# LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET Tracking No. <u>0296-19</u>

DATE: September 25, 2019

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION; AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; APPROVING THE GRANT OF RIGHT-OF-WAY TO CONTINENTAL DIVIDE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., FOR THE ECHO CANYON POWERLINE PROJECT LOCATED ON NAVAJO NATION TRUST LANDS IN MARIANO LAKE CHAPTER VICINITY (MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO)

**PURPOSE:** Approving the Grant of Right-of-Way to Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. for the Echo Canyon Powerline Project on Navajo Nation Trust Lands in Mariano Lake Chapter, McKinley County, New Mexico. There are requests to waive compensation to the Navajo Nation; to waive the requirement for a bond, insurance, or alternative form of security; and to increase the duration of the right-of-way from 20 years to 50 years.

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committees. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate to review each proposed resolution in detail.

5-DAY BILL HO	LD PERIOD: Resources & Development Commit	tee
the second	ng Time/Date:	
Posting End Da	ion: 10-5-19 ion: 10-6-19	
	PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION	
2	24 <sup>th</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL First Year, 2019	
3	INTRODUCED BY	
	A	
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5	(Prine Sponsor)	
6	(rince spansor)	
	TRACKING NO. 0296-19	
8	$\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}$	
9	AN ACTION	
10		
11	RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; APPROVING THE	
12	GRANT OF RIGHT-OF-WAY TO CONTINENTAL DIVIDE ELECTRIC	
13	COOPERATIVE, INC., FOR THE ECHO CANYON POWERLINE PROJECT	
14	LOCATED ON NAVAJO NATION TRUST LANDS IN MARIANO LAKE	
15	CHAPTER VICINITY (MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO)	
16		
17	BE IT ENACTED:	
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19	Section One. Authority	
20	Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. Section §501 (B)(2), The Resources and Development	
21	Committee of the Navajo Nation Council has the authority to grant final approval	
22	for all land withdrawals, non-mineral leases, permits, licenses, rights-of-way,	
23	surface easements and bonding requirements on Navajo Nation lands and	
24	unrestricted (fee) land. This authority shall include subleases, modifications,	
25	assignments, leasehold encumbrances, transfers, renewals, and terminations.	
26		
27	Section Two. Findings	
28	A. The Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 1087, Grants, New	
29	Mexico 87020, has submitted a right-of-way application for Echo Canyon	
30	Powerline Project on, over and across Navajo Nation Trust Lands in Mariano	

Lake Chapter vicinity, McKinley County, New Mexico. The application request is attached hereto and incorporated herein as **Exhibit E.** 

B. The proposed right-of-way is described in map and description attached hereto and incorporated herein as **Exhibit B**.

C. The Grazing Committee/Land Board Member of District Number 16 has identified one land user who consents to the use of the land by the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. The "Consent to Use, Navajo Nation Lands" document is attached as Exhibit C.

D. A waiver of valuation of the right-of-way and waiver of compensation for a twenty year right-of-way is requested. See, 25 CFR § 169.110 (a)(1), (2) and (3).
 Exhibit A, the terms and conditions states that the compensation for a twenty year right-of-way is \$194,227.88.

- E. A request is made for a grant of a fifty-year right-of-way.
- F. The Resources and Development Committee, through resolution number RDCD-97-18, Exhibit F, limited the amount of a waiver of consideration to no more than 50% that will be allowed for utility companies requesting a waiver of consideration.
- G. 25 CFR § 169.110 addresses how much monetary compensation must be paid for a right-of-way over or across tribal land. It states: (a) A right-of-way over or across tribal land may allow for any payment amount negotiated by the tribe, and we will defer to the tribe and not require a valuation if the tribe submits a tribal authorization expressly stating that it:
  - (1) Has agreed upon compensation satisfactory to the tribe;
- (2) Waives valuation; and

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(3) Has determined that accepting such agreed-upon compensation and waiving valuation is in its best interest.

(b) The tribe may request, in writing, that we determine fair market value, in which case we will use a valuation in accordance with § 169.114. After providing the tribe with the fair market value, we will defer to a tribe's decision to allow for any compensation negotiated by the tribe.

1		(c) If the conditions in paragraph (a) or (b) of this section are not met, we will
2		require that the grantee pay fair market value based on a valuation in accordance
3		with § 169.114.
4	Η.	A waiver of the bond, insurance, or alternative form of security on the part of
5		Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. is requested.
6	I.	25 CFR § 169.103 states: (a) You must include payment of bonds, insurance, or
7		alternative forms of security with your application for a right-of-way in amounts
8		that cover:
9		(1) The highest annual rental specified in the grant, unless compensation is a one-
10		time payment;
11		(2) The estimated damages resulting from the construction of any permanent
12		improvements;
13		(3) The estimated damages and remediation costs from any potential release of
14		contaminants, explosives, hazardous material or waste;
15		(4) The operation and maintenance charges for any land located within an
16		irrigation project;
17		(5) The restoration of the premises to their condition at the start of the right-of-
18		way or reclamation to some other specified condition if agreed to by the
19		landowners.
20		* * *
21		(f) We may waive the requirement for a bond, insurance, or alternative form of
22		security:
23		* * * *
24		(2) For tribal land, deferring, to the maximum extent possible, to the tribe's
25		determination that a waiver of a bond, insurance or alternative form of security is
26		in its best interest.
27	J.	The environmental studies and archaeological clearances, including the Finding of
28		No Significant Impact (FONSI) dated May 22, 2019, are attached as Exhibit D.
29	K.	The application for the Right-of-Way as submitted by the Continental Divide
30		Electric Cooperative, Inc., has been reviewed Executive Official Review process,
		including review by the Department of Justice and "Approved" or found
		Page 3 of 4 19-487-1

"Sufficient.". See documents included in Executive Official Review Document No. 012792, Exhibit G.

#### Section Three. Approval

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- A. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby approves the Grant of Right-of-Way to Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. for the Echo Canyon Powerline Project on Navajo Nation Trust Lands in Mariano Lake Chapter, McKinley County, New Mexico. The location is more particularly described on the survey map attached hereto as Exhibit B.
- B. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby waives valuation and waives compensation of \$97,113.94, which is fifty percent of the assessed \$194,227.88 for the right-of-way project for 20 year term, because it has been determined that accepting the agreed-upon compensation and waiving valuation is in its best interest of the Navajo Nation, pursuant to Title 25 CFR § 169.110.
- C. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby waives the requirement for a bond, insurance or alternative form of security on the part of the Grantee, based on the determination that the project benefits the Navajo Nation and such a waiver is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation, pursuant to Title 25 CFR § 169.103 (f) (2).
- D. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby approves the right-of-way subject to, but not limited to, the following terms and conditions incorporated herein and attached as Exhibit A.
- E. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby authorizes the President of the Navajo Nation to execute any and all documents necessary to affect the intent and purpose of this resolution.

NN Right-of-Way Standard Terms and Conditions for Trust Land 7/21/15



#### EXHIBIT "D"

#### NAVAJO NATION RIGHT-OF-WAY TERMS AND CONDITIONS

# CONTINENTAL DIVIDE ELECTRICAL COOPERATIVE, INC. (GRANTEE)

- 1. The term of the right-of-way shall be for <u>twenty</u> (20) years, beginning on the date the rightof-way is granted by the Secretary of Interior.
- 2. Consideration for the right-of-way is assessed at \$<u>194,227.88</u> and shall be paid in full to the Controller of the Navajo Nation, in lawful money of the United States, and a copy of the receipt for such payment provided to the Navajo Nation Minerals Department, or its successor, within <u>10</u> days of approval of and consent to the grant of the right-of-way by the Navajo Nation.

If consideration has been waived, the Navajo Nation contributes the amount listed above to the project because the project serves a public purpose and will benefit Navajo residents.

- 3. The Grantee may develop, use and occupy the right-of-way for the purpose(s) of <u>construction</u>, operation, and <u>maintenance of a 14.4 kV electrical distribution line</u>. The Grantee may not develop, use or occupy the right-of-way for any other purpose, nor allow others to use or occupy the right-of-way for any other purpose, without the prior written approval of the Navajo Nation and the Secretary of the Interior. The approval of the Navajo Nation may be granted, granted upon conditions or withheld in the sole discretion of the Navajo Nation. The Grantee may not develop, use or occupy the right-of-way for any unlawful purpose.
- 4. In all activities conducted by the Grantee within the Navajo Nation, the Grantee shall abide by all laws and regulations of the Navajo Nation and of the United States, now in force and effect or as hereafter may come into force and effect, including but not limited to the following:
  - a. Title 25, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 169; subject to the terms of this right-of-way.
  - b. All applicable federal and Navajo Nation antiquities laws and regulations, with the following additional condition: In the event of a discovery all operations in the immediate vicinity of the discovery must cease and the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department must be notified immediately. As used herein, "discovery" means any previously unidentified or incorrectly identified cultural resources, including but not limited to archaeological deposits, human remains, or location reportedly associated with Native American religious/traditional beliefs or practices;
  - c. The Navajo Preference in Employment Act, 15 N.N.C. §§ 601 et seq., and the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Act, 5 N.N.C. §§ 201 et seq.; and
  - d. The Navajo Nation Water Code, 22 N.N.C. § 1101 et seq. Grantee shall apply for and submit all applicable permits and information to the Navajo Nation Water Resources Department, or its successor.
- The Grantee shall ensure that the air quality of the Navajo Nation is not jeopardized due to violation of applicable laws and regulations by its operations pursuant to the right-of-way.

NN Right-of-Way Standard Terms and Conditions for Trust Land 7/21/15

- 6. The Grantee shall clear and keep clear the lands within the right-of-way to the extent compatible with the purpose of the right-of-way, and shall dispose of all vegetation and other materials cut, uprooted or otherwise accumulated during any surface disturbance activities.
- 7. The Grantee shall reclaim all surface lands disturbed related to the right-of-way, as outlined in a restoration and revegetation plan, which shall be approved by the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency (NNEPA) prior to any surface disturbance. The Grantee shall comply with all provisions of such restoration and revegetation plan and shall notify the Director of the NNEPA immediately upon completion of the surface disturbance activities so that a site inspection can be made.
- 8. The Grantee shall at all times during the term of the right-of-way and at the Grantee's sole cost and expense, maintain the land subject to the right-of-way and all improvements located thereon and make all necessary and reasonable repairs.
- The Grantee shall obtain prior written permission to cross existing rights-of-way, if any, from the appropriate parties.
- 10. The Grantee shall be responsible for and promptly pay all damages when they are sustained.
- 11. The Grantee shall indemnify and hold harmless the Navajo Nation and the Secretary of the Interior and their respective authorized agents, employees, landusers and occupants, against any liability for loss of life, personal injury and property damages arising from the development, use or occupancy or use of right-of-way by the Grantee.
- 12. The Grantee shall not assign, convey, transfer or sublet, in any manner whatsoever, the right-of-way or any interest therein, or in or to any of the improvements on the land subject to the right-of-way, without the prior written consent of the Navajo Nation and the Secretary of the Interior. Any such attempted assignment, conveyance or transfer without such prior written consent shall be void and of no effect. The consent of the Navajo Nation may be granted, granted upon conditions or withheld in the sole discretion of the Navajo Nation.
- 13. The Navajo Nation may terminate the right-of-way for violation of any of the terms and conditions stated herein. In addition, the right-of-way shall be terminable in whole or part by the Navajo Nation for any of the following causes:
  - a. Failure to comply with any term or condition of the grant or of applicable laws or regulations;
  - b. A non-use of the right-of-way for the purpose for which it is granted for a consecutive two year period; and
  - c. The use of the land subject to the right-of-way for any purpose inconsistent with the purpose for which the right-of-way is granted.
  - d. An abandonment of the right-of-way.
- 14. At the termination of this right-of-way, the Grantee shall peaceably and without legal process deliver up the possession of the premises, in good condition, usual wear and tear excepted. Upon the written request of the Navajo Nation, the Grantee shall provide the Navajo Nation, at the Grantee's sole cost and expense, with an environmental audit assessment of the premises at least sixty (60) days prior to delivery of said premises.
- 15. Holding over by the Grantee after the termination of the right-of-way shall not constitute a renewal or extension thereof or give the Grantee any rights hereunder or in or to the land subject to the right-of-way or to any improvements located thereon.

NN Right-of-Way Standard Terms and Conditions for Trust Land 7/21/15

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- 16. The Navajo Nation and the Secretary of the Interior shall have the right, at any reasonable time during the term of the right-of-way, to enter upon the premises, or any part thereof, to inspect the same and any improvements located thereon.
- 17. By acceptance of the grant of right-of-way, the Grantee consents to the full territorial legislative, executive and judicial jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation, including but not limited to the jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation, including but not limited to the jurisdiction to levy fines and to enter judgments for compensatory and punitive damages and injunctive relief, in connection with all activities conducted by the Grantee within the Navajo Nation or which have a proximate (legal) effect on persons or property within the Navajo Nation.
- 18. By acceptance of the grant of right-of-way, the Grantee covenants and agrees never to contest or challenge the legislative, executive or judicial jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation on the basis that such jurisdiction is inconsistent with the status of the Navajo Nation as an Indian nation, or that the Navajo Nation government is not a government of general jurisdiction, or that the Navajo Nation government does not possess full police power (i.e., the power to legislate and regulate for the general health and welfare) over all lands, persons and activities within its territorial boundaries, or on any other basis not generally applicable to a similar challenge to the jurisdiction of a state government. Nothing contained in this provision shall be construed to negate or impair federal responsibilities with respect to the land subject to the right-of-way or to the Navajo Nation.
- 19. Any action or proceeding brought by the Grantee against the Navajo Nation in connection with or arising out of the terms and conditions of the right-of-way shall be brought only in the Courts of the Navajo Nation, and no such action or proceeding shall be brought by the Grantee against the Navajo Nation in any court of any state.
- 20. Nothing contained herein shall be interpreted as constituting a waiver, express or implied, of the sovereign immunity of the Navajo Nation.
- 21. Except as prohibited by applicable federal law, the law of the Navajo Nation shall govern the construction, performance and enforcement of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 22. The terms and conditions contained herein shall extend to and be binding upon the successors, heirs, assigns, executors, administrators, employees and agents, including all contractors and subcontractors, of the Grantee, and the term "Grantee," whenever used herein, shall be deemed to include all such successors, heirs, assigns, executors, administrators, employees and agents.
- 23. There is expressly reserved to the Navajo Nation full territorial legislative, executive and judicial jurisdiction over the right-of-way and all lands burdened by the right-of-way, including without limitation over all persons, including the public, and all activities conducted or otherwise occurring within the right-of-way; and the right-of-way and all lands burdened by the right-of-way shall be and forever remain Navajo Indian Country for purposes of Navajo Nation jurisdiction.
- 24. The Navajo Nation reserves the right to grant rights-of-way within the right-of-way referenced herein for utilities, provided that such rights-of-ways do not unreasonably interfere with the Grantee's use of the right-of-way.



In Reply, Refer to: 4N420 – Real Estate Services Rights of Way United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Eastern Navajo Agency P. O. Box 328 Crownpoint, New Mexico 87313



AUG 28 2015

BIA/ 611

Debbie Olivar, ROW/Engineering Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. P.O. Box 1087 Grants, New Mexico 87020

Dear Ms. Olivar:

Reference is made to the receipt of the Tribal Consent dated May 27, 2015, for permission to survey, to conduct a walk-on survey for maps, archaeological, environmental and ethnographic surveys and studies for the proposed electric power line in the Mariano Lake Chapter, entitled Echo Canyon Project.

The Navajo Nation has given its concurrence to the survey for tribal trust lands, as contained in the letter from the Navajo Land Department. Prior to entry upon or across allotted land, consent from the Indian land owners is required.

Subject to any prior rights or adverse claims and to all applicable regulations of 25 CFR 169, authorization is hereby granted to proceed with the necessary survey subject to the following terms and conditions of the Navajo Nation:

- 1. The rights of local Navajo people will be respected and protected.
- Personnel with the Division of Natural Resources (DNR) will retain the right to monitor the field survey.
- 3. The field survey will be conducted at your own risk. The Navajo Nation will not be held liable for any personal injury or property damage that might occur during the course of the field survey.
- 4. Vehicles will be kept on existing roads and trails. Surface disturbance will be kept to an absolute minimum while conducting the field survey.
- 5. The Permittee will comply with all applicable Tribal and Federal laws and regulations.
- 6. Approval of right-of-way, business site lease or any actual construction is not implied.

This authorization is for <u>SURVEY ONLY</u> on Tribal Trust Lands, according to the Tribal Consent received on July 21, 2015.

If you have any question, please contact our Rights-of-Way Section at (505) 786-6002.

Sincerely,

ndent, Pastern Nav ajo Agency



## RUSSELL BEGAYE PRESIDENT **JONATHAN NEZ VICE PRESIDENT**

May 27, 2015



Lester Tsosie, Superintendent Bureau of Indian Affairs Eastern Navajo Agency P.O. Box 328 Crownpoint, New Mexico 87313

RI: Permission to Survey on Trust Lands

Dear Mr. Tsosie:

Our office received a request for Permission to Survey from Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc., to conduct a walk on survey for maps, archaeological, environmental and ethnographic surveys and studies for the proposed electric power line in the Mariano Lake Chapter (Echo Canyon Project), McKinley County, New Mexico. The proposed survey is more particularly described on the attached survey map.

Permission is hereby granted to Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc., subject to the following terms and conditions:

- 1. The rights of local Navajo people will be respected and protected.
- 2. Personnel with the Division of Natural Resources (DNR) will retain the right to monitor field survey.
- 3. The field survey will be conducted at your own risk. The Navajo Nation will not be liable for any personal injury or property damage that might occur during the course of the field survey.
- 4. Vehicles will be kept on existing roads and trails. Surface disturbance will be kept to an absolute minimum while conducting the field survey.
- 5. The Permittee will comply with all applicable Tribal and Federal laws and regulations.
- 6. Approval of right-of-way, business site lease or any actual construction is not implied.

Sincerely,

Vira Sterry Jar

Howard Draper Program & Project Specialist Navajo Land Department/DNR

Attachments

CC: Mariano Lake Chapter Debbie Olivar, CDEC Project File



#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT LINE "A" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Line "A", located within sections 35 and 36, Township 16 North, Range 14 West, and sections 3, 10 and 11, Township 15 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Navajo Tribal Trust and Allotted Land, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

BEGINNING at B.O.P. Station 0+00, existing pole 41036, located in SW¼ section 36, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Tribal Trust Land, from which point the found original stone monument E115, bears S64°16'27"E a distance of 5,369.62 feet,

Thence S26°35'52"W along an existing line a distance of 182.10 feet to P.O.T. Station 1+82.10, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses an NTUA water line,

Thence continuing S26°35'52"W a distance of 348.69 feet to P.O.T. Station 5+30.79, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses a fence line,

Thence continuing S26°35'52"W a distance of 76.43 feet to P.O.T. Station 6+07.22, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses BIA Route 49 at calculated mile post 15.20 and calculated highway station 491+60.22,

Thence continuing S26°35'52"W a distance of 76.06 feet to P.O.T. Station 6+83.28, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses a fence line,

Thence continuing S26°35'52"W a distance of 3.84 feet to P.O.T. Station 6+87.12, an existing pole and the beginning of new construction,

Thence continuing S26°35'52"W a distance of 204.51 feet to P.I. Station 8+91.63, said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-1",

Thence N85°47'59"W a distance of 48.51 feet to P.O.T. Station 9+40.14, at which point the centerline of the easement enters section 35, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Tribal Trust Land, from which point the found original stone monument E115, bears S73°47'01"E a distance of 5,503.94 feet,

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Thence continuing N85°47'59"W a distance of 1,990.32 feet to P.O.T. Station 29+30.46, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses BIA Route 3412,

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Thence continuing N85°47'59"W a distance of 211.33 feet to P.I. Station 31+41.79, from which point the found rebar with yellow plastic cap marking the southeast corner of section 35, T16N, R14W, NMPM bears S52°47'21"E a distance of 2,757.39 feet,

Thence N67°33'39"W a distance of 862.20 feet to P.O.T. Station 40+03.99, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses an NTUA water line,

Thence continuing N67°33'39"W a distance of 55.97 feet to P.O.T. Station 40+59.96, said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-2",

Thence continuing N67°33'39"W a distance of 331.90 feet to P.I. Station 43+91.86, said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-3",

Thence S42°45'29"W a distance of 940.00 feet to P.O.T. Station 53+31.86, said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-4",

Thence continuing S42°45'29"W a distance of 93.64 feet to P.O.T. Station 54+25.50, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses BIA Route 3412,

Thence continuing S42°45'29"W a distance of 422.10 feet to P.O.T. Station 58+47.60, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses a PNM 115kV Transmission Line,

Thence continuing S42°45'29"W a distance of 504.25 feet to P.O.T. Station 63+51.85, said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-5",

Thence continuing S42°45'29"W a distance of 855.34 feet to P.O.T. Station 72+07.19, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses an NTUA water line,

Thence continuing S42°45'29"W a distance of 39.69 feet to P.O.T. Station 72+46.88, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses over the original stone monument for northeast corner of section 3, T15N, R14W, NMPM, and enters section 3, T15N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Tribal Trust Land, from which point the found rebar with yellow plastic cap marking the southeast corner of section 35, T16N, R14W, NMPM bears S89°28'30"E a distance of 5,289.95 feet,

Thence continuing S42°45'29"W a distance of 66.10 feet to P.O.T. Station 73+12.98, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses BIA Route 7113,

Thence continuing S42°45'29"W a distance of 98.89 feet to P.I. Station 74+11.87,

Thence S07°18'05"W a distance of 320.00 feet to P.O.T. Station 77+31.87, said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-6",

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Thence continuing S07°18'05"W a distance of 640.00 feet to P.I. Station 83+71.87, from which point the found rebar with yellow plastic cap marking the southeast corner of section 35, T16N, R14W, NMPM bears N79°29'19"E a distance of 5,618.01 feet,

Thence S00°16'44"E a distance of 3,180.12 feet to P.O.T. Station 115+51.99, said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-7",

Thence continuing S00°16'44"E a distance of 377.94 feet to P.I. Station 119+29.93,

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Thence S31°33'11"E a distance of 379.56 feet to P.O.T. Station 123+09.49, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses an NTUA water line,

Thence continuing S31°33'11"E a distance of 37.68 feet to P.O.T. Station 123+47.17, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses BIA Route 7113,

Thence continuing S31°33'11"E a distance of 11.76 feet to P.O.T. Station 123+58.93, at which point the centerline of the easement enters NE¼ section 10, T15N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being IA 1213, from which point the found fence post and rock monument marking the southwest corner of section 2, T15N, R14W, NMPM bears N89°54'10"E a distance of 16.37 feet,

Thence continuing S31°33'11"E a distance of 30.42 feet to P.O.T. Station 123+89.35, at which point the centerline of the easement enters NW¼ section 11, T15N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being IA 1883, from which point the found fence post and rock monument marking the southwest corner of section 2, T15N, R14W, NMPM bears N00°59'32"E a distance of 25.95 feet,

Thence continuing S31°33'11"E a distance of 60.70 feet to P.O.T. Station 124+50.05, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses a fence line,

Thence continuing S31°33'11"E a distance of 221.47 feet to P.O.T. Station 126+71.52, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses an NTUA water line,

Thence continuing S31°31'11"E a distance of 194.05 feet to P.I. Station 128+65.57,

Thence S14°40'17"E a distance of 878.43 feet to P.I. Station 137+44.00,

Thence S12°18'12"W a distance of 944.33 feet to P.O.T. Station 146+88.33, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses an NTUA water line,

Thence continuing S12°18'12"W a distance of 35.64 feet to E.O.P. Station 147+23.97, the terminus for the above described centerline for Line "A", said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-8", from which point the found fence post marking the southwest corner of section 3, T15N, R14W, NMPM bears N68°02'58"W a distance of 5,965.88 feet,

The above described right-of-way easement contains 6.76 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 2.79 miles in length.

