

Request for Comments Notice of Proposed Action

**Beehive Telephone Communication Site, Cave Mountain
USDA Forest Service – Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Ely Ranger District
White Pine County, Nevada
October 15, 2012**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Beehive Telephone is seeking a special use permit to authorize a communication facility located at the Cave Mountain communication site. The installation would include an equipment shelter, a propane generator on a concrete pad, a 1,000 gallon propane tank on a concrete pad, and a 40 foot tower to hold microwave dishes and other antennas. This site is needed to provide cable TV and broadband cable internet to residents of Ely.

PROJECT LOCATION

The communication site is located at T15N, 66E, Section 18 MDM on the west side of the Schell Creek Range about 15 miles southeast of Ely, NV.

WHY THIS LOCATION?

This is a very well established communication site with a number of other communication facilities and users. The current communication plan for the site was signed in 1996 and the site is designated in the current Humboldt Land and Resource Management Plan.

THE DECISION TO BE MADE

The decision to be made is whether or not to issue a Special Uses Permit to Beehive Telephone to install the proposed structures and communication equipment.

HOW WE WILL FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO

Based upon the comments we receive and the results of archeological, vegetation and wildlife on-site surveys we will determine the possible effects (positive and negative) of allowing the installation to occur.

HOW YOU CAN HELP US DECIDE WHAT TO DO

We ask that you think about this proposal and let us know if you support the project or if you have concerns and specifically what those concerns are. This comment/scoping period provides those interested in or affected by this proposal an opportunity to make their concerns known prior to any decision being made. Comments for this scoping period will be accepted through November 19, 2012.

In light of a recent court ruling (*Sequoia ForestKeeper v. Tidwell*, 11-cv-00679-LJO-DLB (E.D. Cal.)), the Forest Service will provide public notice, comment, and opportunity for administrative appeal for projects and activities documented with a "Decision Memo" (36 CFR 220.6(e)) until new instructions are issued by the Washington Office, or the Agency issues regulations addressing the Court's ruling. In addition, the Forest Service will prepare Decision Memos and offer notice, comment and appeal opportunities for timber sales and proposed approvals of oil or gas exploration and development activities that rely upon Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Only those who provide comment or express

interest in this proposal during this comment period will be eligible to appeal the decision pursuant to 36 CFR part 215 regulations.

HOW TO COMMENT AND TIMEFRAME

Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, oral, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days following the publication of this notice in the Ely Times, Ely NV. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this analysis. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. The regulations prohibit extending the length of the comment period. It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period. Written comments must be submitted to: Jose Noriega, District Ranger, Ely Ranger District 825 Ave. E Ely NV 89301. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 7:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Oral comments must be provided at the Responsible Official's office during normal business hours via telephone (775) 289-3031 or in person, or at an official agency function (i.e. public meeting) that is designed to elicit public comments. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, pdf, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc or .docx) to jnicholes@fs.fed.us. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to a comment, a verification of identity will be required for appeal eligibility. If using an electronic message, a scanned signature is one way to provide verification. Individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible to appeal must meet the information requirements of 36 CFR 215.6.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this project, will be available for public inspection, and released if requested under the Freedom of Information Act.

We want to hear from you ...

If you would like more information on this proposal or would like to submit a comment write or call:

Joshua Nicholes
Central Zone Special Uses
Ely Ranger District
825 Ave E
Ely, NV 89301
775-289-5145
jnicholes@fs.fed.us

*Ely Ranger District
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest*

Beehive Telephone Communication Site, Cave Mountain

Comment Form

We have provided this form for your convenience.

For your information: names and individuals commenting on Forest Service proposals may be released if requested under the Freedom of Information Act.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Here are my concerns, issues, and/or ideas about the Beehive Communication Site:

Please check all that apply...

_____ **I have information about the area that may be helpful in the decision.**

_____ **Feel free to contact me at _____.**

_____ **Please send me the final decision document.**

_____ **I have no further interest in this proposal and do not want to receive further mailings.**