



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Egan Field Office
HC33 Box 33500 (702 N. Industrial Way)
Ely, Nevada 89301-9408
http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/ely_field_office.html

In Reply Refer To:
2850 (NVL0100)
N-91846

FEB 14, 2013

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is beginning the public scoping process for an Environmental Assessment (EA) analyzing effects of the proposed Mt Wheeler Power Strawberry transmission line project. The proposed project will start at a connection point 6 miles north of Highway 892 (Strawberry Road) and Highway 50 (Eldorado Junction), approximately 53 miles west of Ely, Nevada (see attached map).

Mt. Wheeler Power is requesting authorization of a proposed overhead 69-kV transmission line right-of-way (ROW), including a maintenance road on the west side of the proposed ROW. The length of the transmission line is 7.32 miles (approximately 38,650 feet) long and 60 feet wide. The total proposed project area measures approximately 53 acres. The proposed ROW will be adjacent to an existing active 25-kV line. The proposed ROW will originate at the existing 69-kV Falcon Gondor transmission line and terminate at a pole-mounted switch near Eldorado Junction.

Mt. Wheeler Power is proposing to use direct burial self-supporting mono-pole wood structures approximately 50 to 55 feet in height. Each pole will have a perch protection placed on the top and will meet or exceed the National Electrical Safety Code and Rural Utilities Services requirements.

Tangent, angle and dead-end structures will be assembled and insulators will be attached to the pole. The poles will be erected with a boom/line truck to lift and set structure after it is assembled. The span length between the structures will be approximately 450 feet. Conductor height above the ground for the proposed 69-kV transmission line will be a minimum of 27 to 28 feet. The exact height of each structure will be governed by topography and safety requirements for conductor clearance.

It is anticipated that six to ten linemen will be on site during the construction of the proposed transmission line. The work force will decrease to what is required during the operation and maintenance period. It is anticipated that up to four personnel will be on site at any given time for operation and maintenance following the construction period.

As a representative of the public that has expressed interest in this type of project you are invited to submit written comments for this proposal. These comments will assist in the determination of issues and could help identify alternatives that should be considered for evaluation in the EA.

The BLM will use the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) public participation requirements to assist the agency in satisfying the public involvement requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (16 U.S.C. 470(f) pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3). The information about historic and cultural resources of value within the area potentially affected by the proposed action will assist the BLM in identifying and evaluating impacts to such resources in the context of both NEPA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Native American or individual concerns, including impacts and potential impacts to culturally valued areas, will be given due consideration.

Any written comments or issues concerning the proposed project that should be considered by BLM for evaluation in the EA should be submitted by March 28, 2013 to:

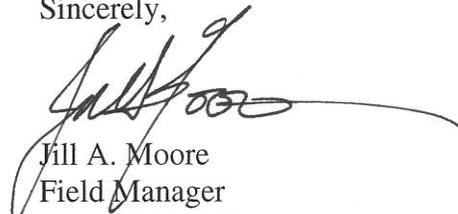
Bureau of Land Management
Attn: Stephanie Trujillo
HC 33, Box 33500
Ely, Nevada 89301

If you would like to remain on the mailing list for this project, please indicate this in your comments.

Before including address, phone number, email-address, or any other personal identifying information in your comments, be advised that your entire comment, including personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While individuals may request that the BLM withhold personal identifying information from public view, the BLM cannot guarantee it will be able to do so. If you wish us to withhold your personal information you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, available for public disclosure in their entirety.