#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-1" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-1", located within sections 35 and 36 Township 16 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Navajo Tribal Trust Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at P.I. Station 8+91.63 of Line "A" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-1", located in SW¼ section 36, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Tribal Trust Lands,

Thence S26°35'52"W a distance of 108.01 feet to P.O.T. Station 1+08.01, at which point the centerline of the easement enters section 35, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Tribal Trust Land, from which point the found original stone monument E115, bears S74°47'22"E a distance of 5,476.81 feet,

Thence continuing S26°35'52"W a distance of 110.14 feet to E.O.P. Station 2+18.15, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-1".

The above described right-of-way easement contains 0.10 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.04 miles in length.

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#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-2" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

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SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-2", located within section 35 Township 16 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Navajo Tribal Trust Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at P.O.T. Station 40+59.96 of Line "A" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-2", located in section 35, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Tribal Trust Lands,

Thence N15°20'23"E a distance of 109.99 feet to E.O.P. Station 1+09.99, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-2".

The above described right-of-way easement contains 0.05 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.02 miles in length.

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### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-3" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-3", located within sections 34 and 35, Township 16 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Navajo Tribal Trust Lands and Allotted Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at P.I. Station 43+91.86 of Line "A" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-2", located in section 35, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Tribal Trust Lands,

Thence N67°33'39"W a distance of 679.94 feet to P.O.T. Station 6+79.94, said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-3a",

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Thence continuing N67°33'39"W a distance of 965.25 feet to P.O.T. Station 16+45.19, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses BIA Route 7113,

Thence continuing N67°33'39"W a distance of 429.02 feet to P.O.T. Station 20+74.21, at which point the centerline of the easement enters E½NE¼ section 34, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being IA 1332, from which point the found rebar with yellow cap marking the southeast corner of section 35, T16N, R14W, NMPM bears S60°52'02"E a distance of 6,031.65 feet,

Thence continuing N67°33'39"W a distance of 535.80 feet to P.O.T. Station 26+10.01, said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-3b",

Thence continuing N67°33'39"W a distance of 300.01 feet to P.I. Station 29+10.02,

Thence N16°43'06"E a distance of 300.17 feet to P.I. Station 32+10.19, from which point the Base Station having the True New Mexico State Plane West, NAD83, US Survey Feet Coordinates of N1671502.65, E2574579.63, Latitude 35°35'35", Longitude -108°19'58" bears N55°55'17"W a distance of 10,984.61 feet.

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Thence N42°54'10"W a distance of 84.92 feet to E.O.P. Station 32+95.11, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-3"

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The above described right-of-way easement contains 1.51 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.62 miles in length.

#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-3a" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-3a", located within section 35, Township 16 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Navajo Nation Trust Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at P.O.T. Station 6+79.94 of Tap "A-3" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-3a", located in section 35, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Nation Trust Lands,

Thence N35°03'52"E a distance of 160.08 feet to E.O.P. Station 1+60.08, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-3a"

The above described right-of-way easement contains 0.07 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.03 miles in length.

#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-3b" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-3b", located within section 34, Township 16 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Allotted Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at P.O.T. Station 26+10.01 of Tap "A-3" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-3b", located in E½NE¼ section 34, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being IA 1332,

Thence S02°00'41"E a distance of 444.89 feet to P.O.T. Station 4+44.89, at which point the centerline of the easement enters SE¼ section 34, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being IA 1333, from which point the found original stone monument for the southeast corner of section 34, T16N, R14W, NMPM, bears S09°49'17"E a distance of 2,687.20 feet,

Thence continuing S02°00'41"E a distance of 605.13 feet to P.O.T. Station 10+50.02, said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-3b1",

Thence continuing S02°00'41"E a distance of 330.06 feet to P.I. Station 13+80.08, from which point the found original stone monument for the southeast corner of section 34, T16N, R14W, NMPM, bears S13°57'00"E a distance of 1,765.27 feet,

Thence S09°38'17"W a distance of 94.96 feet to P.I. Station 14+75.04,

Thence S06°46'17"W a distance of 76.42 feet to E.O.P. Station 15+51.46, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-3b".

The above described right-of-way easement contains 0.71 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.29 miles in length.

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#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-3b1" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-3b1", located within section 34, Township 16 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Allotted Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at P.O.T. Station 10+50.02 of Tap "A-3b" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-3b1", located in SE¼ section 34, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being IA 1333,

Thence S19°03'59"W a distance of 150.03 feet to E.O.P. Station 1+50.03, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-3b1".

The above described right-of-way easement contains 0.07 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.03 miles in length.

#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-4" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-4", located within section 35, Township 16 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Navajo Tribal Trust Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at P.O.T. Station 53+31.86 of Line "A" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-3", located in section 35, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Tribal Trust Lands,

Thence S56°45'09"E a distance of 144.02 feet to P.O.T. Station 1+44.02, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses BIA Route 3412,

Thence continuing S56°45'09"E a distance of 175.30 feet to P.I. Station 3+19.32,

Thence S74°31'41"E a distance of 100.01 feet to E.O.P. Station 4+19.33, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-4".

The above described right-of-way easement contains 0.19 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.08 miles in length.

#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-5" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-5", located within section 35, Township 16 North, Range 14 West, and section 2, Township 15 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Navajo Tribal Trust Lands and Allotted Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at P.O.T. Station 63+51.85 of Line "A" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-5", located in section 35, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Tribal Trust Lands,

Thence S17°23'22"E a distance of 370.00 feet to P.O.T. Station 3+70.00, said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-5a",

Thence continuing S17°23'22"E a distance of 237.28 feet to P.O.T. Station 6+07.28, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses an NTUA water line,

Thence continuing S17°23'22"E a distance of 73.78 feet to P.O.T. Station 6+81.06, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses a fence line,

Thence continuing S17°23'22"E a distance of 13.93 feet to P.O.T. Station 6+94.99, at which point the centerline of the easement enters NW¼ section 2, T15N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being IA 1210, from which point the found original stone monument for the southwest corner of section 35, T16N, R14W, NMPM bears N89°34'14"W a distance of 815.41 feet,

Thence continuing S17°23'22"E a distance of 45.00 feet to P.I. Station 7+39.99,

Thence S26°03'57"E a distance of 100.06 feet to E.O.P. Station 8+40.05, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-5".

The above described right-of-way easement contains 0.39 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.16 miles in length.

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#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-5a" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-5a", located within section 35, Township 16 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Navajo Tribal Trust Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at P.O.T. Station 3+70.00 of Tap "A-5" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-4a", located in section 35, T16N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Tribal Trust Lands,

Thence N46°02'23"E a distance of 679.92 feet to P.I. Station 6+79.92,

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Thence N72°47'09"E a distance of 99.95 feet to E.O.P. Station 7+79.87, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-5a".

The above described right-of-way easement contains 0.36 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.15 miles in length.

#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-6" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-6", located within section 3, Township 15 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Navajo Tribal Trust Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at P.O.T. Station 77+31.87 of Line "A" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-6", located in section 3, T15N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Tribal Trust Lands,

Thence S65°31'41"W a distance of 50.39 feet to P.O.T. Station 0+50.39, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses a fence line,

Thence continuing S65°31'41"W a distance of 95.44 feet to P.O.T. Station 1+45.83, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses a fence line,

Thence continuing S65°31'41"W a distance of 144.22 feet to P.O.T. Station 2+90.05, said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-6a",

Thence continuing S65°31'41"W a distance of 289.94 feet to P.I. Station 5+79.99,

Thence S80°31'19"W a distance of 100.01 feet to E.O.P. Station 6+80.00, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-6".

The above described right-of-way easement contains 0.31 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.13 miles in length.

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#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-6a" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

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SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-6a", located within section 3, Township 15 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Navajo Tribal Trust Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at P.O.T. Station 2+90.05 of Tap "A-6" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-6a", located in section 3, T15N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Tribal Trust Lands,

Thence N48°54'28"W a distance of 139.94 feet to E.O.P. Station 1+39.94, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-6a".

The above described right-of-way easement contains 0.06 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.03 miles in length.

#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-7" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-7", located within section 3, Township 15 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Navajo Tribal Trust Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at P.O.T. Station 115+51.99 of Line "A" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-7", located in section 3, T15N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being Navajo Tribal Trust Lands,

Thence S89°25'44"W a distance of 1,196.11 feet to P.O.T. Station 11+96.11, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses a fence line,

Thence continuing S89°25'44"W a distance of 3,350.60 feet to P.O.T. Station 45+46.71, at which point the centerline of the easement crosses an NTUA water line.

Thence continuing S89°25'44"W a distance of 73.39 feet to P.I. Station 46+20.10, from which point the found fence post marking the southwest corner of section 3, T15N, R14W, NMPM, bears S30°02'19"W a distance of 815.96 feet.

Thence N14°42'21"W a distance of 170.06 feet to E.O.P. Station 47+90.16, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-7",

The above described right-of-way easement contains 2.20 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.91 miles in length.

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#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-8" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-8", located within section 11, Township 15 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Allotted Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at E.O.P. Station 147+23.97 of Line "A" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-8", located in NW¼ section 11, T15N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being IA 1883,

Thence S87°16'06"E a distance of 107.95 feet to P.I. Station 1+07.95, said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-8a",

Thence S00°11'20"E a distance of 103.72 feet to E.O.P. Station 2+11.67, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-8".

The above described right-of-way easement contains 0.10 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.04 miles in length.

#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT TAP "A-8a" MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

SURVEYOR'S DESCRIPTION of a right-of-way easement for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.'s Echo Canyon Power Line Project, Tap "A-8a", located within section 11, Township 15 North, Range 14 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Allotted Lands, Mariano Lake, McKinley County, State of New Mexico, and being more particularly described as follows:

A strip of Land, twenty (20) feet wide, being ten (10) feet on each side of the following described centerline:

Beginning at P.I. Station 1+07.95 of Tap "A-8" said point being B.O.P. Station 0+00 for Tap "A-8a", located in NW¼ section 11, T15N, R14W, NMPM, said parcel being IA 1883,

Thence N46°26'49"E a distance of 64.72 feet to E.O.P. Station 0+64.72, the terminus for the above described centerline for Tap "A-8a".

The above described right-of-way easement contains 0.03 acres, more or less, in area. The right-of-way easement is 0.01 miles in length.

#### RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

#### GUY EASEMENT DESCRIPTION

<u>GUY NO.</u> LINE A	STATION	BEARING	LENGTH	WIDTH	ACREAGE
LINE A	8+91.63	S85°47'59"E	50'	20'	0.02
2	31+41.79	S13°19'11"W	50'	20'	0.02
3	43+91.86	N42°45'29"E	50'	20'	0.02
4	74+11.87	N64°58'13"W	50'	20'	0.02
5	83+71.87	N86°29'21"W	50'	20'	0.02
6	119+29.93	S74°05'03"W	50'	20'	0.02
7	128+65.57	N66°53'16"E	50'	20'	0.02
8	137+44.00	N88°48'51"E	50'	20'	0.02
9	147+23.97	S12°18'12"W	50'	20'	0.02
TAP A-1	141.20.01	012 10 12 11	50	20	0.02
10	2+18.15	S26°35'52"W	50'	20'	0.02
TAP A-3	2.10.10	020 00 02 11	00	20	0.02
11	29+10.02	N67°33'39"W	50'	20'	0.02
12	29+10.02	S16°43'06"W	50'	20'	0.02
13	32+10.19	N16°43'06"E	50'	20'	0.02
TAP A-3B				20	01012
14	0+00.00	N02°00'41"W	50'	20'	0.02
15	13+80.08	S02°00'41"E	50'	20'	0.02
TAP A-4					
16	0+00.00	N56°45'09"W	50'	20'	0.02
17	3+19.32	S56°45'09"E	50'	20'	0.02
TAP A-5					
18	0+00.00	N17°23'22"W	50'	20'	0.02
19	7+39.99	S79°06'47"E	50'	20'	0.02
TAP A-5A					
20	0+00.00	S46°02'23"W	50'	20'	0.02
21	6+79.92	N46°02'23"E	50'	20'	0.02
TAP A-6					
22	0+00.00	N65°31'41"E	50'	20'	0.02
23	5+79.99	S65°31'41"W	50'	20'	0.02
TAP A-7					
24	0+00.00	N89°25'44"E	50'	20'	0.02
25	46+20.10	S89°25'44"W	50'	20'	0.02
TOTAL			1,250'		0.50

TOTAL 25 GUYS

25 Guys X 0.02 acres = 0.50 ACRES

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# SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

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<u>SEGMENT</u> LINE "A" TAP "A-1" TAP "A-2" TAP "A-3" TAP "A-3a" TAP "A-3b" TAP "A-3b1" TAP "A-3b1" TAP "A-4" TAP "A-5" TAP "A-5" TAP "A-6"	LENGTH 14,723.97' 218.15' 109.99' 3,295.11' 160.08' 1,551.46' 150.03' 419.33' 840.05' 779.87' 680.00'	MILES 2.79 0.04 0.02 0.62 0.03 0.29 0.03 0.08 0.16 0.15 0.13	WIDTH 20' 20' 20' 20' 20' 20' 20' 20' 20' 20'	ACREAGE 6.76 0.10 0.05 1.51 0.07 0.71 0.07 0.19 0.39 0.36 0.31
TAP "A-3b"	1,551.46'	0.29	20'	0.71
TAP "A-3b1"	150.03'	0.03	20'	0.07
TAP "A-4"	419.33'	0.08	20'	0.19
TAP "A-5"	840.05'	0.16	20'	0.39
TAP "A-5a"	779.87'	0.15	20'	0.36
TAP "A-6"	680.00'	0.13	20'	0.31
TAP "A-6a"	139.94'	0.03	20'	0.06
TAP "A-7"	4,790.16'	0.91	20'	2.20
TAP "A-8"	211.67'	0.04	20'	0.10
TAP "A-8a"	64.72'	0.01	20'	0.03
SUBTOTAL	28,134.53'	5.33		12.91
GUY EASEMENTS	1,250.00'	0.24	20'	0.50
TOTAL	29,384.53	5.57		13.41

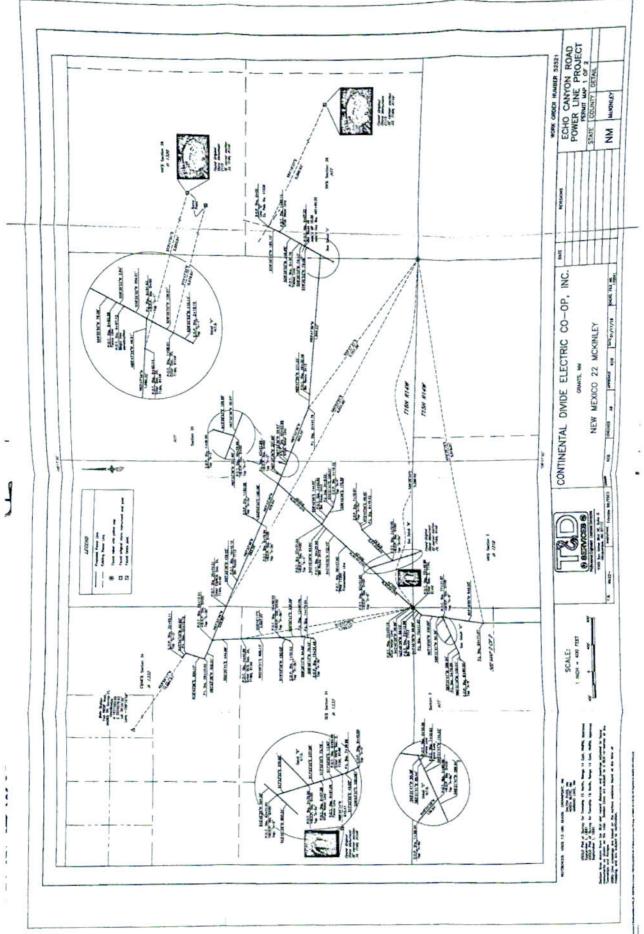
RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR CDEC'S ECHO CANYON POWER LINE PROJECT MARIANO LAKE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO CDEC WORK ORDER NUMBER 52521

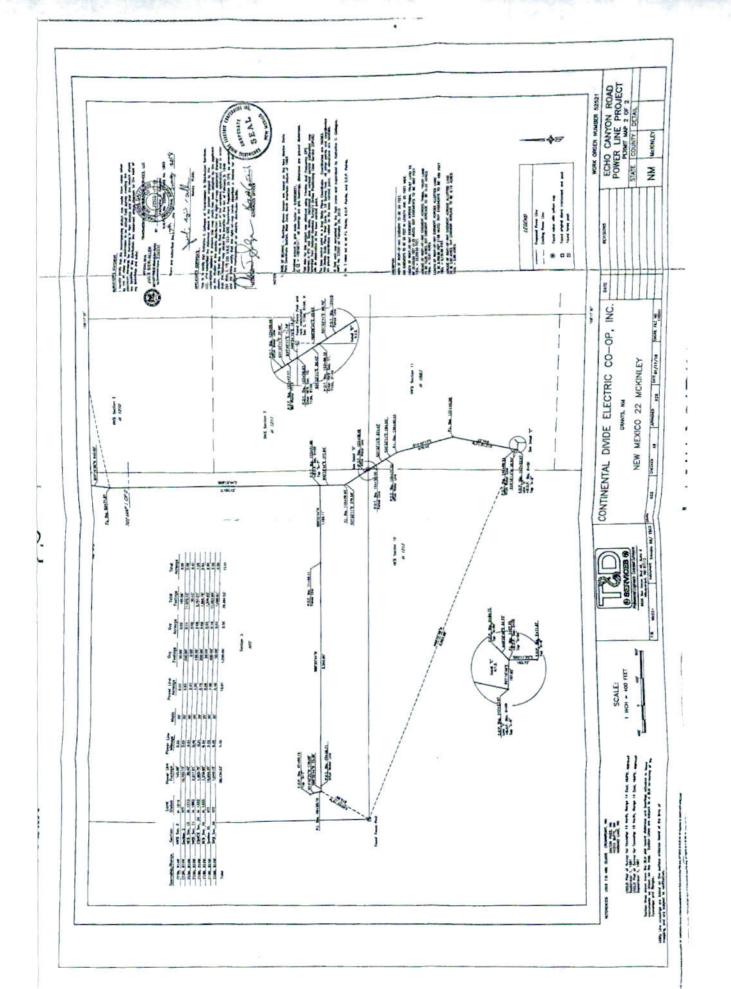
# SECTION SUMMARY

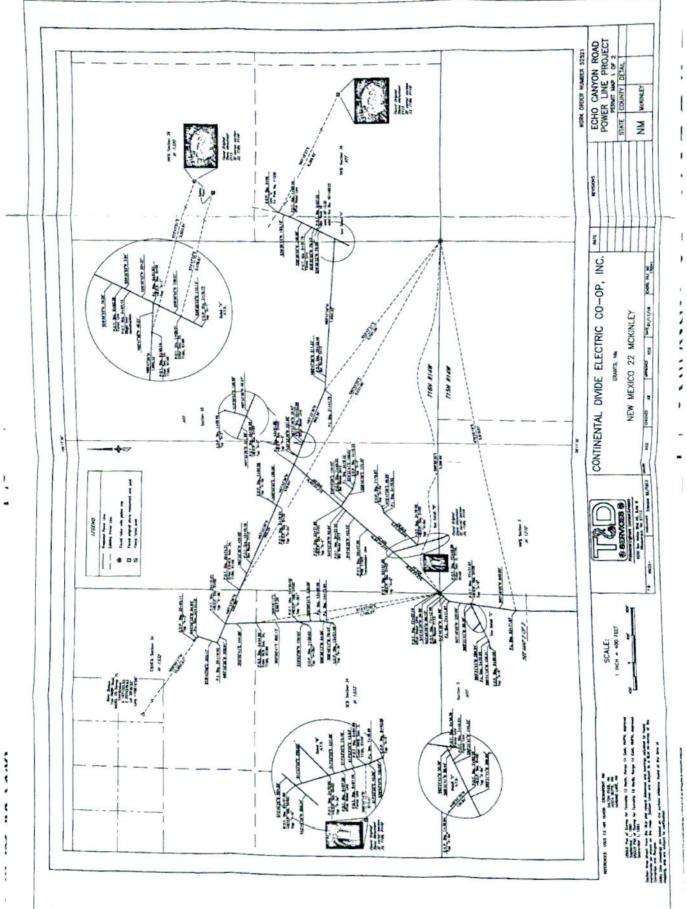
SW¼ Sec. 36 TOTAL	Section 35	SE¼ Sec. 34	T16N R14W E1/2NE1/2 Sec. 34	NW¼ Sec. 11	NE¼ Sec. 10	Section 3	T15N R14W NW1/4 Sec. 2	
NTT	TTN	IA 1333	IA 1332	IA 1883	IA 1213	NTT	IA 1210	LAND I
1,048.15 <sup>'</sup> 28,134.53 <sup>'</sup>	10,655.35'	1,256.60'	1,665.79'	2,611.01	30.42'	10,722.15	145.06	POWER LINE
<u>0.20</u> 5.33	2.02	0.24	0.31	0.49	0.01	2.03	0.03	POWER LINE MILES
<u>0.48</u> 12.91	4.89	0.58	0.76	1.20	0.01	4.92	0.07	POWER LINE
<u>50.00'</u> 1,250.00'	400.00'	50.00'	200.00'	150.00'	0.00'	350.00'	50.00'	GUY FOOTAGE
<u>0.02</u> 0.50	0.16	0.02	0.08	0.06	0.00	0.14	0.02	GUY ACREAGE
<u>1,099.61'</u> 29,384.53'	11,053.89'	1,306.60'	1,865.79	2,761.01	30.42	11,072.15	195.06'	TOTAL FOOTAGE
0.50	5.05	0.60	0.84	1.26	0.01	5.06	0.09	TOTAL ACREAGE

