applicant shall also encourage the developers and builders to include this information in their disclosure statements. Upon approval of this Certificate

by the Commission, the Applicant may commence construction of the Interconnection Project.

- 13. The Applicant shall use non-specular conductor and non-reflective surfaces for the transmission line structures on the Interconnection Project.
- 14. Applicant shall be responsible for arranging that all field personnel involved in the Interconnection Project receive training as to proper ingress, egress, and on-site working protocol for environmentally sensitive areas and activities. Contractors employing such field personnel shall maintain records documenting that the personnel have received such training.
- 15. The Applicant shall follow the most current Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) and North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) planning standards, as approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) standards, and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations.
- 16. The Applicant shall participate in good faith in state and regional transmission study forums to coordinate transmission expansion plans related to the Interconnection Project and to resolve transmission constraints in a timely manner.
- 17. When Interconnection Project facilities are located parallel to and within one hundred (100) feet of any existing natural gas or hazardous pipeline, the Applicant shall:
 - a. Ensure grounding and cathodic protection studies are performed to show that the Interconnection Project's location parallel to and within one hundred (100) feet of such pipeline results in no material adverse impacts to the pipeline or to public safety when both the pipeline and the Project are in operation. The Applicant shall take appropriate steps to ensure that any material adverse impacts are mitigated. The Applicant shall provide to Staff of the Commission, and file with Docket Control, a copy of the studies performed and additional mitigation, if any, that was implemented

as part of its annual compliance-certification letter; and

- b. Ensure that studies are performed simulating an outage of the Interconnection Project that may be caused by the collocation of the Interconnection Project parallel to and within one hundred (100) feet of the existing natural gas or hazardous liquid pipeline. The studies should either: (i) show that such simulated outage does not result in customer outages; or (ii) include operating plans to minimize any resulting customer outages. The Applicant shall provide a copy of the study results to Staff of the Commission and file them with Docket Control as part of the Applicant's annual compliance certification letter.
- 18. The Applicant shall submit a compliance certification letter annually, identifying progress made with respect to each condition contained in this Certificate, including which conditions have been met. The letter shall be submitted to Commission's Docket Control commencing on December 1, 2023. Attached to each certification letter shall be documentation explaining how compliance with each condition was achieved. Copies of each letter, along with the corresponding documentation, shall be submitted to the Arizona Attorney General's Office. With respect to the Interconnection Project, the requirement for the compliance letter shall expire on the date the Interconnection Project is placed into operation. Notification of such filing with Docket Control shall be made to ASLD, BLM, the Board of Supervisors for Yuma, all parties to this Docket, and all parties who made a limited appearance in this Docket.
- The Applicant shall provide a copy of this Certificate to ASLD, BLM, and the Board of Supervisors for Yuma County.
- 20. Any transfer or assignment of this Certificate shall require the assignee or successor to assume, in writing, all responsibilities of the Applicant listed in this Certificate and its conditions as required by A.R.S. § 40-360.08(A) and R14-3-213(F) of the Arizona Administrative Code.

- 21. In the event the Applicant, its assignee, or successor, seeks to modify the Certificate terms at the Commission, it shall provide copies of such request to ASLD, BLM, the Board of Supervisors for Yuma County, all parties to this Docket, and all parties who made a limited appearance in this Docket.
- 22. The Certificate Conditions shall be binding on the Applicant, its successors, assignee(s) and transferees and any affiliates, agents, or lessees of the Applicant who have a contractual relationship with the Applicant concerning the construction, operation, maintenance or reclamation of the Interconnection Project. The Applicant shall provide in any agreement(s) or lease(s) pertaining to the Interconnection Project that the contracting parties and/or lessee(s) shall be responsible for compliance with the Conditions set forth herein, and the Applicant's responsibilities with respect to compliance with such Conditions shall not cease or be abated by reason of the fact that the Applicant is not in control of or responsible for operation and maintenance of the Interconnection Project facilities.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

- The Interconnection Project including the amendment of CEC 135 aids the state and the southwest region of the United States in meeting the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of renewable electric power.
- The Interconnection Project, including the amendment of CEC 135, aids the state, preserving a safe and reliable electric transmission system.
- During the course of the hearing, the Committee considered evidence on the environmental compatibility on the Interconnection Project as required by A.R.S. § 40-360 et seq. and A.R.S. § 40-252.
- 4. The Interconnection Project, including the amendment of CEC 135, when combined with the conditions contained in this Certificate effectively minimize the impact of the Interconnection Project on the environment and ecology of the state.

