
Method One: Submit a request by email to the accreditationcommittees@ed.gov. Please do not send material directly to NACIQI members. Requests must be received by September 10, 2012, and include the subject line “Oral Comment Request: re (agency name).” The email must include the name, title, affiliation, mailing address, email address, telephone and facsimile numbers and Web site (if any) of the person/group requesting to speak. All individuals or groups submitting an advance request in accordance with this notice will be afforded an opportunity to speak for a minimum of three minutes each. Each request must concern the recognition of a single agency tentatively scheduled in this notice for review, be no more than one page (maximum), and must include:

1. The name, title, affiliation, mailing address, email address, telephone and facsimile numbers, and Web site (if any) of the person/group requesting to speak; and,

2. A brief summary of the principal points to be made during the oral presentation.

Method Two: Register at the meeting location on December 11 or December 12, 2012, to make an oral comment during the NACIQI’s deliberations concerning a particular agency scheduled for review that day. The requestor must provide his or her name, title, affiliation, mailing address, email address, telephone and facsimile numbers, and Web site (if any). A total of up to fifteen minutes during each agency review will be allotted for commenters who register on December 11 or December 12, 2012. Individuals or groups will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. If selected, each commenter may speak from three to five minutes, depending on the number of individuals or groups who signed up the day of the meeting.

If a person or group requests, in advance, to make comments they cannot also register for an oral presentation opportunity on December 11 or December 12, 2012. The oral comments made will become part of the official record and will be considered by the Department and NACIQI in their deliberations. Individuals and groups making oral presentations concerning scheduled agencies may not distribute written materials at the meeting.

Access to Records of the Meeting: The Department will post the official report of the meeting on the NACIQI Web site shortly after the meeting. Pursuant to the FACA, the public may also inspect the materials at 1990 K Street NW, Washington, DC, by emailing aslrecordsmanager@ed.gov or by calling (202) 219–7067 to schedule an appointment.

Reasonable Accommodations: The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you will need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the meeting (e.g., interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format), notify the contact person listed in this notice at least two weeks before the scheduled meeting date. Although we will attempt to meet a request received after that date, we may not be able to make available the requested auxiliary aid or service because of insufficient time to arrange it.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Electronic Access to this Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations is available via the Federal Digital System at: www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site you can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the Federal Register, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the Federal Register by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

David A. Bergeron,
Acting Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.
meeting agenda, as well as the staff analyses pertaining to the meeting will be posted on the Department of Education’s Web site prior to the meeting at http://www2.ed.gov/about/ bdscomm/list/ncfmea.html.

Reasonable Accommodations: The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you will need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the meeting (e.g., interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format), notify the contact person listed in this notice by September 28, 2012, although we will attempt to meet a request received after that date.


SUMMARY: DOE announces its decision to issue a Presidential permit to Energia Sierra Juarez U.S. Transmission, LLC (ESJ), to construct, operate, maintain, and connect a double-circuit, 230,000-volt (230-kV) electric transmission line across the U.S.-Mexico border in eastern San Diego County, California. The potential environmental impacts associated with the transmission line are analyzed in the Environmental Impact Statement for the Energia Sierra Juarez U.S. Transmission Line Project (DOE/EIS–0414). The transmission line would originate at San Diego Gas and Electric’s planned East County Substation and extend southward approximately 0.65 miles to the U.S. border with Mexico, near Jacumba, California, where it would cross the border and connect with a transmission line to be built in Mexico.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information on the Energia Sierra Juarez U.S. Transmission Line EIS, contact Brian Mills as indicated in the ADDRESSES section above. For general information on the DOE NEPA process, contact Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (GC–54), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585; by email at askNEPA@hq.doe.gov; or by facsimile at 202–586–7031.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Executive Order (E.O.) 10485 (September 9, 1953), as amended by E.O. 12038 (February 7, 1978), requires that a Presidential permit be issued by DOE before electricity transmission facilities may be constructed, operated, maintained, or connected at the U.S. border. DOE may issue or amend a permit if it determines that the permit is in the public interest and after obtaining favorable recommendations from the U.S. Departments of State and Defense. In determining whether issuance of a permit for a proposed action is in the public interest, DOE considers the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project, the project’s impact on electricity reliability by ascertaining whether the proposed project would adversely affect the operation of the U.S. electric power supply system under normal and contingency conditions, and any other factors that DOE considers relevant to the public interest.

On December 18, 2007, ESJ, a subsidiary of Sempra U.S. Gas and Power, applied to DOE for a Presidential permit to construct, operate, maintain, and connect either a single-circuit, 500-kv electric transmission line or a double-circuit 230-kv electric transmission line across the U.S.-Mexico border. The electric transmission line would originate at San Diego Gas and Electric’s planned ECO Substation in San Diego County where it would interconnect with the Imperial Valley-Miguel segment of the Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) 500-kv transmission line. The transmission line would extend approximately 0.65 miles southward, crossing the U.S.-Mexico border near Jacumba, California, then continue approximately 1 mile (1.6 km) to an interconnection point inside Mexico. The total length of the transmission line would be approximately 1.65 miles (2.65 km), 0.65 miles of which would be within the U.S. The proposed line would be constructed and owned by ESJ.

The ESJ transmission line project would connect to the planned 1,250 Megawatt (MW) ESJ Wind Project to be located in the general vicinity of La Rumorosa, Northern Baja California, Mexico. Delivery within California of the output of ESJ wind turbines in Mexico would be scheduled by the California Independent System Operator (CAISO).

Consultation

Under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, DOE has completed consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding impacts on Federally-listed threatened or endangered species in the area of the proposed project. Consultation under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act was on-going at the time the Final EIS was issued. Since then, DOE has completed consultation with the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) regarding potential impacts on historic properties, as confirmed in a June 29, 2012, letter of concurrence by California SHPO.