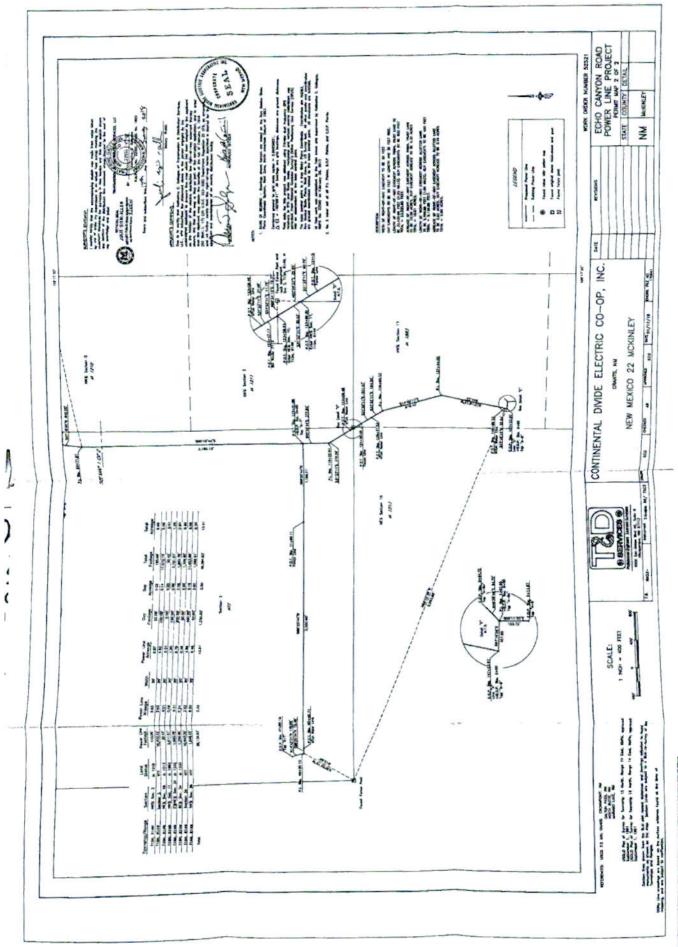
Notice: This is a single page of a multi-page document. No individual page can be interpreted alone and must be considered in the context of the entire document, including but not limited to descriptions, surveyor statements, and plat

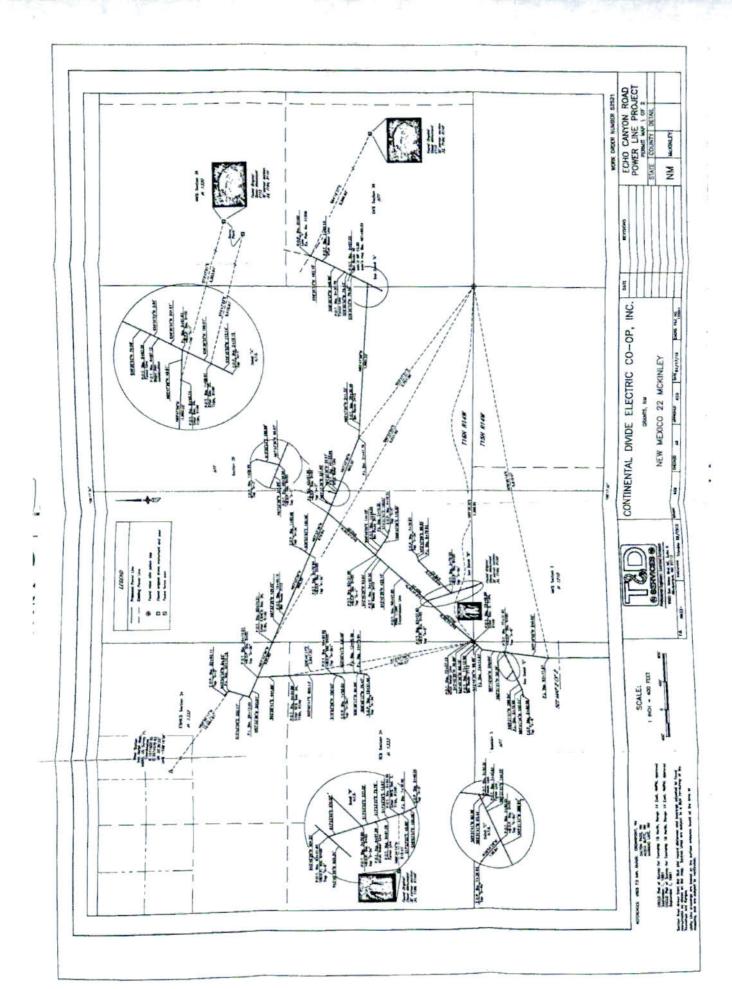
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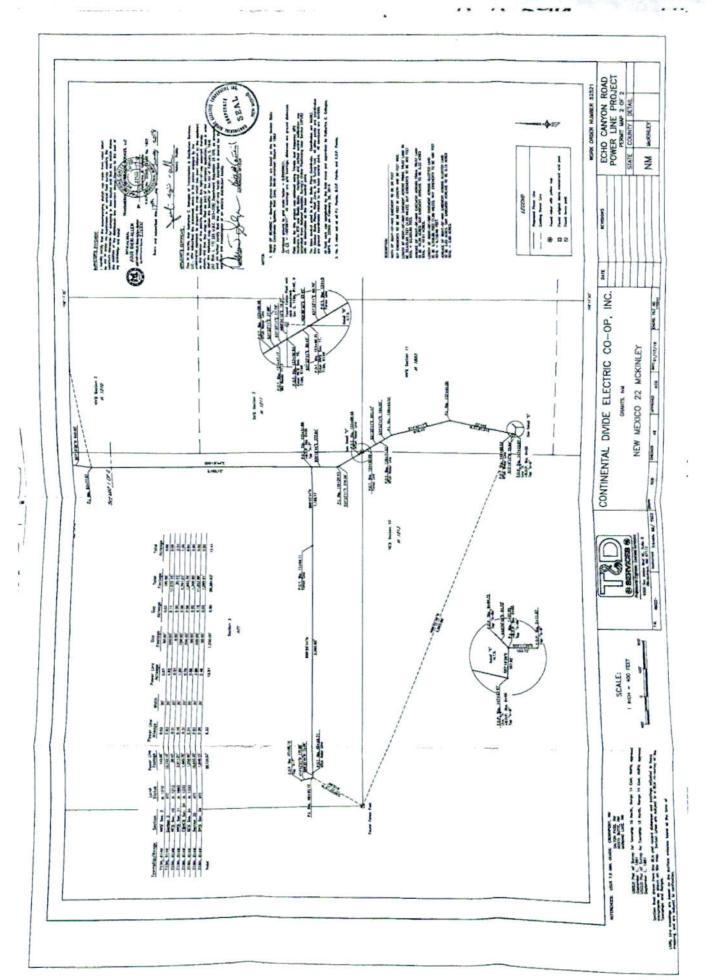


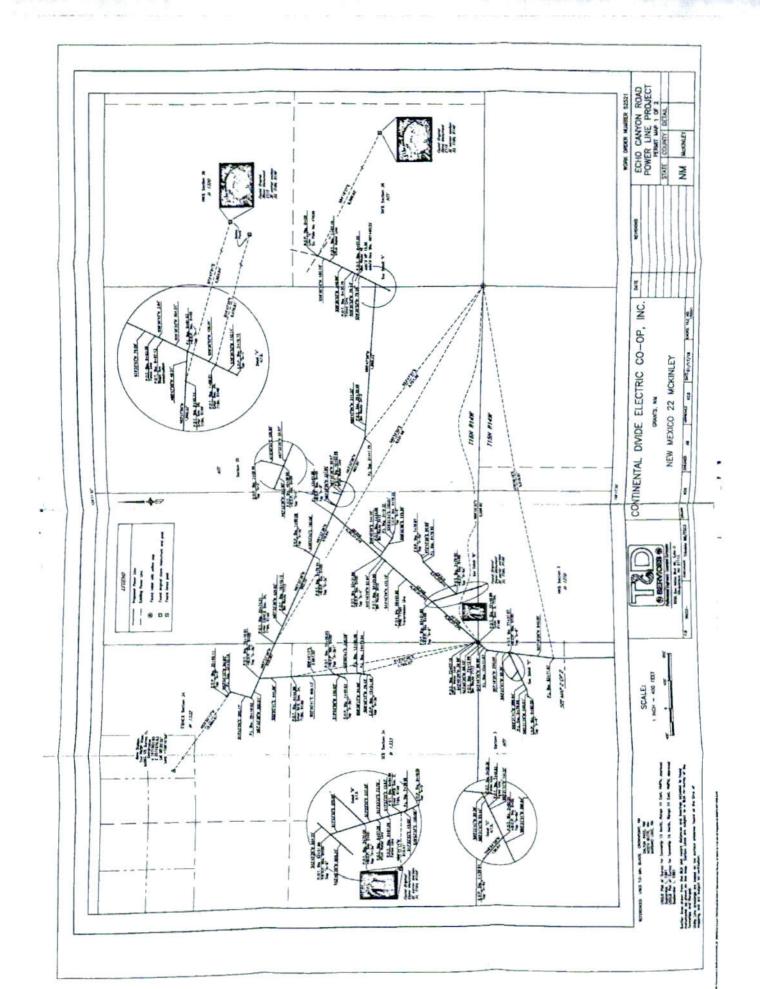


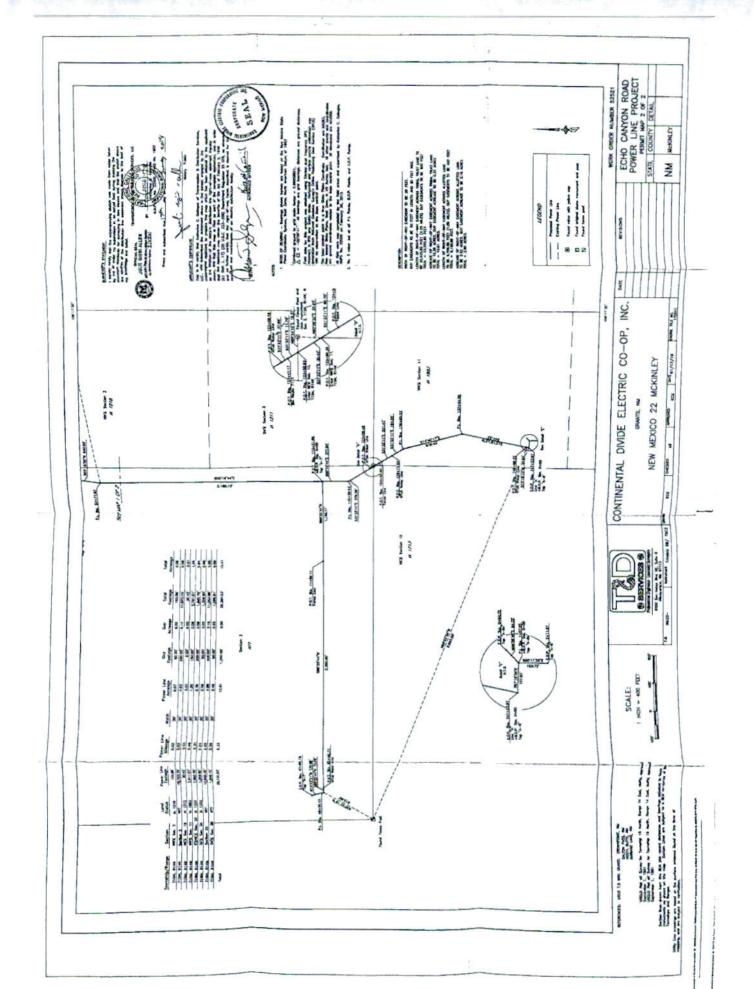












CONSENT FORM -3 (Waiver of compensation for damages)

XHIBIT

# Consent to Use Navajo Nation Lands

# TO WHOM IT MAY CONERN:

1, Louise Davis	hereby grant consent to the
Navajo Nation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs to I	Permit <u>Continental Divide Electric</u>
Cooperative, Inc. PO Box 1087, 200 East High Stree	et, Grants New Mexico 87020 to use a portion
of my land use area for the following purpose(s):	Right-of-way easement for construction,
operation, & maintenance of 14.4 kv electrical dist	ribution power line for the Echo Canyon
Power Line Project Work Order #52521	

As shown on the map showing the location of the proposed project on the back of this consent form.

I hereby waive any rights I may have to compensation for the diminishment in value of my land use right as result of the above-referenced project as proposed.

REMARKS: \_\_\_\_\_

<u> 5/31/19</u> Date	Land User Signature (or Thumbprint)	Census No.	Permit No.
WITNESSE	and K. James		
blai 19 Date	Grazing Committee or Land Board Memb	Der Distri	ct No.
	Acknowledgement of Field Agent		

I acknowledge that the contents of this consent form was read/ or fully explained to the land user in Navajo or English (check were applicable).

Field Agent Signature

# FIELD CLEARANCE CHECKLIST

(This form covers only damages and compensation to individual land users. It does not cover consideration or other fees to the Navajo nation. Use back if necessary to complete this form.)

- Project Identification: <u>Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc.</u> Type of Project: <u>Electrical Powerline Extension</u> Purpose: <u>Right-of-way easement for construction, operation, & maintenance of 14.4</u> <u>kv electrical distribution power line for the Echo Canyon Power Line Project WO#52521</u> Location: <u>Mariano Lake Chapter, Section 3, T15N, R14W, Section 35 & SW/4 of Section</u> <u>36, T16N, R14W, McKinley Cty New Mexico</u> Identification number(s): <u>Work Order #52521</u>
- 2. Amount of land affected: 10.61 acres, 20' width, 23,225.65' length
- 3. Land status: Trust XX Fee Other
- 4. List names of all individuals whose land use right will be affected by project:

	Names	Census Number		Type of La	nd
			51	Use Right	
1.	Louise	Daeis		4.	
2.					
3. A					
4.				-	

- Are all land users with claims to the affected lands as shown in Branch of Land Operations records included in the list of Item 4 \_\_\_\_YES\_\_\_\_\_
- 6. Have Grazing Committee or Land Board Member (whichever is appropriate) for the affected area confirm land user list in Item 4 by signing acknowledgement below.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I acknowledge that due notice was given to the affected community of the Proposed project, and according to my records and to the best of my knowledge, the list of individuals in Item 4 includes all land users who have land use rights in the affected lands.

110 Committee or Land Board Member District No.

8 31 19

Date



United States Department of the Interior

EXHIBIT D

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS Navajo Regional Office P.O. Box 1060 Gallup, New Mexico 87301

# MAY 2 2 2019

IN REPLY REFER TO: 465: Office of Environmental Quality Act Compliance and Review

Mr. Leonard Robbins Denali Environmental Services P.O. Box 1127 Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504

Dear Mr. Robbins:

The Environmental Assessment (EA), EA-19-34981, received September 18, 2018, for the <u>CDECI Echo</u> <u>Canyon Road Power Line</u>, was reviewed in the Branch of Environmental Quality Act Compliance and Review, Navajo Regional Office.

Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CDECI) of Grants, New Mexico is seeking a right-of-way (ROW) to construct, operate, and maintain an electrical power line to serve the Echo Canyon Road Community in Mariano Lake Chapter, New Mexico. The proposed power line would provide electrical service to 17 existing homes. The existing power line taps and proposed extensions for the 17 homes would be included in the ROW application. CDECI is asking for a ROW width of 20 feet with a combined length (power line and guy) at 5.33 miles (29,384.53 feet), encompassing 13.41 total acres. The development of the right-of-way will require the issuance of a timber cutting permit prior to any forest harvesting. Navajo Tribal Trust land totals 23,225.65 feet, encompassing 10.61 acres and Indian Allotted lands total 6,158.88 feet, encompassing 2.80 acres.

In accordance with Section 102 (2) (c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the Council of Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 1500-1508), the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Navajo Regional Office, finds that the Proposed Action is not a major federal action that will significantly impact the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required for implementing the Proposed Action. This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is supported by the Environmental Assessment (EA) and the supporting appendices and documents.

If you have questions, you may contact Ms. Harrilene Yazzie, Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist at (505) 863-8287.

ncerely

Bartholomew Stevens Regional Director, Navajo

Enclosure

#### FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT EA-19-34981 CDECI ECHO CANYON ROAD POWER LINE

# CONTINENTAL DIVIDE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

#### Location: Mariano Lake Chapter, NM Quadrangle USGS 7.5 Minute Series Map

# Sections 2, 3, 10, and 11, T15N, R14W NMPM Sections 34, 35, and 36, T16N, R14W, NMPM

#### Mariano Lake Chapter, McKinley County, New Mexico

Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CDECI) of Grants, New Mexico is seeking a right-of-way (ROW) to construct, operate, and maintain an electrical power line to serve the Echo Canyon Road Community in Mariano Lake Chapter, New Mexico. The proposed power line would provide electrical service to 17 existing homes. The existing power line taps and proposed extensions for the 17 homes would be included in the ROW application. CDECI is asking for a ROW width of 20 feet with a combined length (power line and guy) at 5.33 miles (29,384.53 feet), encompassing 13.41 total acres. The development of the right-of-way will require the issuance of a timber cutting permit prior to any forest harvesting. Navajo Tribal Trust land totals 23,225.65 feet, encompassing 10.61 acres and Indian Allotted lands total 6,158.88 feet, encompassing 2.80 acres.

The BIA's deliberation as to whether a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is appropriate, or, whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be prepared, took into consideration, the following issues, which are addressed in the environmental assessment (EA).

- Beneficial and adverse environmental impacts: The EA demonstrates that there will be no significant adverse or beneficial impacts on the quality of the human environment, including: climate, air quality, geology and seismicity, fisheries, socioeconomics and environmental justice, land use and zoning, prime farmland, recreation, traffic, noise, floodplains, wetlands and riparian habitat, hazardous, toxic and radiological waste, topography and soils, water resources and water quality, vegetation and wildlife, threatened and endangered species, migratory birds, esthetics and visual resources, and cultural resources.
- 2. Public health and safety: The proposed project is located in a predominately rural setting (EA Section 3.1.9 Traffic). Construction of new access roads along the power line will not be required; existing access roads will be used (EA Section 1.1 Description of the Proposed Action). Therefore, the impact to public health and safety will be minimal. The health and safety of the community will improve with the installation of the proposed power line. Surface trees and shrubs would be trimmed along the electrical right of way. Pinyon pine and Juniper trees under the proposed power line will be harvested to avoid any physical interference and to avoid fires.

3. Clean Water Act (CWA) Compliance: When a project spans, crosses or results in work in a river bed, stream bed or wetland, permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and/or the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency, Water Quality Program may be required, including: Section 401, Water Quality Certification; Section 402(p), Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, if the project activity will disturb surfaces of 1/2 acre or more; and Section 404, Permit for Discharge of Dredge or Fill Material into Waters of the US. The applicant shall submit and obtain approval for all required applications prior to construction. The applicant shall adhere to all mitigation measures and strategies developed with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency: According to National Flood Hazard Layer maps, the proposed project area is not located in a flood prone area, and is excluded from any floodplain designation by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. On the north side, the proposed power line segment would span a short segment of an arroyo of the Puerco river a short distance of approximately 20 feet (right-of-way width). The arroyo is dry most of the year (EA Section 3.1.11 Floodplain). The proposed project area would not traverse any wetland or riparian habitat on or adjacent to the proposed tract. There are no jurisdictional wetlands within the project area (EA Section 3.1.12 Wetlands and Riparian Habitat). CDECI will contact ACOE and the Navajo Nation EPA for consultation to ensure no permits are needed prior to construction.

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- 4. Unique characteristics of the geographic area: The project area is not unique within its geographical setting and is similar to other areas in the region. There are no prime farmlands, wild and scenic rivers, wilderness areas, refuges, park lands, unique ecological areas, or other unique or rare characteristics of the land and aquatic environs that will be significantly affected.
- Degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial: There are no known scientific controversies over the effects of the proposed project on the human environment.
- Degree to which the effects are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks: There are no known effects on the human environment that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.
- Degree to which this action will establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects: This project will not set a precedent for similar projects that may be implemented by the BIA or other agencies.
- Relationship to other actions with cumulatively significant impacts: There are no known incremental effects of the action that become significant when added to other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future actions that have affected, or will affect, the project area.
- Degree to which the action may affect districts, sites, objects, or structures listed on, or eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places, or may cause loss of significant cultural resources: The Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department (NNHPD) issued

a Cultural Resources Compliance Form (CRCF) with NNHPD No. HPD-18-385 (revised) on September 4, 2018 approving the project with conditions of compliance.

# EFFECTS/CONDITIONS OF COMPLIANCE: No historic properties affected with the following conditions:

#### B17396/TCP1:

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- 1. TCP will be avoided by all construction activities by a minimum of 50-feet.
- Once construction is completed, TCP will continue to be avoided by routine maintenance activities.

In the event of a discovery of a previously unidentified or incorrectly identified cultural resource(s), all operations in the immediate vicinity of the discovery must cease, and the NNHPD must be notified.