- 5. The conditions placed on the Interconnection Project, including the amendment of CEC 135, by this Certificate resolve matters concerning balancing the need for the Interconnection Project with its impact on the environment and ecology of the state arising during the course of the proceedings, and, as such, serve as findings and conclusions on such matters.
- 6. The Interconnection Project including the amendment of CEC 135 is in the public interest because the Interconnection Project's contribution to meeting the need for an adequate, economical and reliable supply of electric power outweighs the minimized impact of the Interconnection Project on the environment and ecology of the state.

DATED this 17th day of February 2023.

THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING

COMMITTEE

Paul A. Katz, Chairman

1	Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-3-204, the		
2	Original and 25 copies were filed this day of February, 2023 with:		
3	Utilities Division - Docket Control		
4	Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington St. Phoenix, Arizona 85007		
5			
6	Copies of the above mailed/emailed this day of February 2023 to:		
7	Robin Mitchell		
8	Director & Chief Counsel - Legal Arizona Corporation Commission		
9	1200 W. Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007 RMitchell@azcc.gov		
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25	Phoenix, Arizona 85020 admin@glennie-reporting.com		
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27	Isl will gen		

EXHIBIT A

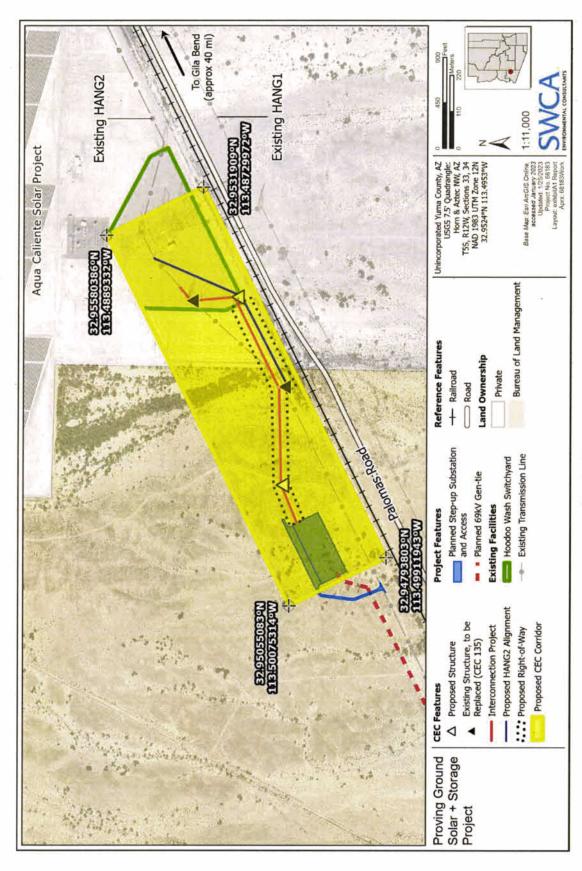
PROVING GROUND 500KV INTERCONNECTION TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY DOCKET NO. L-00000D-23-0011-00214

CEC CORRIDOR DESCRIPTION

The rectangular CEC corridor is oriented northeast-southwest, with dimensions of 4,100 feet by 1,075 feet. Specifically, the perimeter of the requested corridor has the following characteristics, with the latitude and longitude of individual points expressed in decimal degrees:

- Beginning at coordinates (32.94793803 degrees north, 113.49911943 degrees west), immediately north of the Union Pacific Railroad Company right-of-way, proceeding northeast, parallel to and north of the railroad right-of-way, to the coordinates (32.9531909 degrees north, 113.48729972 degrees west).
- Thence proceeding north-northwest to the northern most point of the APS Hoodoo Wash Switchyard at the coordinates (32.95580386 degrees north, 113.4889332 degrees west).
- Thence proceeding southwest to the coordinates (32.95055083 degrees north, 113.50075314 west).
- Thence proceeding south-southeast to the coordinates (32.94793803 degrees north, 113.49911943 degrees west), and Point of Beginning.



CEC Corridor