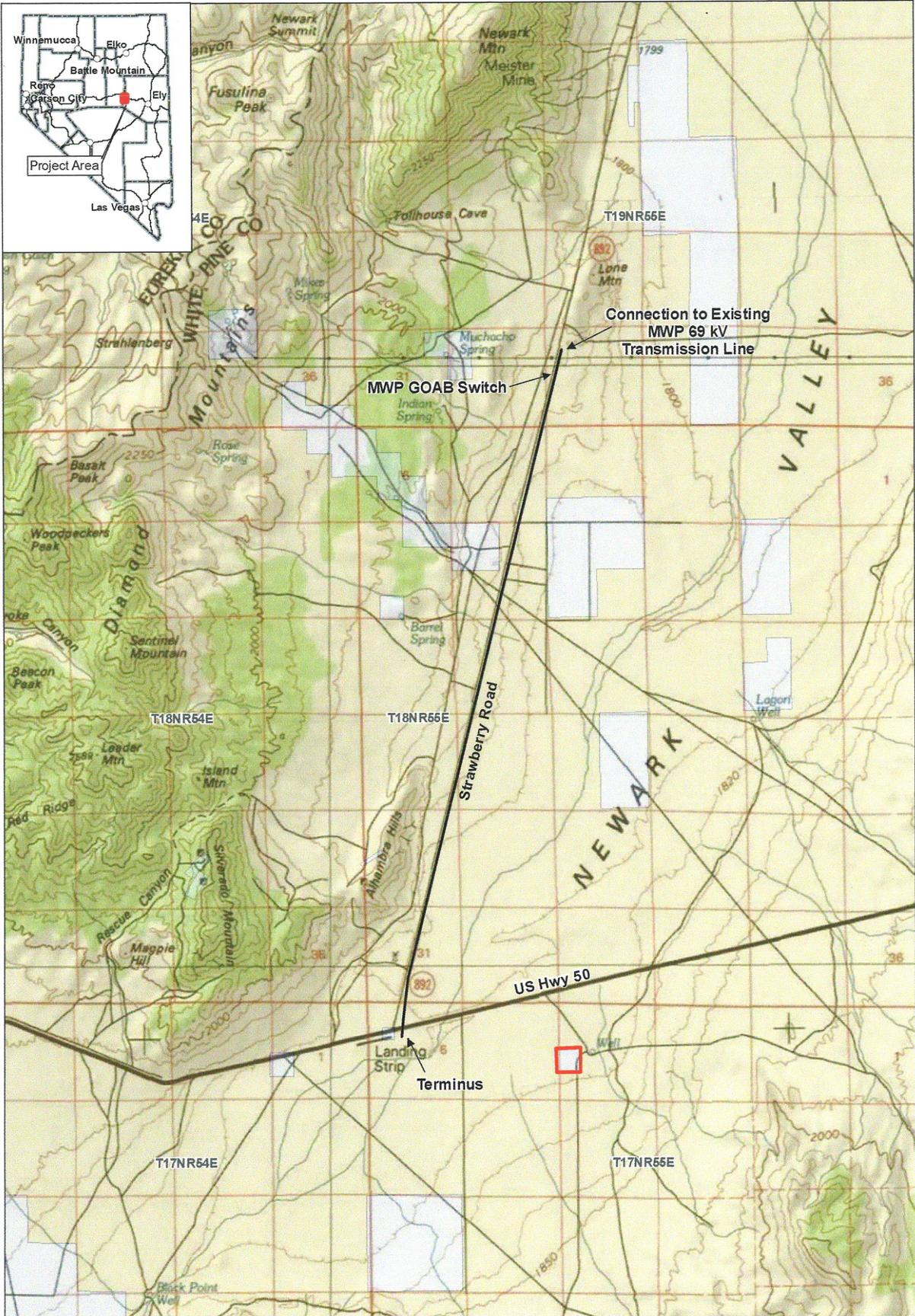
For further information concerning the Mt. Wheeler Power Strawberry Transmission Line project, please contact Stephanie Trujillo at (775) 289-1831, or strujill@blm.gov.

Sincerely,



Jill A. Moore
Field Manager
Egan Field Office

Enclosure



Explanation

- Proposed 69 kV Transmission Line
- ▣ Proposed Storage Laydown
- Land Status**
- ▨ Bureau of Land Management
- Private

0 2,000 4,000 6,000
Feet

Projection: UTM Zone 11 North, NAD83

MT. WHEELER POWER, INC.

STRAWBERRY 69 kV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT
Project Location and Land Status

Figure 1

Date: 10/08/2012 Drawn by: GSI
 Revision: Project No.: 2881
 Base Map: USGS 100k quad: Mt. Hamilton & Newark Lake
 File Name: 2881X.MW.Fig1.dwg Proj/Location/Status.mxd
 Environmentalists, Inc.