- 10. Degree to which the action may affect threatened, endangered, or sensitive species or their habitat: A Biological Resources Compliance Form (BRCF) with NNDFW Review No. <u>17dan1101ec</u>, was issued by the Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife (NNDFW) on January 29, 2018, approving the proposed action with no avoidance/mitigation measures and no conditions of compliance.
- 11. Whether the action violates Federal or local laws or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment: The proposed project will not violate any Federal or Tribal environmental laws or requirements. An approved Tribal forest product harvesting permit, Bureau of Indian Affairs forest product harvesting permit and/or contract will be issued to the Permittee and/or Contractor prior to any forest product harvesting activities on Tribal Trust Land; this includes harvest of non-native tree species (e.g., tamarisk, Russian olive). Best management practices will' be identified within the Standard Provisions and Special Provisions developed by the Navajo Forestry Department and Bureau of Indian Affairs forest product harvesting permit and/or contract. An approved Bureau of Indian Affairs forest product harvesting permit and/or contract will be issued to the Permittee and/or Contractor prior to any forest produce Bureau of Indian Affairs forest product harvesting permit and/or contract. Best management practices will be issued to the Permittee and/or Contractor prior to any forest product harvesting activities on Allotted Land; this includes harvest of non-native tree species (e.g., tamarisk, Russian olive). Best management practices will be identified within the Standard Provisions and Special Affairs and attached to the permit and/or contract will be issued to the Permittee and/or Contractor prior to any forest product harvesting activities on Allotted Land; this includes harvest of non-native tree species (e.g., tamarisk, Russian olive). Best management practices will be identified within the Standard Provisions and Special Provisions developed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and attached to the permit and/or contract.
- 12. Indian Trust Assets: The proposed project area does not contain any Indian Trust Assets in the form of perennial water resources, fisheries, paleontology resources or agricultural resources. The proposed project area will need to schedule an appraisal of any forest products harvested and removed from the project area in accordance with the Navajo Nation Forest and Woodland Regulations (RCMA-48-01) and Indian Affairs Manual 3 Harvest of Forest Products. It is anticipated the gross stumpage (appraised value minus cost to harvest/transport/implement mitigation requirements) to be less than \$25,000.00 due to small size of the proposed project area. The Navajo Nation Woodland Inventory Analysis Report (1986-1991 measurement) for Mariano Lake Chapter estimates there is approximately 664.13 cubic feet of commercial forest products per acre. These forest products are comprised of both juniper (Juniperus spp.) and pinyon pine (Pinus edulis) trees. The site produces approximately 4.99 cubic feet of forest

products per acre per year (EA Section 3.1.6 Land Use and Zoning). CDEC will contact the Navajo Forestry Program and the BIA Navajo Region Forestry program prior to construction to obtain the proper permits and appraisals. The proposed project area is not part of any right-of-way avoidance and exclusion areas, wilderness area, special management area, area of critical environmental concern, or other protected area.

13. Climate Change, its effects on the proposed action and its environmental impacts: With respect to cumulative impacts on regional air quality and climate change, the lack of scientific tools designed to predict climate change on regional or local scales limits the ability to quantify potential future impacts of the proposed project. However, potential impacts to natural resources and plant and animal species due to climate change are likely to be varied, including those in the southwestern United States. For example, if global climate change results in a warmer and drier climate, increased particulate matter impacts could occur due to increased windblown dust from direr and less stable soils. Cool season plant species' spatial ranges are predicted to move north and to higher elevations, and extinction of endemic threatened/endangered plants may be accelerated (EA Section 4.0 Cumulative Impacts and Considerations for Selection of the Preferred Alternative).

#### CONCLUSION

The proposed action is the Preferred Alternative. It does not constitute a major federal action, which normally requires preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS).

Based on the foregoing, it has been determined that an EIS is not required for this project and thus will not be prepared.

Bartholomew Stevens Regional Director, Navajo Bureau of Indian Affairs U.S. Department of the Interior

Date

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY REPORT (AIRs) DOCUMENTATION PAGE

1

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1. HPD REPORT NO:	2. (FOR HPD USE ONLY)	3. RECIPIENT'S ACCESSION NO.
4. TITLE OF REPORT:	A Cultural Resource Inventory of the	5. FIELDWORK DATES:
	ide Electric Cooperative Inc. (CDEC)	June 15, 2017
	Project in Mariano Lake Chapter,	
	exico. (Work Order #52521).	6. REPORT DATE:
		April 16, 2018
	, Arlo Werito, and Shane V. Wero	•
7. CONSULTANT'S NAM		8. PERMIT NO.: NNHPD: #B17396
	rtin, Senior Archeologist	
	óó CRM LLC.	
Org. Address: P.O. Box		9. CONSULTANT'S REPORT NO.:
Farmingto	on, NM 87499	
		DCRM 2017-33
Phone: (505) 960-9478		
10. SPONSOR'S NAME A		11. SPONSOR'S PROJECT NO.:
	Steve Morales, GIS Analyst / ROW	WO# 52521
	l Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc.	
Org. Address: P.O. Bo		12 AREA OF FEFECT: 12 41 (6 42 h)
Grants, 1	New Mexico 87020	12. AREA OF EFFECT: 13.41 ac. (5.42 ha.)
		AREA SURVEYED: 60.71 ac. (24.57 ha.)
Phone: (505) 285-6656		<b>`</b> .
13. LOCATION (MAP AT		
a. Chapter: Mariano L		ribal Trust & Navajo Allotment #1883,# 1210, #1332,
b. Agency: Eastern N		
c. Counties: McKinle		
d. State: New Mexico	0 0 1	
	h. USGS 7.5' Maps: See	
	i. Lead Agency: Bureau	ı of Indian Affairs (BIA)
14. REPORT		
	taking: See Supplemental Sheet	
	w: See Supplemental Sheet	
	tal & Cultural Setting: See Supplementa	I Sheet
d. Field Methods: See S	Supplemental Sheet	
15. CULTURAL RESOUR	CE EINDINGS:	
	on of Each Resource: Eighteen in-use sit	tes and one TCP were identified
	cance of Each Resource: See supplement	
		s recommended that archaeological clearance be granted
	ing, provided that all supulations star	ted in the report are adhered to during all phases of
construction.		
17. CERTIFICATION:	SIGNATURE:	Date: 4-16 15
The CERTIFICATION.	SIGNATURE: <u>1</u> General Charge Name: <u>Rena Martin</u> ,	Archaeologist
	SIGNATURE: L	Date: 4-6 -4
	Direct Charge Name: Shane V. Were	o, Archaeologist
	V	

# DCRM 2017-33:

1 5

# A Cultural Resource Inventory of the Proposed Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc. (CDEC) Echo Canyon Powerline Project in Mariano Lake Chapter, McKinley County, New Mexico. (Work Order #52521)

#### Prepared by

Shane V. Wero, Archaeologist Patricia Moone, Ethnographer Arlo Werito, GIS Technician

#### HPD Permit No.: B17396

#### October 27, 2017

Submitted by: Rena Martin, Supervisory Archaeologist Dinétahdóó Cultural Resources Management, LLC P.O. Box 2012 Farmington, NM 87499

Submitted to Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department Cultural Resources Compliance Section P.O. Box 4950 Window Rock, Arizona 86515

Prepared for Mr. Steve Morales, GIS Analyst-ROW Agent Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. P.O. Box 1087 Grants, New Mexico 87020

#### Abstract

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The following report is submitted to the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department's Cultural Resources Compliance Program for review as part of the Navajo Nation cultural resources clearance process. The report details the results of the cultural resources inventory conducted in conjunction with the project entitled "DCRM 2017-33: A Cultural Resource Inventory of the Proposed Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CDEC) Echo Canyon Powerline Project in Mariano Lake Chapter, McKinley County, New Mexico. (Work Order #52521)" The project was conducted at the request of Mr. Steve Morales, GIS Analyst-ROW Agent. The project will involve the installation of an electric powerline in Mariano Lake Chapter, McKinley County, New Mexico. Construction will consist of heavy machinery and vehicle traffic within the right-of-way, boring of holes for utility poles and anchor placement, backfilling, and stringing of utility as well as fiber optic cables. The project area is located on Navajo Tribal Trust Lands within the Eastern Navajo Agency under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Navajo Allotments #1883, #1210, #1213, #1332, and #1333. The project area can be found on the Mariano Lake, N. Mex. 1963 Photorevised 1980- 7.5' series USGS quadrangle map. The project area is in Township 16 North, Range 14 West Sections 34, 35, and 36; and Township 15 North, Range 14 West, Sections 02, 03, 10 and 11. The total number of acres surveyed in conjunction with this project is approximately 60.71 acres (24.57 ha.) Eighteen in-use sites (IUSs) and one Traditional Cultural Property (TCP) were identified during the survey. It is recommended that archaeological clearance be granted for the construction of the proposed undertaking provided that all stipulations stated in the report are adhered to during all phases of construction.

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### Introduction

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On June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Mr. Arlo Werito, Ms. Tristen Moone, Ms. Lisa Zohnnie and Ms. Brandi Bitsilli, archaeologists and archaeological technicians with Dinétahdóó Cultural Resources Management (DCRM), conducted an archaeological inventory of approximately 5.3 miles (9.01 km) of an existing overhead distribution powerline within Mariano Lake Chapter in McKinley County, New Mexico, for Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. Mr. Steve Morales, GIS Analyst and Right-of-Way Agent, requested the cultural resources inventory. Eighteen in-use sites (IUSs) and one Traditional Cultural Property (TCP) were identified during the inventory of the powerline. This cultural resources inventory was completed under Navajo Nation Cultural Resources Inventory Permit Number B17396.

# **Description of Undertaking**

The Continental Divide Electric Cooperative (CDEC) proposes to construct, operate, and maintain the distribution lines which will provide electrical power to the eighteen homesites in the Mariano Lake Chapter district in McKinley County, New Mexico. Installation of a distribution powerline will consist of placing utility poles, conductor components, anchor lines, and associated hardware. The construction will involve vehicular traffic within the right-of-way (ROW), removal of vegetation, boring of holes with a mechanical auger, placing of utility poles and anchors, backfilling the excavated areas, and stringing of utility lines. The length of the proposed powerline is 29,384.53 ft. (5.3 miles; 9.01 km). The area of effect measures 13.41 acres (5.42 ha.). The total area surveyed is 60.71 acres (24.57 ha.).

# Location

The proposed project area can be accessed by Navajo Route 49 and various dirt roads in the Mariano Lake Chapter district in McKinley County, New Mexico. A majority of the homesites to be served can be accessed by various dirt roads stemming from Navajo Route 49 and Echo Canyon Road. The project area can be located on the Mariano Lake, N. Mex. 1963 Photorevised 1980-7.5-minute USGS quadrangle map. A portion of the project area is on Navajo Tribal Trust Lands within the Eastern Navajo Agency under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and other portions of the powerline lie within Navajo Allotment Lands #1883, # 1210, #1213, #1332, and #1333. Figure 1 shows the project area. Table 1 provides the areas for each land status and Table 2 provides UTM coordinates and legal descriptions for the project area.

Land Status	Area	of Effect	Area Surveyed		
	Acres	Hectares	Acres	Hectares	
Navajo Indian Allotments #1883, #1210, #1213, #1332, and #1333 (6,158.88 ft.)	2.80	1.13	12.72	5.15	
Navajo Nation Tribal Trust (23,225.65 ft.)	10.61	4.29	47.99	19.42	
Totals (29,384.53 ft.)	13.41	5.42	60.71	24.57	

Table 1: Area of Effect and Area Surveyed Breakdown by Land Status

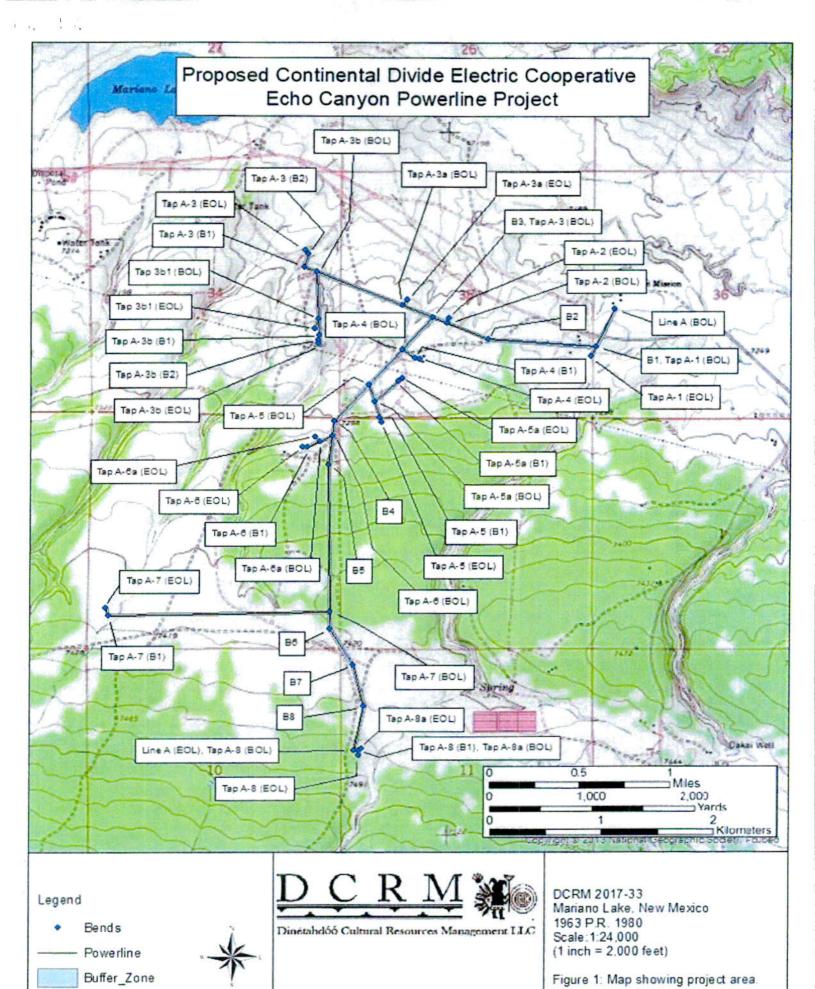
Designation UTM Coordinates: Zone 13 (NAD 83)			I	ægal D	)escrip	tion		USGS Map Name	
	Northing	Easting	1/4	1/4	1/4	Sec.	Т	R	(7.5' Quadrangle)
	Line A								
BOL	3939973	0746436	NW	NW	SW	36	16N	14W	
B1	3939724	0746323	SW	NW	SW	36	16N	14W	
B2	3939754	0745637	SW	NW	SE	35	16N	14W	
B3	3939888	0745280	NW	NE	SW	35	16N	14W	Mariano Lake N. Mex. 1963
B4	3939193	0744677	NE	NE	NE	03	15N	14W	P.R. 1980
B5	3938901	0744649	SE	NE	NE	03	15N	14W	
B6	3937825	0744689	SE	SE	SE	03	15N	14W	
B7	3937594	0744842	NW	NW	NW	11	15N	14W	
B8	3937322	0744923	SW	NW	NW	11	15N	14W	
EOL	3937028	0744868	SW	SW	NW	11	15N	14W	
	Tap A-1			-					
BOL	3939724	0746323	SW	NW	SW	36	16N	14W	Mariano Lake. N. Mex. 1963
EOL	3939664	0746293	NE	SE	SE	35	16N	14W	P.R. 1980
	Tap A-2								
BOL	3939855	0745374	NE	NE	SW	35	16N	14W	Mariano Lake,
EOL	3939887	0745380	NE	NE	SW	35	16N	14W	N. Mex. 1963 P.R. 1980
	Tap A-3								
BOL	3939888	0745280	NW	NE	SW	35	16N	14W	
B1	3940201	0744450	SW	SE	NE	34	16N	14W	Mariano Lake,
B2	3940289	0744473	NE	SE	NE	34	16N	14W	N. Mex. 1963
EOL	3940308	0744454	NW	SE	NE	34	16N	14W	P.R. 1980
	Tap A-3a								
BOL	3939961	0745085	NE	NW	SW	35	16N	14W	Mariano Lake, N. Mex. 1963
EOL	3940003	0745115	NW	NE	SW	35	16N	14W	P.R. 1980
	Tap A-3b						-		
BOL	3940168	0744535	SE	SE	NE	34	16N	14W	Mariano Lake,
B1	3939749	0744564	SW	SE	NE	34	16N	14W	N. Mex. 1963 P.R. 1980
B2	3939719	0744559	NW	SE	NE	34	16N	14W	T.R. 1980
EOL	3939696	0744557	NW	SE	NE	34	16N	14W	
	Tap A-3b1								
BOL	3939854	0744554	NE	NE	SE	34	16N	14W	Mariano Lake,
EOL	3939792	0744532	SE	NE	SE	34	16N	14W	N. Mex, 1963 P.R. 1980
	Tap A-4								
BOL	3939672	0745093	SE	NW	SW	35	16N	14W	Mariano Lake,
B1	3939621	0745176	NW	SE	SW	35	16N	14W	N. Mex. 1963 P.R. 1980
EOL	3939613	0745203	NW	SE	SW	35	16N	14W	
	Tap A-5								
BOL	3939437	0744886	NW	SW	SW	35	16N	14W	
B1	3939224	0744963	SE	SW	SW	35	16N	14W	

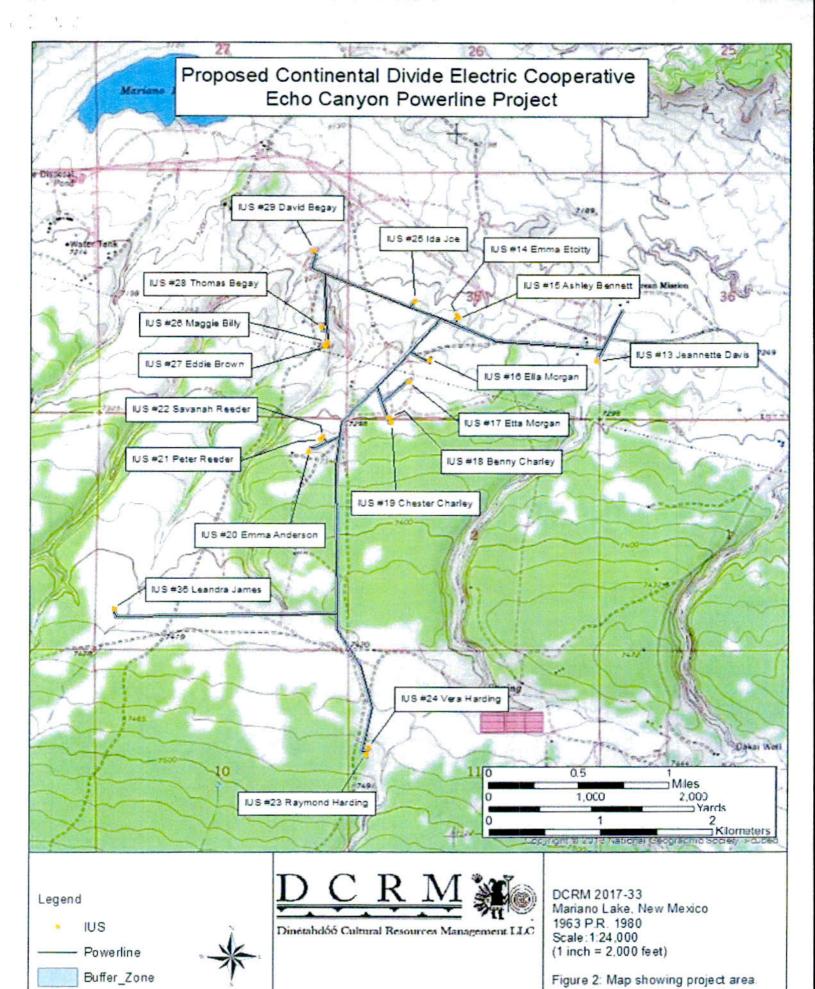
Table 2. UTM Coordinates and Legal Descriptions for the proposed CDEC Echo Canyon Powerline Project near Mariano Lake Chapter, McKinley County, New Mexico.

Designation UTM Coordinates: Zone 13 (NAD 83)			I	egal D	escrip	tion		USGS Map Name	
	Northing	Easting	1/4	1⁄4	1/4	Sec.	Т	R	(7.5' Quadrangle)
EOL	3939198	0744975	NE	NW	NW	2	15N	14W	Mariano Lake, N. Mex. 1963 P.R. 1980
	Tap A-5a								
BOL	3939330	0744923	SE	SW	SW	35	16N	14W	Mariano Lake,
B1	3939470	0745070	NE	SW	SW	35	16N	14W	N. Mex. 1963
EOL	3939485	0745099	NE	SW	SW	35	16N	14W	P.R. 1980
	Тар А-6								
BOL	3939100	0744665	NE	NE	NE	3	15N	14W	Mariano Lake,
B1	3939020	0744506	NE	NE	NE	3	15N	14W	N. Mex. 1963 P.R. 1980
EOL	3939014	0744478	SW	NE	NE	3	15N	14W	
	Tap A-6a								
BOL	3939060	0744587	NE	NE	NE	3	15N	14W	Mariano Lake
EOL	3939084	0744556	NE	NE	NE	3	15N	14W	N. Mex. 1963 P.R. 1980
	Tap A-7								
BOL	3937935	0744685	NE	SE	SE	3	15N	14W	Mariano Lake,
B1	3937879	0743278	NW	SW	SW	3	15N	14W	N. Mex. 1963
EOL	3937923	0743268	NW	SW	SW	3	15N	14W	P.R. 1980
	Tap A-8								
BOL	3937028	0744868	SW	SW	NW	11	15N	14W	Mariano Lake,
B1	3937028	0744900	SW	SW	NW	11	15N	14W	N. Mex. 1963 P.R. 1980
EOL	3936996	0744901	SW	SW	NW	11	15N	14W	
	Tap A-8a						~ ~		
BOL	3937028	0744900	SW	SW	NW	11	15N	14W	Mariano Lake,
EOL	3937043	0744913	SW	SW	NW	11	15N	14W	N. Mex. 1963 P.R. 1980
V· BOL = Begin	alas of Line D	= Bend FO	I = End o	CTI		D D DL	torevised		

KEY: BOL = Beginning of Line B = Bend EOL = End of Line P.R. Photorevised

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# **Environmental and Cultural Setting**

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The Zuni Uplift is a large sedimentary landmass that was uplifted during the onset of the Laramide Orogeny during the Cretaceous-Tertiary transition. A considerable amount of tectonic activity during this time is responsible for exposing numerous geologic facies ranging in age from the Neogene Period to the Precambrian. Erosion of the numerous facies have produced a multitude of geographic features and geologic structures such as the Hogback, Fenced-Up Horse Canyon, Zuni Mountains, Oso Ridge, and the Malpais badlands. Within the uplift, strata representing marine transgressive and nonmarine regressive cycles have been exposed as well as Precambrian basement rock which have produced redeposited packages of fine to coarse grained alluvial, fluvial, colluvial, residual, and aeolian sand, silt, clay, and multi-lithic sand. Outcrops of sedimentary, metamorphic, and igneous bedrock as well as pebble to boulder sized clasts derived from these outcrops are scattered throughout the region. Situated in the mixed conifer environ, the Zuni Uplift supports flora such as; Ponderosa and pinion pine, juniper, gambel oak, Aspen, green ephedra, sagebrush, Indian rice grass, ring muhly, blazing star, alkali sacaton, amaranth, drop seed, narrow and broad leaf yucca, prickly pear and cholla cacti, and Russian thistle. The project area is situated within the northern edge of the Zuni Uplift with exposed outcrops of Jurassic Sedimentary rocks. The project area lies between Fallen Timber Ridge and the Continental Divide at the base of a northern slope as the landscape transitions to an open valley. A majority of the homesites are located at the base of the northern slope with large arroyos nearby. The homesites also lie within a juniper-pinon forest. The homesites are well developed with bladed sections and maintained dirt roads.

