

Signed:

**Gracia Hillman,**

*Commissioner, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.*

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## ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

### Sunshine Act; Notice of Virtual Public Forum for EAC Standards Board

**DATE & TIME:** Monday, May 3, 2010, 9 a.m. EDT through Friday, May 14, 2010, 9 p.m. EDT.

**PLACE:** EAC Standards Board Virtual Meeting Room at <http://www.eac.gov>.

Once at the main page of EAC's Web site, viewers should click the link to the Standards Board Virtual Meeting Room. The virtual meeting room will open on Monday, May 3, 2010, at 9 a.m. EDT and will close on Friday, May 14, 2010, at 9 p.m. EDT. The site will be available 24 hours per day during that 12-day period.

**PURPOSE:** The EAC Standards Board will review and provide comment on a draft version of the EAC Research Department's *Recounts and Contests* study. The draft version contains information about the laws and procedures each State uses to govern recounts, contests, and standards for what constitutes a valid vote. The study includes best practices that States use with respect to recounts and contests. The EAC Standards Board Virtual Meeting Room was established to enable the Standards Board to conduct business in an efficient manner in a public forum, including being able to review and discuss draft documents, when it is not feasible for an in-person board meeting. The Standards Board will not take any votes or propose any resolutions during the 12-day forum of May 3–May 14, 2010. Members will post comments about the draft version of the *Recounts and Contests* study.

This activity is open to the public. The public may view the proceedings of this special forum by visiting the EAC standards board virtual meeting room at <http://www.eac.gov> at any time between Monday, May 3, 2010, 9 a.m. EDT and Friday, May 14, 2010, 9 p.m. EDT. The public also may view *recounts and contests*, which will be posted on EAC's Web site beginning April 26, 2010. The public may file written statements to the EAC standards board at [standardsboard@eac.gov](mailto:standardsboard@eac.gov) and by copying Sharmili Edwards at [sedwards@eac.gov](mailto:sedwards@eac.gov). Data on EAC's Web site is accessible to visitors with disabilities and meets the requirements of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act.

**PERSON TO CONTACT FOR INFORMATION:** Bryan Whitener, Telephone: (202) 566-3100.

**Gineen Bresso Beach,**

*Commissioner, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Western Area Power Administration

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Maintenance and Vegetation Management Along Existing Western Area Power Administration Transmission Line Rights of Way on National Forest System Lands, Colorado, Utah, and Nebraska (DOE/EIS-0442)

**AGENCIES:** Western Area Power Administration, DOE; Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and to Conduct Scoping Meetings; Notice of Floodplain and Wetlands Involvement.

**SUMMARY:** Western Area Power Administration (Western) proposes to improve the way it manages vegetation along its rights-of-way (ROW) on National Forest System lands in the states of Colorado, Utah, and Nebraska. Implementing the proposal would include modifying existing United States Forest Service (Forest Service) authorizations or issuing new authorizations to accommodate Western's vegetation management proposal and maintenance of the electrical transmission facilities. Western and the FS will be joint lead agencies in the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) on the proposal in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) NEPA Implementing Procedures, and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA.

Western's need for agency action is to ensure that it can safely and reliably operate and maintain its existing electrical transmission facilities. Western must meet North American Electric Reliability Corporation's mandatory vegetation management and maintenance standards (FAC-003-1) in accordance with section 1211 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and industry standards. These industry standards are

designed to ensure the safe and reliable operation of the transmission system.

Portions of the proposed Project may affect floodplains and wetlands, so this Notice of Intent (NOI) also serves as a notice of proposed floodplain or wetland action, in accordance with DOE floodplain and wetland environmental review requirements.

**DATES:** This NOI begins the public scoping period. The public scoping period will close May 26, 2010. Western and the Forest Service will consider all electronic and written scoping comments that are received or postmarked by midnight May 26, 2010.

**ADDRESSES:** Western and the Forest Service will host public scoping meetings on Thursday, April 22, 2010, at the Ramada Plaza Denver North, 10 East 120th Avenue, Denver, CO 80233; Friday, April 23, 2010, at the Museum of Western Colorado, Whitman Educational Center, 248 S. 4th (4th and Ute), Grand Junction, CO 81501; and Monday, April 26, 2010, at the Uintah Basin Applied Technology College, 450 N. 2000 W., Vernal, UT 84078. Scoping meetings will be from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. The meetings will provide information to the public and gather comments from the public. The meetings will be informal, and attendees will be able to speak directly with Western and FS representatives about the proposal. Attendees may provide written comments at the public scoping meetings, or send them to James Hartman, Environmental Manager, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 3700, Loveland, CO 80539-3003, *e-mail: Western-FS-EIS@wapa.gov*.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on the proposal and the environmental review process, contact James Hartman at the above address. For general information on DOE's NEPA review process, contact Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance, GC-54, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0119, telephone (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756, facsimile (202) 586-7031. For information on the Forest Service role in this effort, please contact David Loomis, Regional Environmental Planner, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, U.S. Forest Service, 740 Simms St., Golden, CO 80401 (303) 275-5008.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Western is a Federal power marketing agency within the DOE that markets and delivers Federal wholesale electric power (principally hydroelectric power)