

Environmental Review Project Description and Site Assessment

Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) is required to assess the potential environmental impacts of any proposed interconnection in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. § 4321, *et seq.*, as amended (NEPA), and other environmental regulations. Any facility construction or interconnection necessary to provide transmission service will be subject to WAPA's General Requirements for Interconnection which can be found on the appropriate OASIS pages.

The following information is required for early evaluation of the project to support WAPA in its determination of the level of NEPA (e.g. Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment, or Environmental Impact Statement). If determined to be an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), WAPA shall select the Environmental Contractor.

Provide responses to the following for the Proposed Project Area (PPA) no later than 30 days after signing the Environmental Review Contract. The requested information should be available from existing planning efforts and should require minimal effort from the customer. Please provide the information in pdf and associated maps in GIS format.

Project Description

1. Project Name, Interconnection Number(s) (Queue Number), State, and County
2. Requested In-service date
3. Describe the Type of Interconnection (Generation, Load, and/or Transmission Line)
 - a. If Generation, provide Nameplate Generation Capacity and Average MW, including the Efficiency Rating, type of Generation to be constructed (combined cycle, base load, combustion turbine, or inverter-based resource (IBR) and fuel type)
 - b. If Load, provide estimated peak load and minimum load data including 10-year projected load growth and Power Factor
 - c. If Transmission, provide estimated line length and capacity or transformation capacity
4. Project location map including the following (list may not be all inclusive):
 - a. Location and acreage of Generation, Load, and/or Transmission Line Interconnection
 - b. Interconnection facilities and other project features to be constructed such as Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), meteorological towers, support buildings, transmission line(s), substation(s), access roads, telecommunications, other associated facilities, etc.
 - c. Aviation – public and private airports
 - d. Additional infrastructure in the project area – transmission lines, roads/highways, natural gas pipelines, communication towers, etc.
 - e. Land ownership (Federal, State, Private)
 - f. County boundaries

- g. Proposed Point of Interconnection(s) as determined through interconnection scoping process
- 5. Approximate number of residences within the PPA
- 6. Approximate number of residences within 2 miles of the PPA

Environmental Setting

- 1. Project Setting – geospatial data in Esri format including Landcover Types present (% Cropland, Grassland, etc.) and any resource studies to-date or ongoing (environmental constraints analysis conducted).
- 2. Wetlands (acreage) and Waters of the U.S. (feet/miles) – provide a map (overlay the Proposed Project layout)
- 3. Floodplains (acreage)
- 4. Geology and Soil – Prime or Unique Farmlands (acreage)

Biological Resources

- 1. USFWS Threatened and Endangered Species – provide IPaC results (current within 90 days)
- 2. State Listed Endangered and Threatened Species (if applicable)
- 3. Other Species of Concern (such as Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle, Greater Sage-Grouse, Gunnison Sage-Grouse, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Migratory Birds, etc.)
- 4. Plant Species of Concern (Sensitive and Special-Status)
- 5. Geospatial data in Esri format:
 - a) Critical Wildlife Concentration Areas – Important Bird Areas, Migration Pathways, Staging and Stopover Areas, Critical Habitats, Bat Hibernacula and Roost Habitat, Leks, etc.
 - b) Unbroken Grassland Assessment (if applicable)
 - c) High-priority Conservation Areas (if applicable)

Cultural Resources

- 1. Listed Historic Properties (NRHP database)
- 2. Tribal Lands
- 3. Available cultural surveys

Land Use

- 1. [Protected Areas](#)
- 2. Conservation Easements

Other Federal and State Approvals Associated with the Project that are Needed or Previously Completed

- 1. Federal Funding, if applicable
- 2. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead and level of CEQA (if applicable)
- 3. Rights of Way

County Regulations

1. Noise, visual, setbacks, permits, etc.

Public and Agency Scoping/Outreach Completed to Date and Relevant Issues Raised**Proponent-Committed Environmental Measures (PCEMs)****Technically and Economically Feasible Non-Federal Alternatives Considered in the Same Geographic Location**