The Navajo name for Mariano Lake is *Be'ek'id Hóteelí*, when translated, means "Wide Lake". After the signing of the 1868 Treaty, an elderly man named Chief Mariano Martinez settled the lake area. Chief Martinez and his scouts began construction of an earthen embankment to catch rain and melting snow run-off. Construction of the earthen dam was achieved by using arrowheads, sticks and blankets to dig and remove dirt. Because Chief Martinez mobilized the construction of the dam, the lake became known as "Mariano Lake", and eventually, the community became known by the same name. After World War II, the community building could no longer be used due to the land ownership change. In 1958, the current chapter house was built with Navajo Tribal Trust funds (LSR Innovations: 2004).

#### **Existing Data Review**

A literature search at the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department (NNHPD) in Window Rock, Arizona, indicated that four previous archaeological projects have been conducted within 300 ft. (91 m) of the project area: NNHPD 96-185, NNHPD 00-447, NNHPD 06-295 and NNHPD 07-231. The literature research revealed six significant archaeological resource that were identified near the proposed CDEC Echo Canyon Powerline Project. The sites identified include; NM-Q-7-24 (Navajo Habitation 1960's A.D.), NM-Q-7-25 (NNHPD Site form not found), NM-Q-7-26 (NNHPD Site form not found), NM-Q-7-28 (Navajo Habitation Unknown Date), NM-Q-7-29 (Navajo Habitation 1940's A.D.) and NM-Q-27-25 (Anasazi Field House 900 A.D-1100 A.D.). During the DCRM survey it was noted that all previously recorded sites were not within the survey area of the proposed powerline.

Van Valkenburgh (1974) indicates that Hosta Butte (*Ak'i Dah Násť áni*) is approximately 5.05 miles (8.13 km) northeast of the project area.

The Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department's Traditional and Sacred Place files show two sacred areas near the proposed Echo Canyon Powerline Project: Mariano Lake (*Be'ek'id Hóteeli* / "Wide Lake"), located 1.14 miles (1.83 km) northwest of the nearest power line segment and Dalton Pass (*Nihodeeshgiizh* / 'Gap Extending Downward"), located 5.6 miles (8.9 km) northwest of the nearest powerline segment. Consultations with Mr. Timothy Begay (NNHPD TCP Personnel) indicated that the proposed Echo Canyon Powerline Project will have no impact on the identified Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs).

# **Field Methods**

1.1

On June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Mr. Arlo Werito, Ms. Tristen Moone, Ms. Lisa Zohnnie and Ms. Brandi Bitsilli, archaeologists and archaeological technicians with Dinétahdóó Cultural Resources Management (DCRM), conducted a cultural resources inventory of the proposed powerline for the Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CDEC). The project area was surveyed by walking two parallel transects, one on each side of the centerline, with surveyors spaced no more than 10 m apart. A 90-ft-wide (27.43-m-wide) corridor was surveyed for the proposed powerline. This included 20 ft. (6.10 m) for the right-of-way and 20 ft. (6.10 m) for a buffer zone on each side of the right-of-way. A total of 60.71 acres (24.57 ha.) was inventoried in conjunction with the project.

None of the in-use sites were mapped out of respect for the privacy of the individuals; however, as per NNHPD guidelines, the client or a neighbor was interviewed regarding the dates of occupation and questions were asked regarding potential traditional cultural properties (TCPs, such as herb-gathering areas, blessed and/or sacred places) and burials in the vicinity. The Mariano Lake Chapter House was also visited and staff and officials were informed of the project's objectives. DCRM archaeologists contacted Ms. Leandra James (Marino Lake Chapter Community Service Coordinator). Ms. James was asked about any known burials or TCPs. Ms. James informed DCRM archaeologists that she did not know of any TCPs or burials near the proposed line. Continental divide

# **Cultural Resource Findings**

Eighteen (18) in-use sites (IUSs) and one (1) Traditional Cultural Property (TCP) were identified within or near the project area within Navajo Tribal Trust Lands. 3 provides a summary of the inuse sites.

# In-Use Sites

IUS and Client Name Summary of Structures (CDEC #)		Interviewee	Interview Results (Date of Occupation)	
	Echo Can	iyon		
1. Emma Etcitty- Charley (#14) Tan house with associ features and In-Use N Site		Emma Etcitty- Charley and Ashley Bennett	One nearby TCP (Nidaa) and no Burials. Occupation since 1970's.	
<ol> <li>Ashley Bennett (#15)</li> </ol>	Tan House with associated features			

Table 3. In-Use Sites Identified during the proposed CDEC Echo Canyon Powerline Project near Mariano Lake Chapter, McKinley County, New Mexico.

IUS and Client Name Summary of Structures (CDEC #)		Interviewee	Interview Results (Dates of Occupation)
	Echo Cany	on	
3. Ella Morgan (#16) Grey Hogan with Blue roof and associated features		No Contact	Unknown TCPs or Burials; Unknown Occupation
4. Etta Morgan (#17)	Peach colored house with associated features	No Contact	Unknown TCPs or Burials; Unknown Occupation
5. Benny Charley (#18)	Brown house with associated features	Benny and Chester Charley	No TCPs or Burials; Occupation since 1980's
6. Chester Charley (#19)	Tan hogan with associated features.		
7. Emma Anderson (#20)	Grey house with red colored roof.	Emma Anderson	No TCPs or Burials; Occupation since 1980's
8. Peter Reeder (#21)	Green colored house with associated features	Alberta Reeder and Pete Reeder	No TCPs or Burials; Occupation since 1970's
9. Savanah Reeder (#22)	Brown colored hogan with associated features.	Raymond	
10. Raymond Harding (#23) 11. Vera Harding (#24)	0. Raymond Harding #23) Tan colored house with associated features		No TCPs or Burials; Occupation since 1970's
12. Ida Joe (#25)	Wooden house frame (still under construction) and 1 shed.	Ida Joe	No TCPs or Burials; Occupation since 2016
13. Maggie Billy (#26)	White colored house with associated features.	No Contact	Unknown TCPs or Burials; Unknown Occupation
14. Eddie Brown (#27)	Grey colored hogan	No Contact	Unknown TCPs or Burials; Unknown Occupation
15. Thomas Begay (#28)Tan colored house with blue trim and associated features.		No Contact	Unknown TCPs or Burials; Unknown Occupation
16. David Begay (#29) Blue colored house with green roof, 1 corral, 1 garden, 1 hogan and 1 shed.		David Begay	No TCPs or Burials; Occupation since 1995
17. Leandra James (#36)	Brown double-wide mobile home.	Leandra James	No TCPs or Burials; Occupation since 1990's.
18. Jeanette Davis (#13)	2 houses, 2 hogans, and 3 corrals	Jeanette Davis	No TCPs or Burials, Lifelong resident.

#### **Traditional Cultural Property**

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One Traditional Cultural Property (TCP) was identified during the survey. A *Nidaa* site was discovered near the residence of Ms. Emma (Etcitty) Charley's homestead. An interview by DCRM archaeologists revealed that the *Nidaa* site was still in-use with the last known ceremony taking place during 2016. DCRM Archaeologists consulted with Ms. Emma (Etcitty) Charley who said that her grandpa had used the *Nidaa* site in recent times (2016). It was determined that the

TCP was located on the northern edge of the buffer zone and will not be impacted by the proposed Echo Canyon powerline.

# **Evaluation of Significance**

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All cultural resources are evaluated for significance under certain federal statutes for the preservation and management of these resources. This process is intended to ensure that cultural resources are not inadvertently destroyed by the proposed undertaking, and to ensure that local communities are involved in the decision-making process. Although the Navajo Nation has enacted the Navajo Nation Cultural Resources Protection Act (NNCRMP), it has not instituted regulations, nor is there a process to evaluate resources under this act.

## The National Historic Preservation Act

Under the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA; 36 CFR 60.4), cultural resources may be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places if they are more than 50 years old and "possess integrity of location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling, and association." One or more of the following criteria (a-d) must be applicable:

- a. associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- b. associated with the lives of a person significant in our past; or
- c. embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- d. has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

As defined in 36 CFR 60.4, cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures; properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes; structures that have been moved from their original locations; reconstructed historical buildings; properties primarily commemorative in nature; and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years are not ordinarily considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties may qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the eligibility criteria.

#### Archaeological Resources Protection Act

The Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA; 43 CFR Part 7) has two fundamental purposes:

- to protect irreplaceable archaeological resources on public lands and Indian lands from unauthorized excavation, removal, damage, alteration, or defacement; and
- to increase communication and exchange of information among governmental authorities, the professional archaeological community, and private individuals having collections of archaeological resources and data that were obtained prior to enactment of the Act.

In order for a resource to be considered an archaeological resource and thus merit protection, it must be both more than 100 years old and of archaeological interest.

#### American Indian Religious Freedom Act

V. 1. 4.

The American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA [P.L. 95-341]) affirms that American Indians have the right to believe, express, and exercise their traditional religions and have access to sites, use and possession of sacred objects, and freedom of worship through ceremonies and rites. Any site or place (prehistoric or historic) that has religious, ceremonial, or sacred aspects or components needs to be dealt with in light of this law. Anasazi sites related to Navajo cultural traditions qualify for protection, as do all Navajo ceremonial sites, unmarked traditional places, and residential structures whose owners/users want them protected for religious and cultural reasons.

#### Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA [P.L. 101-601]) provides protection of Native American graves; establishes procedures and legal standards for the repatriation of human remains, funeral objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony, including those from archaeological contexts; and provides the United States district courts jurisdiction over any action brought by any person alleging a violation of the Act. The Act also recognizes certain tribal, Native Hawaiian, and individual rights in regard to burial sites located on federal and Indian lands, and it sets forth procedures for the intentional excavation and inadvertent discoveries of these items.

Navajo Nation law and policy also protects cultural resources on lands under Navajo Nation government jurisdiction. The Navajo Nation Cultural Resources Protection Act of 1988 (NTC CMY-19-88) is modeled on the federal laws which require consideration of the effects of an undertaking on significant cultural resources. It also authorizes the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department to create and maintain a "Navajo Nation Register of Cultural Properties and Cultural Landmarks." The Register is to include "buildings, districts, objects, places, sites, and structures significant in Navajo Nation history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture" on Navajo lands. The Register and its criteria for eligibility have yet to be established.

The Navajo Nation Policy for the Protection of Jishcháá' covers all human remains, associated funerary items, and unassociated funerary items on land under Navajo Nation jurisdiction. It emphasizes non-disturbance as the required treatment of these items unless disturbance is unavoidable. It sets forth procedures for intentional excavation and inadvertent discovery of these items.

Cultural Resource No.	Description	Evaluation				
In-Use Sites #1-18	1970s-present	NRHP	Not Eligible; Navajo Nation policy precludes nomination of in-use sites			
		ARPA	Is Eligible? No 1. 100-year guideline met? No 2. Is of archaeological interest? No			
		AIRFA	Does not merit consideration			
		NAGPRA	Does not merit consideration			

Table 4. Evaluation & Eligibility of Cultural Resources Identified during the CDEC Echo Canyon Powerlin	e
Project near Mariano Lake Chapter, McKinley County, New Mexico.	

Cultural Resource No.	Description	Evaluation		
Traditional Cultural Property	Nidaa Site	NRHP	Not Eligible; Navajo Nation policy precludes nomination of in-use sites	
(TCP #1)		ARPA	Is Eligible? No 1. 100-year guideline met? No 2. Is of archaeological interest? No	
		AIRFA	Does merit consideration due to the site being used for present-day ceremonial purposes.	
		NAGPRA	Does not merit consideration	

# Recommendations

1 . tri

Archaeological clearance is recommended for the proposed CDEC Echo Canyon Powerline with the stipulation that any new discoveries found during construction be reported immediately to the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department in Window Rock, Arizona, and that all construction activities be restricted to the proposed right-of-way corridors and existing roads.

**Traditional Cultural Property (TCP #1):** It was determined that the TCP was located on the northern edge of the buffer zone and will not be impacted by the proposed Echo Canyon powerline. Avoidance is recommended for TCP #1.

# **References** Cited

LSR Innovations Research & Planning

2004 Chapter Images: 2004 Edition. Navajo Nation Division of Community Development, Window Rock, Arizona.

Van Valkenburgh, Richard F.

1974 Navajo Sacred Places. In *Navajo Indians III*, edited by C. Kluckhohn, pp. 9-99. Garland Publishing, New York.



PO Box 4950, Window Rock, Arizona 86515 TEL: (928) 871-7198 FAX: (928) 871-7886

# CULTURAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE FORM

ROUTE COPIES TO:	NNHPD NO .: HPD-18-385 - REVISED			
DCRM	OTHER PROJECT NO .: DCRM 2017-33			

**PROJECT TITLE:** A Cultural Resource Inventory of the Proposed Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc. (CDEC) Echo Canyon Powerline Project in Mariano Lake Chapter, McKinley County, New Mexico. (Work Order #52521)

LEAD AGENCY: BIA/NR

SPONSOR: Steve Morales, GIS Analyst/ROW, Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc., PO Box 1087, Grants, New Mexico 87020

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The proposed undertaking will involve the upgrade/construction, operation & maintenance of distribution line to serve eighteen homes. The powerline measures approximately 29,384.53-ft/5.3-miles. The right-of-way is 20-ft wide. The area of effect is 13.41-acres (Allotment=2.8-ac; NNTL=10.61-ac). Ground disturbing activities will be intensive and extensive with the use of heavy equipment.

LAND STATUS	: I	Navajo Tribal Trust & Indian Allotments #1883, 1210, 1213, 1332, 1333							
CHAPTER:	Ma	Mariano Lake							
LOCATION:	Pro	oject	is loo	cated	on the	e Mari	ano Lake Quadran	gle, McKinley County, New Mexico NMPM	
Т.	<u>16</u>	N.,	R.	<u>14</u>	W-	Sec.	34, 35, 36	)	
т.	15	N.,	R.	<u>14</u>	W-	Sec.	2, 3, 10, 11		
PROJECT ARC	HAE	OLC	GIS	T:		F	Patricia Moone, Arlo	o Werito, Shane V. Wero	
NAVAJO ANTI	QUIT	IES	PER		10.:	E	B17396		
DATE INSPECTED: 0						0	06/15/17		
DATE OF REPORT: 04						0	04/16/18		
TOTAL ACREAGE INSPECTED: 60						6	60.71 – ac total (IA=12.72-ac; NNTL=47.99-ac)		
METHOD OF INVESTIGATION: Class						C	lass III pedestrian inventory with transects spaced <u>10-15</u> m apart		
LIST OF CULTURAL RESOURCES FOUND:						JND:		SITES (IUS) DNAL CULTURAL PROPERTY (B17396/TCP1)	
LIST OF ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES:					•		NONE	NONE	
LIST OF NON-ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES:					TIES	:	(18) IUS (1) TCP (B1	7396/TCP1)	
LIST OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES:					SOUR	CES:	NONE		

# -DOCUMENT IS VOID IF ALTERED-

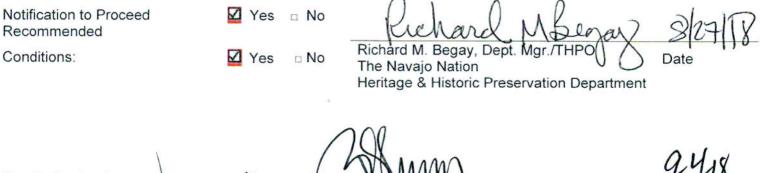
# EFFECT/CONDITIONS OF COMPLIANCE: No historic properties affected with the following conditions:

#### B17396/TCP1:

- 1. TCP will be avoided by all construction activities by a minimum of 50-ft.
- 2. Once construction is completed, TCP will continue to be avoided by routine maintenance activities.

In the event of a discovery ["discovery" means any previously unidentified or incorrectly identified cultural resources including but not limited to archaeological deposits, human remains, or locations reportedly associated with Native American religious/traditional beliefs or practices], all operations in the immediate vicinity of the discovery must cease, and the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department must be notified at (928) 871-7198.

FORM PREPARED BY: Tamara Billie FINALIZED: August 27, 2018 - Revised





Yes

D NO

Navajo Regional Office

Date

-DOCUMENT IS VOID IF ALTERED-

ECHO CANYON ROAD POWER LINE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT RIGHT OF WAY APPLCATION FOR SEVENTEEN HOMES WO # 52521 MARIANO LAKE, NEW MEXICO

1



PLS: SE/4 Section 3 Township 15 North Range 14 West, NMPM Lat. & Long.: 35° 33' 10.9" N 108° 18" 0.0" W NAd 83 UTM: 744,800 m E 3,937,531 m N Zone 12 Elevation 7,421' amsl

**Prepared by** 

CONTINENTAL DIVIDE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. 200 East High Street / P.O. Box 1087 Grants, New Mexico 87020

> DENALI ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES P.O. Box 1127 Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504 denali1946@msn.com

> > September, 2018 Revised May, 2019

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# ECHO CANYON ROAD POWER LINE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CDECI) of Grants, New Mexico is seeking a right-ofway (ROW) to construct, operate, and maintain an electrical power line to serve the Echo Canyon Road Community in Mariano Lake Chapter, New Mexico. The proposed power line would provide electrical service to 17 existing homes. The proposed power line application would require a National Environmental Policy Act environmental assessment document to support the decisionmaking process.

#### 1.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND PROJECT LOCATION 1.1 Description of the Proposed Action

The existing power line taps and proposed extensions for the 17 homes would be included in the right of way application, as shown in Table 1 below. The electrical line would be single phase 14.4 kilo volt line. CDECI is asking for a ROW width of 20 feet with a combined length (power line and guy) at 5.33 miles (29,384.53 feet), encompassing 13.41 total acres. Navajo Tribal Trust land totals 23,225.65 feet, encompassing 10.61 acres, and Indian Allotted lands total 6,158.88 feet, encompassing 2.80 acres.

Power Line Right of Way Dimensions and Acreage						
Public Land Survey	Land Status	PL Footage	PL Mileage	PL/Guy Total Footage	Width	Total Acreage
NW/4 S2 T15N R14W	IA	145.06'	0.03	195.06'	20'	0.09
S3 T15N R14W	NTT	10,722.15'	2.03	11,072.15'	20'	5.06
NE/4 S10 T15N R14W	IA	32.42'	0.01	30.42'	20'	0.01
NW/4 S11 T15N R14W	IA	2,611.01'	0.49	2,761.01'	20'	1.26
NE/4 S34 T16N R14W	IA	1,665.79'	0.31	1,865.79'	20'	0.84
SE/4 S34 T16N R14W	IA	1,256.60'	0.24	1,306.60'	20'	0.60
S35 T16N R14W	NTT	10,655.35'	2.02	11,053.89'	20'	5.05
SW/4 S36 T16N R14W	NTT	1,048.15'	0.02	1,099.61'	20'	0.05
Subtotal NTT				23,225.65'		10.61
Subtotal IA				6,158.88'		2.80
Total		28,134.53'	5.33	29,384.53'		13.41

Table 1. Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. Echo Canyon Road Power Line Project Navajo Tribal Trust land, and Individual Allotted Lands.

Surface trees and shrubs would be trimmed along the electrical right of way. Approximately 110 noncommercial trees (pinon-juniper) under the proposed power line will be cut to avoid any physical interference and to avoid fires. The proposed power line right of way would not be bladed. Construction of new access roads along the power line will not be required; existing access roads will be used.

# 1.2 Purpose and Need

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The proposed right of way would serve 17 local families with electricity to their homes. The power line extension initiative would enable families to refrigerate meat, milk and eggs for longer periods,

and buy additional perishable grocery items that would otherwise spoil. Television news media and entertainment can now be enjoyed by the families. School age kids can now do their homework via satellite internet. The proposed initiative would also provide telecommunication via direct telephone communication. Overall, the proposed utility would play a vital part in serving the needs and interest of the people and community, often in remote and underserved regions of the Navajo Nation.

# **1.3** Location

Echo Canyon Road Power Line Project is located east and southeast of the Mariano Lake Community, on the north and south side of Navajo Route 49. The *Mariano Lake, NM* USGS 7.5 Minute quadrangle topographic map, at Figure 1 illustrates the Echo Canyon Road Power Line project location.

Table 2. Location of the Echo Canyon Road Power Line Project, Mariano Lake, NM USGS 7.5 Quadrangle Map, Continental Divide Electrical Cooperative, Inc.

Description	Public Land Survey	Latitude and Longitude NAd 83	UTM, Zone 12
Line A BOP @ Pole 41036	NW/4 S36 T16N R14W	35° 34' 22.2" N 108° 16' 50.2" W	746,514 m E 3,939,838 m N
Line A EOP	NW/4 S11 T15N R14W	35° 32' 47.0" N 108° 17' 54.4" W	744,954 m E 3,936,826 m N

Located on Navajo tribal trust, and Individual Indian Allotted lands, the proposed powerline is located in Mariano Lake Chapter, McKinley County, New Mexico, at an average elevation of 7,200' amsl.

# 1.4 Project Authorization

This project was authorized by the Navajo Nation Code, Title 16 Land, Chapter 11 § 1101, land for public community purposes. NNC authorizes the Navajo Nation to participate and manage land use leases on the Navajo Indian Reservation projects in rural Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is the lead Federal agency, as authorized by the Snyder Act of November 20, 1921, 25 USC Chapter 1 § 13, which establishes appropriation for BIA permitting right of ways and leasing activity. The proposed right of way approval would allow CDECI to acquire the power line property long term, construct a 11.4 kv electrical power line, and provide electrical service to local residents.

Shown at Appendix B, the Mariano Lake Chapter has passed a resolution approving the proposed electrical power line.

# 1.5 Purpose of Environmental Assessment

The environmental assessment is an instrument required by federal law and regulations to determine if potential impacts of a federal action are of such significant as to require the preparation of an environmental impact statement. The proposed federal action is approval of an electrical right-of-way. The approval of the right-of-way would allow the operator to withdraw a tract of land, on which to further construct and operate a electrical utility infrastructure. This document addresses potential impacts and mitigation for the approval of the right-of-way. The proposed land use of Indian trust land is managed by the Navajo Nation, and administered by Bureau of Indian Affairs.

# 2.0 ALTERNATIVES

1

## 2.1 Alternate Site Locations

Alternate alignments, of sufficient width and length at locations as convenient as the proposed locations, are not available. Due to the size of grazing permitted areas needed to sustain livestock herds, right of ways become impossible to acquire with respect to individual Indian allotments and Navajo tribal trust lands. Open areas in the community are used for family subsistence on livestock and the traditional family way of life. On adjoining land, individual Indian allotment holders generally try to retain their grazing allotments intact, and not to become fragmented. Holistic grazing areas, on trust and allotted land, are needed to sustain livestock herds. Other power line alignments at the other locations would become difficult to acquire.

An alternate site location, on trust land or allotments, would be subject to the same assessments, approvals and clearance process as the preferred alternative. Numerous archaeological occurrences could render the other proposed sites unfeasible for the proposed use. Potential grazing permit holders may reverse their decisions and reject the alternate location.

# 2.2 No Action Alternative

If the no action alternative is taken, the proposed long term right of way would not be approved. The proposed electrical power line would not go as planned. Residents would be without electrical service to their homes for some unknown time in the future. The proposed power line alignments would not be elevated to a higher productive state. The approved chapter resolution and future land board decisions would become moot.

# 2.3 Approval of the Preferred Alternative

The preferred alternative involves approval of the proposed right of way, which would allow for the construction of the electrical power line. The proposed right of way locations, adjacent to existing roads would be the best alternatives. The proposed power line is direct, designed at the shortest route, which would have the least amount of environmental impact. A forum for public involvement in the decision-making process for the project was provided. The Mariano Lake Chapter support resolution is attached as Appendix B. The Land Board Committee of the Eastern Navajo Agency, and the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Council would review and recommend approval of the project. The Eastern Navajo Agency, BIA, would provide final approval.

# 3.0 AFFECTED RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

# 3.1 Resources Not Considered in Detail

# 3.1.1 Climate

The Gallup Municipal Airport is the nearest weather station to the project area. The proposed power line project is located in a semi-arid climate. The project area experiences four distinct climatic seasons and has an annual average maximum temperature of 66.0°F and average minimum temperature of 44.3°F. Summer highs reach the 85.1°F range with lows in the 45.0°F average. Winter highs are usually in the 44°F range with lows at 13.6. Average annual precipitation is 11.08 inches in the Gallup area. The average annual snowfall is 30.6 inches (WRCC 2015). Due to the small size and nature of the proposed lease area, the proposed project would have no effect on climate. Since there would be no effects on climate, no mitigation would be required.

# 3.1.2 Air Quality

Ambient air quality in the project area may be regarded as good. Primary pollutants in the project area is wind-blown dust from loose topsoil common during times of high wind during the spring and dust from vehicular traffic along unimproved roads in the vicinity. These pollutants will not be generated in sufficient concentrations to produce measurable adverse effects to housing or damage to vegetation. Power line construction activities will not have a significant effect on the ambient air quality in the project area. No direct mitigation is required.

# 3.1.3 Geology and Seismicity

The Echo Canyon Road Power Line Project is largely located on the Cretaceous Dakota Sandstone and Lower Mancos Shale Formation (Kdm), ascending from the lower San Juan Basin to the north, and part of the Zuni Uplift. The geologic structure is stable in the Echo Canyon Road area, there are no regional faults or fissures in the area. The proposed power line is located on a geologic slope, generally dipping 3 to 4 degrees north toward the San Juan Basin (Wilkes, M. E. Compiler, 2005). Based on the history of the area, geology and seismicity will not be a factor in this development. No mitigation would be required for any geologic adversity.

# 3.1.4 Fisheries

There are no fisheries or fishery habitat occurrences in the proposed right of way area. No mitigation is required for any fishery adversity.

# 3.1.5 Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice

The proposed project is located in the Mariano Lake Chapter, Eastern Navajo Agency. From the time the Navajo Reservation and Indian Allotments were established in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Navajo social and political organization were based on the family, extended family, the clan, and related clans, with informal local leaders or headmen. The chapter system, now a strong element is social and political life, was introduced as a bureaucratic substitute for the headman system in the late 1920's. The chapter, district and agency system that has developed back then, operates simultaneously as an instrument of the Navajo Nation government and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (Iverson, P., 2002). The 2004 census of the Mariano Lake Chapter sets the total population at 870 people (NN DCD/LSRI, 2004).

In general, local housing conditions are good to excellent. Employment and living standards of the Diné People in the greater Mariano Lake area may be better than what may be considered averaged. This is afforded because of the availability of educational opportunities and wage work available in Mariano Lake, Gallup, and Crownpoint. Dwellings in the surrounding area have been built by their owners and have two to three bedrooms. Modular homes in the area are a popular source of improved housing for those who can afford to purchase them.

While unemployment is high throughout the Checkerboard Area, raising livestock has been a sustainable economy in the past. Currently most residents in the Mariano Lake area are ranchers and wage earners, working a various government and commercial jobs in nearby towns. Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Health Service, and the Navajo Nation are the major employers in the region. Federal, and state government services, schools and major retail outlets are available in Gallup, and Grants, New Mexico.

The retired elderly in the Checkerboard Area still carry on the ranching life style. Individual allotments are relatively small and not large enough to sustain a viable operating ranch for the entire family, however. The younger family members wish to be with their elders and have moved back into the old homesteads; built their new houses on the ranch land, as the area provides a better quality of life, in contrast to apartment living in nearby towns.

## **Environmental Justice**

The Echo Canyon Road Power Line Project will be for the beneficial use of the Mariano Lake Community. As indicated, the majority of the local population is of Native American decent, representing 99.4% of the population. The mandate of environmental justice on impacted minorities and low income populations applies equally among the population, as the proposal will benefit the population as a whole. The local grazing lease holder and private rancher has agreed to the site location, has relinquished part of his land use area for the right of way. Mariano Lake Chapter has approved a supporting resolution, see Appendix B. In the future, the proposed power line will be reviewed by the BIA for approval of the right of way.

# 3.1.6 Land Use and Zoning

At an average elevation of 7,200 feet amsl, Echo Canyon Road project is located on Indian allotted land, and Navajo Indian trust lands. The area surrounding Mariano Lake, the land use is primarily rangeland, and livestock production. Rangeland is the basic land use in the project area. For many years the land is used by the local families for home sites and domestic livestock grazing (sheep, cows and horses). Earthen catchment basins are located throughout the project area. During the dry season livestock water is hauled from nearby windmills by truck to livestock range locations. Cattle guards, metal gates, barbed wire fences, windmills, and access roads have been built to manage ranch operations. Residential leases are also located on the ranch property.

Public road construction and maintenance are provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Navajo Nation DOT. Community Water Supply at Mariano Lake is operated by Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA). Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CDECI) provides electrical power.

#### Indian Trust Resources

The forest products scheduled to be harvested and removed from the project area will be appraised in accordance to the *Navajo Nation Forest and Woodland Regulations* (RCMA-48-01) and *Indian Affairs Manual 3 – Harvest of Forest Products.* It is anticipated the gross stumpage (appraised value minus cost to harvest/transport/implement mitigation requirements) to be less than \$25,000.00 due to the small size of the proposed project area.

The power line right of way acreage will be withdrawn for the power line right of way. There are no other bankable assets, such as fossil fuels, fossils, or valuable minerals on the proposed tracts, surface or subsurface.

#### 3.1.7 Prime Farmland

Prime farm land is not known in the Mariano Lake area. There are no irrigated fields. Agriculture is not the family life style in the project area. Livestock production and rangeland is the primary land use in the region.

#### 3.1.8 Recreation

Mariano Lake Chapter residents will travel to nearby Cibola National Forest for an afternoon of picnicking and fishing. Navajo Department of Fish and Wildlife designates the project area as a big game hunting unit. NDF&W big game species include deer, and elk.

Gathering - approximately every three to five years, vicinity pinyon trees in the region will yield a bumper crop of pinyon nuts. Native people will gather this crop for individual consumption. The pinyon nuts would also be sold to local traders for cash.

Horseback riding is another recreational source, as horses and horse stables were observed. "Chicken Pulls" or rodeos are also a traditional sport and form of outdoor recreation in the region. Community rodeo grounds are located at Mariano Lake.

Outdoor recreation would come in relation to the traditional livestock raising to the people in the vicinity of Mariano Lake. In contrast to their regular jobs, fence building, ranching, farming activities would provide the ultimate form of outdoor recreation to the local families. This type of outdoor recreation (life style) would provide the relaxation, at the same time feeling of accomplishment, and family member reinforcement.

#### 3.1.9 Traffic

Motorized traffic using the existing roads will not be a factor during construction and operation of the power line. The proposed power line is located in a predominantly rural setting. Traffic will not be a significant factor in this proposed action.

#### 3.1.10 Noise

In acoustics, noise is defined as any undesired sound. The measurement of any sound stimulus is commonly made with a meter and a frequency analyzer. Meter measurement results are given in decibels (db). The normal ambient noise level in the vicinity of the proposed site fluctuates between 1 db (soft whisper) and occasionally 10 db (strong winds). Construction activities will generate noises which cannot be considered normal for the area. Noise levels in the 90 to 100 db range may be generated by the operation of heavy construction equipment.

Construction hours of operation will be 8:00 am to 7:00 pm during the day light hours. Noise from construction activities will not have a significant adverse effect on the local population and environment.

#### 3.1.11 Floodplain

According to National Flood Hazard Layer maps, the proposed project area is not located in a flood prone area, and is excluded from any floodplain designation by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. On the north side, the proposed power line alignment would span a short segment of arroyo of the Puerco River, a short distance of approximately 20 feet (right of way width). All major drainages in the area are designated as 1% Annual Chance of Flood Hazard (FEMA, 2018). The arroyo is dry most of the year. The site topography at this site generally dip west at approximately 2-3 degrees, which allows for ample drainage.

Generally, the primary discharges of these drainages in the Navajo region occur during the spring months, during the spring snow thaw, and during occasional intense summer thundershowers in late summer. As a result, flow is erratic and fluctuates widely both seasonally and annually. Torrential thunderstorms can produce flood-stage flows within minutes (Cooley, M. E., J. W. Harshbarger, J. P. Akers, & W. F. Hardt, 1969).

#### 3.1.12 Wetlands and Riparian Habitat

The proposed project and action area would not traverse any wetland or riparian habitat on or adjacent to the proposed tract. There are no jurisdictional wetlands within the project area. The Gallup, NM National Wetlands Map were reviewed. Livestock impoundments are classified as Palustine (*PUSAh*), unconsolidated shoreline, temporary flooded, and a dike/impoundment. *PUSAh* locations are located throughout the project area. These water impoundments are livestock watering points. The project would have no effect on the impoundments, as wetlands or riparian habitat occurrences do not exist on the project site. Existing livestock watering impoundments in the vicinity do not exhibit hydric soils, nor hydrophilic vegetation, nor do they support a wetland hydrology (U.S. ACOE, 1987). There are no wetlands or riparian habitat occurrences on or near the proposed project area alignments. No mitigation measures are recommended for wetland / riparian areas.

#### 3.1.13 Hazardous, Toxic, and Radiological Waste

Other than roaming livestock, there are no previous industrial uses of the area. The proposed power line and adjoining property have never been used as a gas station, motor repair facility, commercial printing facility, dry cleaner, photo developing laboratory, junk yard or landfill, or as a waste treatment, storage, disposal, processing or recycling facility. The propose project does not contain any damaged or discarded automotive or industrial batteries, pesticides, paints or other chemicals (stored or used). No fill dirt has been brought onto the property that originated from a contaminated site. There is no evidence of leaks and spills of hazardous substance or spills of petroleum products on the properties.

No Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Subtitle C hazardous waste sites, nor RCRA Subtitle D, non-hazardous solid waste sites occur on or near the project area. No Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) waste sites occur on or near the existing site. Hence, there will be no residual hazardous effects on the proposed right of way.

#### 3.2 Topography and Soils

#### Existing Conditions

In the project area, dipping cuestas of shale and sedimentary rock is bisected by numerous tributaries that flow north to the Rio Puerco wash. The Rio Puerco flows west. Land form in the project area, and north of Mariano Lake, is characterized as high ridges and hills at an average elevation of 7200' amsl.

Soils on the proposed right of way are generally from sandstone of the Highdye-Evpark-Bryway and Evpark-Arabrab Soil Associations. Soils are made up of sandy loams and clays at 1 to 15 inches deep. The existing sagebrush and grassland-Pinyon-Juniper Savannah is a positive indicator of deep sandy loam soils. These soils are generally free of any chemical adversity. Bedrock or parent material exists at the C horizon at 15" to 20" deep. Parent soils of the C horizon contain sandstone of the Dakota Formation (NRCS, 2018).

#### Effects

The propose project construction work or other related activities would not have impact on the surface topography or soils in the project area. No impacts to the surface and natural ground (soils) in the vicinity of the proposed project.

#### Mitigation

The proposed power lines would not have any impact to topography or soils. No mitigation is required to vicinity soils, or topography.

#### 3.3 Water Resources and Water Quality

#### Existing Conditions

Land form in the Echo Canyon Road area is characterized as high ridges and hills that dip north, bisected by numerous tributaries that flow north to the Puerco River wash, normally dry most of the year. Outcrops of the Lower Mancos Formation are of shale and sedimentary rock. Torrential thunderstorms can produce flood-stage flows within minutes (Cooley, M. E., J. W. Harshbarger, J. P. Akers, & W. F. Hardt, 1969).

The Mariano Lake Community Water System, operated by Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA). The utility provides Safe Drinking Water to residents of Mariano Lake and the surrounding communities of Rocky Canyon, Red Willow, and Echo Canyon. The BIA school operates their own water system and distribution. Water storage tanks are located south of Mariano Lake. The existing water pipelines are located throughout subchapters.

#### Effects

The proposed project construction work or other related activities would not have impact on any springs, wells or aquifer recharge areas. No impacts to the surface and natural ground water in the vicinity of the proposed project may be expected.

#### Mitigation

The new power lines would not have any impact to the existing community water system. No mitigation is required.

# **3.4 Vegetation and Wildlife Biotic Community - Pinyon-Juniper (P-J) Savannah Ecosystem** Existing Conditions

The proposed project area, Echo Canyon Road, is located in the Pinyon-Juniper (P-J) Savannah Ecosystem, located in high plateau country of northwestern New Mexico (Brown, D. E., 1994). At approximately 7,200 feet amsl, the proposed right of way tract is characterized by natural open areas and the P-J ecotone, Pinyon pine *Pinus edulis*, Juniper trees *Juniperus monosperma* and numerous natural grasses. These trees and grasses are the dominant species in this savannah biome type.

The P-J and natural grass biome encompasses the entire Echo Canyon Road project area. Under natural conditions, growing amid the P-J understory, are shrubs, grasses, forbs and annuals. These plants form the ecological backbone of the savannah ecosystem. The ecosystem provides food, shelter, cover, and nesting sites for birds, mammals, insects, and reptiles. Sagebrush, rabbit brush, yucca and snakeweed are some of the shrub species. Grass cover may be a mixture of dropseed, galleta, blue grama, ring muhly, and other species (Brown, D.E., and C.H. Lowe, 1994).

The natural open areas are typically composed of annuals, grasses, e.g. cheatgrass *Bromus* tectorum blue grama *Bouteloua gracilis*, galleta *Pleuraphis jamesii*, dropseeds *Sporobolus* cryptandrus and Indianrice grass *Oryzopsis hymenoides*, and shrubs, e.g. rabbitbrush *Chysothamnus nauseosus*, sagebrush *Artremisia spp.*, threadleaf groundsel *Senecio flaccidus*, banana yucca *Yucca baccata* and broom snakeweed *Gutierrezia sarothrae*.

Annual plants such as cheatgrass *Bromus tectorum*, Russian thistle *Salsolia kali*, tansy mustard *Descurainia obtusa*, sun flower *Helianthur annus* and kochia weed *Bassia hyssopifolia* occur on the site.

The fauna of the Juniper Savannah is somewhat diverse than that of other habitats. Mule deer *Odocoileus hemionus* and elk *cervus canadensis* may roam the area in transit during late fall and winter months. Other big game species, the black bear *Ursus americanus* and wild turkey *Meleagris gallopavo*, are not found in the project area, as marginal foraging habitat exists. Mule deer and elk may frequent the area during the cold winter months. Construction of the proposed

site in this residential and rural setting will not have an effect on the natural habitat necessary for the continued survival of these species.

Most abundant small mammals include blacktail jack rabbits *Lepus californicus*, mountain cottontails *Sylvilagus nuttalli*, pinyon mice *Peromyscus truei*, valley gophers *Thomomys bottae*, porcupines *Erethizon dorsatum*, Mexican woodrats *Neotoma mexicana* and Ord's kangaroo rats *Dipodomys ordi*.

Characteristic breeding birds of this ecosystem include common night hawks *Chordeiles minor*, pinyon jay gymnorhinus cyanocephalus, Northern flickers *Colaptes auratus*, Western kingbirds *Tyrannus verticalis*, horned larks *Eremophila alpestris*, loggerhead shrikes *Lanius ludovicianus*, sparrows Spizella spp., grey-headed juncos *Junco hyemalis* and common ravens *Corvus corax*.

Reptiles include striped plateau lizards *Sceloporus virgatus*, plateau whiptails *Cnemidophorus velox* and short-horned lizards *Phrynosoma douglassii*.

# Effects

The proposed project is located in a rangeland and human activity area. Existing houses are located in the project area. Rangeland and livestock production is the dominant land use the project area (§ 5.2). Local residents use the Echo Canyon Road and adjoining Navajo Route 49 to commute daily to and from work. Construction traffic and local traffic noise would be low and frequent.

#### Mitigation

The forest products scheduled to be harvested and removed from the project area will be appraised in accordance to the *Navajo Nation Forest and Woodland Regulations* (RCMA-48-01). Forest products will be removed in accordance with Navajo Nation and Bureau of Indian Affairs laws and regulations.

Forest products harvested on Navajo Tribal Trust Lands will be harvested in accordance with the attached Standard Provisions and Special Provisions A. An approved Tribal Permit form or Bureau of Indian Affairs permit form will be issued to the Permittee prior to any product harvesting activities.

Forest products harvested on Indian Allotments will be harvested in accordance with the attached Standard Provisions and Special Provisions B. An approved Bureau of Indian Affairs permit form will be issued to the Permittee by the Navajo Region Branch of Forestry prior to any forest product harvesting activities.

The single phase electrical powerline would be designed according to the avian protection on power lines. The *Navajo Nation Raptor Electrocution Prevention Regulations,* Navajo Council Resource and Development Committee Resolution RCS-43-08, would be complied with to reduce the unlikelihood of potential raptor electrocution. All single or three phase electrical power poles and cross arms would follow the design standards to protect Golden Eagles and Ferruginous Hawks. No other direct mitigation is recommended for the fauna species.

#### 3.5 Threatened and Endangered Species

#### 3.5.1 Federal Threatened and Endangered Species

In consultation with the Navajo Natural Heritage Program, a field survey of the Echo Canyon Road Power Line Project was conducted May 1, 2017. Based on the field surveys, no Federal Endangered Species Act listed species, or potential habitats were found in the proposed project area. Therefore a no effect was determined for the listed species. Biological Resources Compliance Form, 18danl101ec, was received January 29, 2018. Table 3 summarizes the potential for federally listed species that would occur in the project area. Project Biological Resource Compliance Form is exhibited at Appendix D. The proposed action alternative would have no effect on the listed federally ESA, NESL, and MBTA species.

#### 3.5.1 Existing Conditions

The field survey was conducted to determine existing condition of wildlife habitat (cover, shelter/nesting activity, watering, forage condition & space), current land use and impacts of human activity, and possible project mitigation. The field survey also included a reconnaissance of wetland resources. The entire proposed project area was covered during pedestrian and roadside surveys. No ESA listed species or potential critical habitat, that would warrant special management consideration, were found in the proposed project area.

The Navajo Natural Heritage Program data response lists one Federal ESA species, the Zuni Rhizome Fleabane, listed as threatened. The proposed project is not expected to affect any federally listed species in the project area.

#### 3.5.1 Effects-Table 3

Table 3 illustrates the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species Act listing. The table describes the species existing condition/habitat requirements, species effects, and occurrence.

	Zuni Rhizome Fleabane Erigeron	
Zuni Rhizome Fleabane Erigeron rhizomatus (ESA T, NESL G3)	<i>rhizomatus</i> (ESA T, NESL G3) is typically found on fine textured clay soils on hillsides of mid to high elevations of 7,000 to 8,300 feet. It is known to inhabit clay soils derived from the Chinle Formation in the Zuni and Chuska Mountains, and to similar clays of the Baca Formation in the Datil and Sawtooth ranges in New Mexico (NNHP, 2008). On the Navajo Nation the species is found on the slopes of the Chuska Mountains from Lukachukai and west of Red Valley, Apache County, Arizona south to Navajo in McKinley County, New Mexico.	<b>NP</b> – Habitat not present and species unlikely to occur within the project area. The plant species was not present during the field surveys.

Table 3. Federal ESA Species Listed in Consultation with the Navajo Natural Heritage Program, Navajo Department of Fish & Wildlife.

The Rhizome Fleabane was not found on the project right of way or zone of influence during the field surveys. Initial field surveys indicate T&E species are not present on the proposed right of

way, therefore potential use of marginal habitat by the species would not be loss. The proposed project would not cause an incremental loss of potential nesting, cover and forage habitat of terrestrial ESA flora and fauna species. Approval of the proposed right of way would not have a long termed adverse effect on the species, as the species are not present on the proposed project area.

#### 3.5.1 Mitigation-Avoidance

The Rhizone Fleabane is not found in the project right of way or zone of influence. No mitigation is planned for the fleabane species.

#### 3.5.2 Navajo Endangered Species List (NESL) Special Management Species

In consultation with the Navajo Natural Heritage Program, a field survey of the Echo Canyon Road Power Line Project was conducted May 1, 2017. Based on the field surveys, no Navajo Endangered Species List species, or potential habitats were found in the proposed project area. Therefore a no effect was determined for the listed species. Biological Resources Compliance Form, 18danl101ec, was received January 29, 2018. Table 3 summarizes the potential for federally listed species that would occur in the project area. Project Biological Resource Compliance Form is exhibited at Appendix D. The proposed action alternative would have no effect on the listed federally ESA, NESL, and MBTA species.

#### 3.5.2 Existing Conditions

Onsite field surveys for threatened and endangered species were conducted by Denali Environmental Services to determine existing condition of wildlife habitat (cover, shelter/nesting activity, watering, forage condition & space), current land use and impacts of human activity, and possible project mitigation. The field survey also included a reconnaissance of wetland resources. The entire proposed project area was covered during the roadside and pedestrian surveys; none of the special management NESL species were observed during the surveys.

The Navajo Natural Heritage Program April 4, 2017 letter lists known and potential species that warranted special management considerations by the proposed project. Table 4 illustrates the NESL species, as listed in the Navajo Natural Heritage Program data request/response letter. With respect to the species listing, the table describes the species existing condition/habitat requirements, and species effects. The proposed action would have no significant effects on any of the NESL special management species.

3.5.2 Effects - Table 4.

 Table 4. Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife Special Management Species and their

 Potential to Occur in the Project Action Areas Based Upon Habitat Associations.

 SPECIES

SPECIES /NESL STATUS	HABITAT ASSOCIATIONS	POTENTIAL TO OCCUR IN PROJECT OR ACTION AREA
FAUNA		
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> NESL G3	Nest on steep cliffs, normally adjacent to foraging habitat of desert grasslands or desertscrub. Nests are reused and tend to become a huge mass of sticks and debris. Generally, Golden Eagle foraging habitat is present outside the project area. The onsite shrub/ grassland adjacent to the action area would provide foraging habitat for the raptor, as a variety of small mammals would inhabit the grassland. These small mammals, of marginal abundance, would serve as prey for the raptor.	<b>NS</b> - Habitat is marginally suitable, but species is not suspected to occur within the project area. The natural area contains large expanses of dense Pinyon-Juniper and sagebrush woodland, which may be suitable for foraging habitat. The woodland generally lacks the prey base as required for the eagle. The eagle may use the prey base for marginal foraging. The specie was not present during the field surveys.
Peregrine Falcon Falco peregrinus NESL G4 Delisted from endangered	Natural foraging habitat surrounding nest site must support populations of their preferred prey. Foraging habitat includes support populations of their preferred prey. Doves, pigeons, waterfowl and small birds are their preferred forage.	NS - Habitat is marginally suitable, but species is not suspected to occur within the project area. The action area contains large expanses pinyon/juniper & sagebrush woodland that may not be suitable for foraging & nesting, as the rodent prey base is not present. The specie was not present during the field surveys.
Ferruginous Hawk <i>Buteo regalis</i> NESL G3	Nests are located in badlands, flat or rolling desert grasslands, and desertscrub. Most nests on Eastern Navajo Agency are on pinnacles, small buttes, or short cliffs; fewer are placed in tops of juniper trees or on the ground. Foraging habitat for the hawk include populations of prey animals: cottontails, jack rabbits, and prairie dogs. The hawk is a year around resident of the Navajo Nation; most breed in northwestern New Mexico,	<b>NS</b> In an area of moderate human activity and noise, no Ferruginous Hawks or nests were found along the proposed right of way or zone of influence. Previous and existing land uses (residential clusters, small farm plots, livestock grazing and transportation corridor) of the property has rendered the right of way unsuitable for hawk nesting.
Burrowing Owl Athene cunicularia NESL G4	The owl found in dry, open, short- grass, treeless plains. inhabits grassland shrub-steppe dominated by mixed grasses. Casual vagrant to prairie dog colonies, occupying abandoned holes in grassland biomes at 6,200-6,400 feet amsl, the owl rarely dig their own burrows and are typically associated with prairie dog	<b>NS</b> - Habitat suitable but species is not suspected to occur within the project area. No large prairie dog colonies or short grassland occur within the project or action area. The proposed action alternative would have no effect on the listed NESL owl species or their habitat.

	colonies. Use areas that include shrubs such as fourwing saltbush and rabbitbrush, the owl also inhabits human-modified landscapes, such as golf courses and parking lots.	
Northern Leopard Frog <i>Lithobates pipiens</i> NESL G2	Species requires wetland and aquatic habitats. It inhabits wet meadows and fields bordering springs, slow streams, marshes, bogs, ponds, canals, flood plains, reservoirs, lakes, and is usually found near permanent water with rooted aquatic vegetation.	<b>K</b> – Known, documented observation within project area. The action area contains an open mix-conifer & oak forest. Suitable wetland or riparian habitat, the aquatic habitat for the frog is not present on the propose project area. The species was not present during the field surveys.
FLORA		
Sivinskii's Fleabane <i>Erigeron sivinskii</i> NESL G4	The Sivinski's fleabane <i>Erigeron</i> <i>sivinskii</i> ranges from Apache County, Arizona and McKinley County, New Mexico. The fleabane occurs on steep barren ground, shale slopes of the Chinle Formation, in pinyon-juniper woodland, and the Great Basin Desert Scrub communities. Known populations occur at 6100 feet to 7400 feet elevation. Suitable habitat can be identified year around.	<b>NP</b> – Habitat not present and species unlikely to occur within the project area. The plant species was not present during the field surveys. No mitigation is recommended for the fleabane.
Acoma Fleabane <i>Erigeron acomanus</i> (NESL G3)	Acoma Fleabane occurs in the pinyon- juniper woodland, on sandy soils of the Entrada Sandstone Formation. The fleabane is found at 7,000 feet amsl, north of Thoreau and north of Prewitt, New Mexico. The plant flowers in July, June thru August is recommended for the best time to field survey for the plant.	NP – Habitat not present and species unlikely to occur within the project area. The plant species was not present during the field surveys. No mitigation is recommended for the fleabane.
Navajo Bladderpod <i>Lesquerella navajoensis</i> NESL G3	Species mostly occurs on windward, windswept mesa rims and nearby habitat with little vegetative cover and high insolation. Also found at the base and slopes of small hills of the Chinle Formation. Typically only found in a combination of Todilto Limestone overlaying Entrada Sandstone or Chinle outcrops in pinyon-juniper communities. Suitable habitat can be identified year around.	NP – Habitat not present and species unlikely to occur within the project area. The plant species was not present during the field surveys. No mitigation is recommended for the bladderpod.
S – Suitable habitat and	d observation within project area. species suspected to occur within the ut species is not suspected to occur wit	

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# NP - Habitat not present and species unlikely to occur within the project area.

The proposed power line right of way will have no effect on NESL species, as the species are not present. Initial field surveys indicate T&E species are not present on the proposed right of way, therefore potential use of marginal habitat by NESL species would not further be loss. The proposed project would not cause an incremental loss of potential nesting, cover and forage habitat of terrestrial NESL flora and fauna species. Approval of the proposed right of way would not have a long-term adverse effect on these species, as these species are not present on the proposed project area.

#### 3.5.2 Mitigation of NESL Species

We conclude disturbed surface would be at a temporary loss. In the aftermath of construction, the reclaimed right of way would likely again contain favorable wildlife habitat, forage and cover, required for all species, including threatened and endangered species. The seed mixture could contain forbs and shrubs that would present suitable habitat. This indirect mitigation is recommended for all fauna and flora on the proposed right of way, including ESA and NESL species. Natural vegetative cover can be restored over time.

The single phase electrical powerline would be designed according to the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee's *Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines: The State of the Art in 2012* (APLIC/U.S. F&WS, 2005). In addition, the single phase electrical powerline would be designed according to the avian protection on power lines. The *Navajo Nation Raptor Electrocution Prevention Regulations*, Navajo Council Resource and Development Committee Resolution RCS-43-08, would be complied with to reduce the unlikelihood of potential raptor electrocution. All single or three phase electrical power poles and cross arms would follow the design standards. No other direct mitigation is recommended for the fauna species. The proposed power line project should not impact any threatened & endangered species or their habitat.

#### 3.6 Migratory Bird Treaty Act-Birds

# Existing Conditions

Migratory birds and their habitats are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 USC §703-712) and EO 13186. All federal agencies are required to consider management impacts to protect migratory non-game birds. Executive Order 13186 calls for increased efforts to more fully implement the MBTA. In 2008, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) list of "Birds of Conservation Concern" was reviewed, specifically as they pertain to the Colorado Plateau physiographic area. The area indicates there are 27 avian species occurring on the southern Rocky Mountains and Colorado Plateau. See Table 5.

Most priority bird species occur on the USFWS, Division of Migratory Bird Management "Birds of Conservation Concern 2008". The Service designates the Southern Rockies / Colorado Plateau region as Bird Conservation Region 16, which the Navajo Indian Reservation and Eastern Navajo Agency are included.

Effects-Table 5

Table 5. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Migratory Bird Management "Bird of Conservation Concern 2008" for the Southern Rockies/ Colorado Plateau (US F&WS, 2008).

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SPECIES	HABITAT ASSOCIATION	EFFECTS EFF RAT	
Gunnison Sage Grouse Centrocercus minimus	Inhabits shrub-steppe dominated by sagebrush that provide canopy cover, shelter, & forage.	No suitable habitat.	Zero
American Bittern <i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	Wading bird inhabits wetlands, usually dense marsh reeds, rushes and sedges.	No suitable habitat present.	Zero
Bald Eagle Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Nests in old growth ponderosa pine and Douglas fir forest. Forages on fish and waterfowl. Inhabits the coast, rivers, large lakes; also mountain open country.	Generally, the Montane Ponderosa Pine forest type is suitable habitat for the Bald Eagle.	Low
Ferruginous hawk Buteo regalis	Inhabits open grasslands or desert scrub ecosystems. Nest often occurs on rock spires and butte formations. In woodland edge habitat, nests on flat-topped junipers.	stems. Nest often occurs pated es and butte formations. l edge habitat, nests on	
Golden Eagle Aqulia crysaetos	Open grasslands or desert scrub, In mountainous canyon terrain. Nest on cliffs and trees	Little conflict antici- pated	Low
Peregrine Falcon Falco peregrinus	Inhabits rugged terrain with rocky cliffs and canyons 30 to 1,000 ft. high, adjacent to rivers lakes, or streams. Urban areas with towers and buildings are also inhabited	Little conflict anticipated.	Low
Prairie Falcon Falco mexicanus	Nests and forages in grassland, and open Juniper Savannah.	No conflict anticipated.	Low
Snowy Plover Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus/tenuirostris	Shore bird inhabits barren sandy beaches and flats.	Suitable habitat not present, no conflict anticipated.	Zero
Mountain Plover Charadrius montanus	e and the second s		Low
ong-billed CurlewNests in wet & dry upland fields. In migration, a shore bird of wetlands and agriculture fields.Suitable habitat not present, no conflict anticipated.		Zero	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo Coccyzus americanus	No suitable riparian habitat present.Inhabits open woods, orchards, and streamside willow and alder groves.	No conflict anticipated	Zero
Flammulated Owl Otus flammcolus	Inhabits pine-oak woodland, ponderosa pine forest.	Suitable habitat present.	Moderate

Burrowing Owl Athene cunicularia	Inhabits grassland shrub-steppe dominated by mixed grasses. Casual vagrant to prairie dog colonies, occupying abandoned holes.	Little conflict anticipated.	Low
Lewis's Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	Inhabits woodland forests of pine-oak. Nests in oak cavities and pine snags. Forages and stores acorns and insects.	Little conflict anticipated.	Low
Willow Flycatcher Empidonax traillii	Inhabits brushy habitats in wet areas; also in pastures, mountain meadows.	No suitable habitat.	Zero
Gray Vireo Vireo vicinior	Found in juniper savannah and open JP woodland, with scrub component. Inhabits mountains and chaparral- juniper scrubland.	No suitable habitat. Little conflict anticipated.	Low
Pinyon Jay Gymnprjomus cyanocephalus	Juniper Savannah, woodland, pine-oak ecosystems associated with high open habitats w/ openings, scattered trees or shrub components.	A multi ecosystem inhabitant, little conflict anticipated.	Low
Juniper Titmouse Baeolophus ridgwayi	Inhabits juniper-pinyon woodland.	No suitable habitat.	Zero
Veery Catharus fuscescens	Inhabits dense moist woodlands and streamside thickets. Casual in the Southwest.	No suitable habitat.	Zero
Bendire's Thrasher Toxostoma bendirei	Brushy desert shrub, especially areas of tall vegetation, cholla cactus, creosote bush and yucca.	No suitable habitat.	Zero
Grace's Warbler Dendroica graciae	Inhabits coniferous or mixed forests of southwest mountains, especially yellow pines. Usually forages high in the trees.	Suitable habitat present. Little conflict antici- pated	Low
Brewer's Sparrow Spizella breweri	Inhabits mountain meadows and sagebrush flats.	Little conflict antici- pated	Low
Grasshopper Sparrow Ammodramus savannarum	Inhabits moderately open grassland habitats, with patchy bare ground, and avoid areas with extensive shrub cover. Feeds and nests on ground.	No suitable habitat.	Zero
Chestnut-collared Long- spur Calcarius ornatus	Inhabits upland grassland, generally found in dense grass; gregarious in fall and winter.	No suitable habitat.	Zero
Black Rosy-Finch Leucosticte atrata	Inhabits high mountains, rocky summits, alpine cirques and snowfields; winters in open country at lower elevations, spreading onto the plains.	Project area may contain suitable habitat.	Low

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Brown-capped Rosy Finch <i>Leucosticte australis</i>	Inhabits high mountains, rocky summits, alpine cirques and snowfields; winters in open country at lower elevations, spreading onto the plains	Project area may contain suitable habitat.	Low
Cassin's Finch Carpodacus cassinii	Woodland Ecosystem. Species inhabits evergreen woodlands.	Project area may contain suitable habitat.	Low

Although migratory birds could potentially occur in the area, none were observed during the environmental site visits. With respect to Table 5, the proposed construction would have no significant effect on the migratory bird species or their habitat. The proposed action alternative would result in a short-term and small scale loss of vegetation due to construction. No permanent loss of native vegetation is anticipated at the project area. Eolian deposits of native seed from the undisturbed vegetation would also help to propagate native plant species.

Once the habitat has reestablished, wildlife and migratory bird species would be expected to return to the area. To avoid any potential effects to migratory bird species or migratory bird habitat, the construction of the project would take place outside the nesting season. No long-term loss of vegetation or wildlife habitat is expected. As a result, the proposed replacement action would have no significant effects on migratory bird species.

#### Mitigation of Migratory Birds

The proposed project construction would have no significant effect on the migratory bird species or their habitat. NNDF&W policy mandates that prior to construction the proposed activity would require a preconstruction survey of potential nesting birds on the tract, should construction occur during the breeding season. Any bird nests found within the proposed project area will be reported to the NDF&W biologist for appropriate mitigation prior to construction activities.

The activity will minimize the possibility of unintentional take of migratory birds. The proposed construction would involve vegetative disturbance (brush and tree removal). Construction activities from May 15 to July 31 will not be permitted without a migratory bird nest survey. If any active nests are located within the proposed project area, projects activities will not be permitted until written approval by NNDF&W biologist. The operator will monitor any active nests located from a nest survey.

In conclusion, Federal ESA listed T&E species and NESL Species of Concern are not present on the existing and power line right of way. The species are unlikely to be present on the right of way due to the absence of habitat: cover, forage, and nesting habitat requirements. The existing power line and immediate vicinity is disturbed by human activity. At various project construction intervals in the project area has resulted in an atypical vegetative cover and disturbed soils, as various intervals of grading and uncontrolled grazing were implemented. Suitable species habitat is not found within the proposed project area or adjacent to the existing roadway.

#### 3.7 Esthetics and Visual Resources

#### **Existing Conditions**

Unlike other federal public lands, no regional esthetics or visibility studies have been conducted or designated in the project area. However, regional esthetics and visibility in the project area can be considered to be good.

Effects

The proposed project is not located on public lands within an area designated under any federal classification. The Native American People consider their lands as sacred, because of the traditional cultural property, historic tradition, sensitivity, scenic quality, and distance. The tribe would not allow degradation to even those lands containing the least amount of valued esthetics and visual resources, which basically do not exist on tribal lands. After construction, the visual modification would contain the power line, which level of change may be visible, but should not attract attention long-term. During construction, impact to esthetics and visual resources in the project area will be moderate and short-term; visual impacts would be low during operations and maintenance.

Mitigation

No direct mitigation is proposed for esthetics and visual resources.

#### 3.8 Cultural Resources

#### Existing Condition

Dinetahdoo Cultural Resource Management, LLC of Farmington, New Mexico conducted the project Archeological field survey and crafted a field inventory report entitled: *A Cultural Resource Inventory of the Proposed Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc (CDEC) Echo Canyon Powerline Project in Mariano Lake Chapter, McKinley County, New Mexico (Work Order #52521).* A Cultural Resource Compliance Form, NNHPD Number HPD-18-385 - Revised, has been created for this undertaking, as shown in Appendix C.

As part of the archeological inventory, interviews regarding traditional cultural properties (TCPs) were conducted with the local land users and chapter officials.

Effects/Mitigation-Conditions of Compliance

No historic properties affected with the following condition for site B17396/TCP1:

1. TCP will be avoided by all construction activities by a minimum of 50-ft.

2. Once construction is completed, TCP will continue to be avoided by routine maintenance activities.

The project sponsor acknowledges the following statement with respect to cultural resources during construction: In the event of the discovery ['discovery" means any previously unidentified or incorrectly identified cultural resources; including but not limited to archaeological deposits, human remains, or locations reportedly associated with Native American religious/traditional beliefs or practices] all operations in the immediate vicinity will cease and the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department will be notified at (928) 871-7198.

# 4.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR SELECTION OF THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Cumulative effects are effects of the project in consideration with other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable projects in the local area. There are no past projects that resulted in identifiable long-term effects having a cumulative relationship with the effects of the proposed project.

In the future, there would be no other proposals or other right of way applications planned in the reasonably foreseeable future in the area. The proposed lease application action will not have significant impact on the human environment. The approval of the requested use area would have minimal effect on the resource use patterns in the project area. The grazing permit holders and allotment owners would relinquish trust land and allotted land respectively to the development. It is the practice of the government to compensate the traditional land user for the grazing resource loss.

Climate change results from the incremental addition of greenhouse gases a (GHG) emissions from millions of individual sources, which collectively have a large impact on a global scale. Climate change is a particularly complex challenge given its global nature and the inherent interrelationships among its sources, causation, mechanisms of action, and impacts (CEQ, 2016).

In regard to cumulative impacts on regional air quality and climate change from greenhouse gas emissions, the lack of scientific tools designed to predict climate change on regional or local scales limits the ability to quantify potential future impacts of the proposed project. Analyzing greenhouse gases emission and the effects of climate change relevant to a proposed action – particularly how climate change may change an action's effects of a propose project – is currently not available. The propose action, construction of a new power line, is not listed among the standard of performance for new stationary source in accordance with 40 Code of Federal Regulation part 60, National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS, CAA, 1990).

# 5.0 COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS

**Clean Air Act, as amended and recodified (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.)** *Compliance.* The proposed project is not expected to violate any Federal air quality standards and would not degrade the attainment of air quality objectives of the air shed.

**Clean Water Act § 402** *Compliance.* The Environmental Protection Agency administers Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (formerly the Federal Water Pollution Control Act). Operators are normally required to obtain all necessary permits and approvals for projects requiring CWA permits prior to any disturbance activities.

**Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.)** *Compliance.* No Federally listed species or their habitats have been identified in or near the project area. ESA requires all federal departments and agencies to conserve threatened and endangered species and the habitats on which they depend, and to consult with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), on all actions authorized, funded or carried out by the agency to ensure that the action will not likely jeopardize the continued existence of any threatened and endangered species or adversely modify critical

habitat. Special management species (NESL) habitat has been identified as Raptor Sensitive Area. CDECI will implement measures to avoid impacts to the species during construction.

**Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management** *Compliance.* This order directs all Federal agencies to avoid to the extent possible the adverse effects associated with the modification of floodplains, and to avoid support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative. Floodplains would have no effect on the proposed project, as shown in Section 3.1.11.

**Executive Order 12898 Environmental Justice** *Compliance.* The order direct all Federal agencies to identify and address disproportionate adverse effects of their programs, polices, and activities on minority and low-income populations. The proposed action will benefit all sectors of society; no minority or low income populations would be directly adversely affected from proposed action. Indirect effects could include positive effects due to overall benefit related to the project site in the area. The project would increase the quality of life for the residents.

**Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.)** *Compliance.* There are no effects on prime farmland or farmland of statewide importance because no prime farmland exists in the project area.

**Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.)/ EO 13186** *Compliance.* Migratory birds and their habitats are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 USC §703-712) and EO 13186. All federal agencies are required to consider management impacts to protect migratory non-game birds. Executive Order 13186 calls for increased efforts to more fully implement the MBTA. The proposed action would have no significant effect on the bird species or their habitat.

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.)** *Compliance.* The final EA and signed FONSI are in full compliance with NEPA.

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.) *Compliance.* The Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department requires NHPA compliance and consultation with all development projects on the Navajo Nation. NNHPD has determined that NHPA § 106 responsibilities are adhered to, as no historic properties would be affected. See Appendix C.

**Recourse Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Comprehensive Environmental Response Conservation and Liabilities Act (CERCLA), or Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA)** *Compliance.* There are no Recourse Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Comprehensive Environmental Response Conservation and Liabilities Act (CERCLA), or Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) sites on the proposed site.

#### 6.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

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The Mariano Lake Chapter has passed a resolution approving the proposed power line extensions. See Appendix B. In the future, the Eastern Navajo Agency would review and consider the right of way application, and process the application for passage. The Branch of Environmental Quality Act Compliance and Review of the Navajo Regional Office, BIA, would make a Finding of No Significant Impact determination as result of their review.

#### 7.0 COORDINATION AND REVIEW OF THE EA

Dinetahdoo Cultural Resource Management, LLC of Farmington, New Mexico conducted the project archeological survey and crafted a field report. Cultural Resource Compliance Form, NNHPD Number HPD-18-385, has been created for this undertaking, as shown in Appendix C.

CDECI conducted consultation with the Navajo Department of Fish and Wildlife, Navajo Nation. The consultation would assure mandated protection of Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Navajo Endangered Species List (NESL) threatened and endangered species. The Navajo Department of Fish and Wildlife website was consulted for the Biological Resources Land Clearance Policy and Procedures. A NDF&W-NHP concurrence letter and a *Biological Resource Compliance Form*, at Appendices D, is created for the project.

#### 8.0 CONCLUSIONS

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This Environmental Assessment addresses the proposed action relative to the existing conditions, potential effects, and mitigation for the power line construction, on the Navajo Indian lands. The preferred alternative is reasonable. Impacts to the environment would be non-significant and short-term. The approval of the requested use area would have minimal effect on the resource use patterns in the project area. There would be no cumulative adverse effects of the proposed project. The proposed action would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment; no significant impacts have been identified in the development of this environment assessment. Therefore, furtherance of an environmental impact statement development will not be required. CDECI construction and operations of the proposed power line project is recommended.

#### 9.0 LIST OF PREPARERS / CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

This environmental assessment was prepared by Mr. Leonard Robbins, PES, Denali Environmental Services, P. O. Box 1127, Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504, denali1946@msn.com.

#### **10.0 REFERENCES**

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#### BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE FORM NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE P.O. BOX 1480, WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA 86515-1480

It is the Department's opinion the project described below, with applicable conditions, is in compliance with Tribal and Federal laws protecting biological resources including the Navajo Endangered Species and Environmental Policy Codes, U.S. Endangered Species, Migratory Bird Treaty, Eagle Protection and National Environmental Policy Acts. This form does not preclude or replace consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service if a Federally-listed species is affected.

PROJECT NAME & NO .: Echo Canyon Road Power Line Right-of-Way, WO#52521

DESCRIPTION: CDEC proposes to construct, operate, and maintain a power line project to serve 17 homes within

Mariano Lake Chapter. The combined length of the power lines would be 29,384.53 ft. in length within 20-ft. wide

ROW corridor, encompassing 13.41 acres.

LOCATION: Sections 2, 3, 10, & 11, T15N, R14W and Sections 34, 35, & 36, T16N, R14W, Mariano Lake Chapter,

McKinley County, New Mexico

REPRESENTATIVE: Leonard Robbins, Denali Environmental Services for Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CDEC)

ACTION AGENCY: Navajo Nation and Bureau of Indian Affairs

B.R. REPORT TITLE / DATE / PREPARER: Echo Canyon Road Electrical Power Line Project WO#52521 BE for

ROW Application/JAN 2018/Denali Environmental Services

SIGNIFICANT BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES FOUND: Area 3.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS

NESL SPECIES POTENTIALLY IMPACTED: NA

FEDERALLY-LISTED SPECIES AFFECTED: NA

OTHER SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS TO BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: NA

AVOIDANCE / MITIGATION MEASURES: NA

CONDITIONS OF COMPLIANCE\*: NA

FORM PREPARED BY / DATE: Pamela A. Kyselka/29 JAN 2018

COPIES TO: (add categories as necessary)

2 NTC § 164 Recommendation:	Signature Samuelt- Alamo	Date 1/29/2018
Conditional Approval (with memo)	Gloria M. Tom, Director, Navajo Nation Depa	artment of Fish and Wildlife
Categorical Exclusion (with request	letter)	

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NNDFW -B.R.C.F.: FORM REVISED 12 NOV 2009

\*I understand and accept the conditions of compliance, and acknowledge that lack of signature may be grounds for the Department not recommending the above described project for approval to the Tribal Decision-maker.

Representative's signature

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Date

	EXHIBIT	
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#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### **BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS**

#### RIGHT-OF-WAY APPLICATION MUST IDENTIFY [§169.102(a)]:

- 1. Application Name and Address: Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc., PO Box 1087, 200 East High Street, Grants, New Mexico 87020
- 2. Allotment Number(s) affected by the right-of-way:\_
- 3. General location (easement location): <u>Navajo Tribal Trust Land, Echo Canyon Project,</u> <u>Mariano Lake Chapter, NMPM, McKinley County, New Mexico</u>
- 4. Purpose: (Per the request of the Navajo Nation and Mariano Lake Chapter), Construction, Operation, and Maintenance of Single Phase 14.4/24.9 kv Electrical Distribution Line & It's appurtenances for the Echo Canyon Power Line Project WO#52521. Will you please include the following language in the Presidents letter and Resolution; "The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby waives the requirements for the bond, consideration for right of way, insurance or alternative form of security on part of the Grantee, based on the determination that the project benefits the Navajo Nation and such waiver is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation, pursuant to Title 25, CFR 169.103" The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation council hereby agrees to waive compensation/consideration and valuation on part of the Grantee, based on the determination that the project benefits the Navajo Nation and such waiver is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation, pursuant to Title 25, CFR 169.103"
- 5. Term (Renewal, if applicable): 50 Years
- Identify ownership of permanent improvements associated with the right-of-way and the responsibility for constructing, operating, maintaining, and managing permanent improvements under §169.105: <u>Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc.</u>

#### REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS [§169.102(b)]:

- Accurate legal description of the right-of-way, its boundaries, and parcels associated with the right-of-way;
- 2. A map of definite location of the right-of-way; [169.102(b)(2)]; survey plat signed by professional surveyor or engineering showing the location, size, and extent of the ROW and other related parcels, with respect to each affected parcel of individually owned land, tribal land, or BIA land and with reference to the public surveys under 25 U.S.C. § 176, 43 U.S.C. § 2 and § 1764, and showing existing facilities adjacent to the proposed project.
- 3. Bond(s), insurance, and/or other security meeting the requirements of §169.103:
- 4. Record that notice of the right-of-way was provided to all Indian landowners;

- 5. Record of consent that the right-of-way meets the requirements of §169.107, or a statement documenting a request for a right-of-way without consent under §169.107(b);
- 6. If applicable, a valuation meeting and requirements of §§ 169.110, 112, 114;
- 7. With each application, if the applicant is a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, joint venture, or other legal entity, except a tribal entity, information such as organizational documents, certificates, filing records, and resolutions, demonstrating that:
  - a. The representative has authority to execute the application;
  - b. The right-of-way will be enforceable against the applicant; and
  - c. The legal entity is in good standing and authorized to conduct business in the jurisdiction where the land is located.
- Current environmental and archaeological reports, surveys, and site assessments, as needed to facilitate compliance with applicable Federal and tribal environmental and land use requirements;
- 9. If required, a statement from the appropriate tribal authority that the proposed right-of-way is in conformance with applicable tribal law.

THE APPLICANT FURTHER STRIPULATES AND EXPRESSLY AGREES AS FOLLOW:

To conform and abide by all applicable requirements with respect to the right-of-way herein applied for. The applicant agrees to conform to and abide by the rules, regulations, and requirements contained in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 25 Indians, part 169, as amended, and by reference includes such rules, regulations, and requirements as a part of this application to the same effect as if the same were herein set out in full.

Applicant Point of Contact Information:

Name: Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Address: 200 East High Street, PO Box 1087, Grants

State: Grants Zip: 87020

Phone: (505) 285-6656

Email: dolivar@cdec.coop or smorales@cdec.coop

Date:	May 28, 2019		
Applicar		too monda	(Signature)

Debbie Olivar or Steve Morales (Print Name)



#### RESOLUTION OF THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE 23<sup>rd</sup> Navajo Nation Council --- Fourth Year, 2018

#### AN ACTION

#### RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE; APPROVING A LIMIT OF THE WAIVER OF RIGHT-OF-WAY CONSIDERATION OF UP TO FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF THE ASSESSED CONSIDERATION

BE IT ENACTED:

#### SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

A. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 501 (B) (2), the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council has authority to give final approval of all land withdrawals, non-mineral leases, permits, licenses, rights-of-way, surface easements and bonding requirements on Navajo Nation lands and unrestricted (fee) land. This authority shall include subleases, modifications, assignments, leasehold encumbrances, transfers include, renewals, and terminations.

#### SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Resources and Development Committee receives many requests from utility companies seeking one hundred percent (100%) waivers of payment of right-of-way consideration.
- B. Right-of-way consideration fees generate substantial income for the Navajo Nation which is used to fund Navajo Nation programs for the Navajo People. With the anticipated closure of the Navajo Generating Station, the Navajo Nation will more urgently rely upon funds raised from right-of-way consideration. Because of the obligation to fund Navajo Nation programs, it is in the best interest of the Navajo Nation to limit the waiver of right-of-way consideration.
- C. The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 169.110 (a) (1)(2)(3) provides that the Navajo Nation may negotiate its right-ofway compensation, not require valuation of the right-of-way and authorize that it "[h]as determined that accepting such agreed-upon compensation and waiving valuation is in its best interest".

D. The Navajo Nation has agreement to waive consideration with the United States Bureau of Reclamation for the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply project. Limiting the waiver of consideration will not apply to these type of agreements between the Navajo Nation and the federal government.

#### SECTION THREE. APPROVAL

A. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby limits the walver of utility right-of-way consideration to up fifty (50) percent of the total consideration except instances of pre-existing contracts and agreements stating otherwise.

#### CERTIFICATION

1, hereby, certify that the following resolution was duly considered by the Resources and Development Committee of the 23 ' Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting at the Twin Arrows Navajo Casino & Resort, Leupp, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 4 in favor, and 0 opposed, on this 17" day of December 2018.

Alton Joe Shepherd, Chairperson Resources and Development Committee of the 23 ' Navajo Nation Council

Motion: Honorable Leonard Pete Second: Honorable Davis Filfred

Chairperson Alton Joe Shepherd not voting.

Document No.	012792	EXHIBIT G	Date Issued:	06/26/20	19
	EXEC	JTIVE OFFICIAL	REVIEW		
Title of Document:	CDEC, ROW Mariano Lake Pow	- Echo Canyon	_ Contact Name: YAZZ	ZIE, ELERINA E	1
Program/Division:	DIVISION OF NATURAL	RESOURCES			
Email: ele	erina_yazzie@navajo-nsn.g	V	Phone Number:	928/871/64	47
	ne Controller: rement Clearance is not issued		Date: Date: ne initiation of the E.O. revi Date:	ew)	Insufficient
	d Industrial Development Fir or Delegation of Approving a	and/or Managemen	t Authority of Leasing tra	insactions	
	ne Attorney General:		Date: Date:		
Fund Manag	ement Plan, Expenditure Pla				
<ol> <li>Office of the 3. Office of the control of the control</li></ol>	ne Controller: ne Attorney General:		Date: Date: Date:		
1. NNEPA:	ing Authority Request for Renneral:	elease of Funds	Date: Date:		
1. Office of th	ase Agreements ne Controller:		Date:		
2. Office of th	ne Attorney General:		Date:		
2. Office of th			Date: Date: Date:		
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_	he Attorney General:		Date: Date:		
<ol> <li>Land Depa</li> <li>Elections:</li> <li>Office of the</li> </ol>			Date: Date: Date:		

	Land Withdrawal or Relinquishment for Commercial Purp	oses	Sufficient	Insufficient
	1. Division:	Date:		
	2. Office of the Attorney General:	Date:	10	
	Land Withdrawals for Non-Commercial Purposes, Genera			
		Lanu Leases and Reso	urce Leases	
	1. NLD	Date:		
	2. F&W	Date:		
	3. HPD	Date:		
	4. Minerals	Date:		
	5. NNEPA	Date:		
	6. DNR	Date:		
_	7. DOJ	Date:		
	Rights of Way			
	1. NLD	Date:		
	2. F&W	Date:		
	3. HPD	Date:		
	4. Minerals	D		
	5. NNEPA	Date:		
	6. Office of the Attorney General:	Date:		
	7. OPVP	Date:		
	Oil and Gas Prospecting Permits, Drilling and Exploration	Permits, Mining Permit,	Mining Lease	
	1. Minerals	Date:		
	2. OPVP	Date:		
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	1. NLD	Date:		
	2. F&W	Date:		
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RESUBMITTAL	DOCUMENT REVIEW REQUEST FORM	TO BE CENTIONIST DES	DOJ DOJ DATE / TIME DATE / TIME DOC #: 012792 SAS #: UNIT: DM HIS FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. ***
TOTAL DOG CSE		O COMPOSEEL WY	HIS FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. ***
DATE OF REQUEST:	7/29/2019	DIVISION:	NATURAL RESOURCES
CONTACT NAME:	Michelle Hoskie or Stevie Hudson	DEPARTMENT:	GENERAL LAND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
HONE NUMBER:	x 6447 or x 6423	E-MAIL;	steviehudson@frontier.com
TITLE OF DOCUMEN	F: EOR#12792 CDEC, ROW Marian		
DATE/TIME IN UNIT:	7.40.10	RY TO COMPLETE	VOCATE: Ivin Chie 8-07-19
DATE TIME OUT OF L	NIT: 8-13-19 1:20pm	A State of the	a la la composición
Λ.	DOJ ATTORNEY / AJ	DVOCATE COMME	ENTS
Document u	s legally suffi	cient.	
EVIEWED BY: (Print)	CAA 8/13/19	SURNAMED BY: VBlack	$\frac{(Print)}{\sqrt{8}} = \frac{13}{19} \frac{12:08}{15}$
OJ Secretary Called:	Mchille for Docume	nt Pick Up on 8-13	5-17 at 1:20 PM By: CJ

GLDD -

Tier 1 Document Voting Results								
User Name (Facility)	Job Title	Department	Vote Cast	Comments	Replies	Vote Date	Signiture	
Najamh Tariq (Navajo Land Title Data System - Windowrock AZ)		Department of Water Resources	Approved	no comments	No Reply	27-Jun-2019		
Pam Kyselka F&W (Navajo Land Title Data System - Windowrock AZ)	Review	lFish and Wildlife	Approved	1. #17danl101ec	: 1. No Reply	27-Jun-2019	yar	
Rebecca Gilchrist MIN (Navajo Land Title Data System - Windowrock AZ)	Reviewer	lNavajo Nation Minerals Management	Approved	1. This vote is contingent upon the uploaded revised Terms and Conditions, dated 7/16/2019, permanently being included in the application approval package. rkg	1. No Reply	23-Jul-2019	A	
Famara Billie NNHP (Navajo Land Fitle Data System - Windowrock AZ)	Reviewer	Historic Preservation Department	Approved	<ol> <li>HPD-18- 385R. CDEC shall adhere to stipulations for documented TCP.</li> </ol>	1. No Reply	27-Jun-2019	Famenfaile	

Tier 2 Document Voting Results							
User Name (Facility )	Job Title	Departmen t	Vote Cast	Comments	Replies	Vote Date	Signiture
Chad Smith - F&W (Navajo Land Title Data System - Windowroc k AZ)	Review	Fish and Wildlife	Approve d	no comments	No Reply	25-Jul- 2019	Chullen

Begay NNHP (Navajo Land Title Data System - Windowroc	Nation Historic Preservatio n Officer	Historic Preservation Department	Approve d	2	Please note conditions of archaeologic al clearance.	1 No . Repl y	23-Jul- 2019	Rill M Bigs
	Director DNR	DNR Administration	Approve d		io comments	No Reply	25-Jul- 2019	Robert O. allan
Steven Prince MIN (Navajo Land Title Data System - Windowroc k AZ)	Reviewer	Navajo Nation Minerals Management	Approve d		to omments	No Reply	25-Jul- 2019	Stwen L Opince
Halona	DCD Division Director	Navajo Nation	Approve d	- 10		No Reply	23-Jul- 2019	Dahm



# CONTINENTAL DIVIDE Electric Cooperative, Inc.

200 E. High St. • P.O. Box 1087 • Grants, New Mexico 87020 • (505) 285-6656 • Fax (505) 287-2234

June 7, 2019

The General Land Development Department Attn: Ms. Elerina Yazzie, Program Manager Project Review Office PO Box 69 Saint Michaels, Arizona 86511

Re: Submitting ROW Package for the Mariano Lake Chapter – Echo Canyon Powerline Project WO#52521

Dear Ms. Yazzie,

Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc. is requesting right-of-way for the proposed 14.4/24.9 kV distribution overhead Power line for the Mariano Lake Chapter – Echo Canyon Powerline Project, WO#52521. The power line Right-of-way packet consists of the following documents being submitted for review by the Division of Natural Resources, Project Review Office.

- 1. \$500.00 Filing Fee, Check #139245
- 2. Permission to Survey from NLD and BIA/ENA
- 3. Right of way Application
- 4. Archaeological Report
- 5. Cultural Resources Compliance Form
- 6. Environmental Report
- 7. FONSI
- 8. Biological Resources compliance Form
- 9. Field Clearance/Grazing for Louise Davis
- 10. Legals
- 11. Map (4)

This project traverses over and across Navajo Tribal Trust Land. The distance on <u>Navajo Tribal Trust</u> Land is 23,225.65' feet in length, 20' feet in width, and 10.61 acres.

Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Inc. requests that the Navajo Nation <u>waive consideration</u>, bond, insurance or alternative form of security since only Navajos are being served off of this <u>Electrical Line</u>. We also ask that the <u>term of right-of-way be granted for 50 years</u>. If you have any questions, please contact our office at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely, 1 th

Debbie Olivar Engineering/ROW Enclosures



Office of Legislative Counsel Telephone: (928) 871-7166 Fax # (928) 871-7576



Honorable Seth Damon Speaker 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council

#### MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Edmund Yazzie Churchrock, Iyanbito, Mariano Lake, Pinedale, Smith Lake and Thoreau Chapters

FROM:

Mariana Kahn, Attorney Office of Legislative Counsel

DATE: September 25, 2019

SUBJECT: PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION; AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; APPROVING THE GRANT OF RIGHT-OF-WAY TO CONTINENTAL DIVIDE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., FOR THE ECHO CANYON POWERLINE PROJECT LOCATED ON NAVAJO NATION TRUST LANDS IN MARIANO LAKE CHAPTER VICINITY (MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO)

I have prepared the above-referenced proposed resolution pursuant to your request for waivers of valuation and compensation and waiver of bond, insurance, or alternative form of security to the right-of-way that was approved by resolution RDCAU-65-18.

Based on existing law and review of documents submitted, the resolution as drafted is legally sufficient. As with any action of government however, it can be subject to review by the courts in the event of proper challenge.

The Office of Legislative Counsel confirms the appropriate standing committee(s) based on the standing committees powers outlined in 2 N.N.C. §§301, 401, 501, 601 and 701. Nevertheless, "the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council shall introduce [the proposed resolution] into the legislative process by assigning it to the respective oversight committee(s) of the Navajo Nation Council having authority over the matters for proper consideration." 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(5).

Please ensure that his particular resolution request is precisely what you want. You are encouraged to review the proposed resolution to ensure that it is drafted to your satisfaction.

#### THE NAVAJO NATION LEGISLATIVE BRANCH INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



#### LEGISLATION NO: 0296-19

SPONSOR: Edmund Yazzie

<u>TITLE:</u> An Action Relating To Resources and Development; Approving The Grant Of Right-Of-Way To Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc., For The Echo Canyon Powerline Project Located On Navajo Nation Trust Lands In Mariano Lake Chapter Vicinity (McKinley County, New Mexico)

Date posted: September 30, 2019 at 5:21 PM

Digital comments may be e-mailed to comments@navajo-nsn.gov

Written comments may be mailed to:

Executive Director Office of Legislative Services P.O. Box 3390 Window Rock, AZ 86515 (928) 871-7586

Comments may be made in the form of chapter resolutions, letters, position papers, etc. Please include your name, position title, address for written comments; a valid e-mail address is required. Anonymous comments will not be included in the Legislation packet.

**Please note**: This digital copy is being provided for the benefit of the Navajo Nation chapters and public use. Any political use is prohibited. All written comments received become the property of the Navajo Nation and will be forwarded to the assigned Navajo Nation Council standing committee(s) and/or the Navajo Nation Council for review. Any tampering with public records are punishable by Navajo Nation law pursuant to 17 N.N.C. §374 et. seq.

#### THE NAVAJO NATION LEGISLATIVE BRANCH INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW SUMMARY

LEGISLATION NO.: 0296-19

#### SPONSOR: Honorable Edmund Yazzie

TITLE: <u>An Action Relating to Resources and Development; approving the Grant of Right-Of-Way to Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc., for the Echo Canyon Powerline Project located on Navajo Nation Trust Lands in Mariano Lake Chapter Vicinity (McKinley County, New Mexico)</u>

Posted: September 30, 2019 at 05:21 PM

#### 5 DAY Comment Period Ended: October 05, 2019

**Digital Comments received:** 

<b>Comments Supporting</b>	None
Comments Opposing	None
Inconclusive Comments	None

Alam

Legislative Tracking Secretary Office of Legislative Services

10/6/19 11:20 AM Date/Time

#### RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE 24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

#### FIRST YEAR 2019

#### COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker,

The **RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE** to whom has been assigned:

**Legislation # 0296-19:** An Action Relating to Resources and Development; Approving the Grant of Rights-of-Way to Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc., for the Echo Canyon Powerline Project located on Navajo Nation Trust Lands in Mariano Lake Chapter Vicinity (McKinley County, New Mexico) *Sponsor: Honorable Edmund Yazzie* 

And thereafter the legislation was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Rickie Nez, Presiding Chairperson Resource and Development Committee of the 24th Navajo Nation Council

Date: October 16, 2019 – Regular Meeting Meeting Location: Navajo Nation Council Chambers Window Rock, Arizona

#### MAIN MOTION:

M: Honorable Thomas Walker, Jr. S: Honorable Herman M. Daniels Vote: 4-0-1(CNV) YEAS: Thomas Walker, Jr., Wilson C. Stewart, Jr., Herman M. Daniels and Kee Allen Begay, Jr.

EXCUSED: Mark A. Freeland

# **RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE** 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council

#### ROLL CALL **VOTE TALLY SHEET:**

Legislation # 0296-19: An Action Relating to Resources and Development; Approving the Grant of Rights-of-Way to Continental Divide Electric Cooperative, Inc., for the Echo Canyon Powerline Project located on Navajo Nation Trust Lands in Mariano Lake Chapter Vicinity (McKinley County, New Mexico) Sponsor: Honorable Edmund Yazzie

#### October 16, 2019 - Regular Meeting **Navajo Nation Council Chambers** Meeting Location: Window Rock, Arizona

#### MAIN MOTION:

M: Honorable Thomas Walker, Jr. S: Honorable Herman M. Daniels Vote: 4-0-1(CNV) YEAS: Thomas Walker, Jr., Wilson C. Stewart, Jr., Herman M. Daniels and Kee Allen Begay, Jr. EXCUSED: Mark A. Freeland

Honorable Rickie Nez, Presiding Chairman Resources and Development Committee

Shammie Begay, Legislative Advisor

Office of Legislative Services