

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST
Mid-Pacific Region
Lahontan Basin Area Office

Project Name: NV Energy – Install an Electric Distribution Line to a previously authorized AT&T Telecommunication Site

CEC Number: LO – 2012-1021

Cost Authority: 14XR0680A2 RX1912965E2600070

Date: February 11, 2014

Exclusion Category: *516 DM 14.5 C.3* – Minor construction activities associated with authorized projects which correct unsatisfactory environmental conditions or which merely augment or supplement, or are enclosed within existing facilities.

Nature of Action: The applicant, NV Energy has requested the Lahontan Basin Area Office (LBAO) to issue a license to construct an overhead and an underground distribution line on first form withdrawn lands under Reclamation’s jurisdiction. Proposed construction will consist of:

- Approximately 1,106-feet of 3-Ø overhead (O/H) primary line on existing wood poles;
- Approximately 80-feet of underground (U/G) service cable;
- 1 –New 50-foot butt treated wood pole; and
- 2 – Anchors

The trench for the underground service cable shall have a minimum depth of 48 inches x 24 inches wide and will be backfilled with sand and the native material excavated from the trench site.

New construction will occur on existing sites that were previously disturbed under the AT&T /Nevada Bell telecommunication project and the Mustang waterline project.

During construction activities, Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be incorporated to the maximum extent practicable to mitigate potential soil erosion and/or surface runoff problems. To prevent the spread of invasive species onto Reclamation owned property, heavy equipment will be power washed and free of mud and plant material before entering the construction site. If straw wattles or bales are required during the construction process, they will be certified weed seed free.

Purpose and Need: The construction of the overhead and underground distribution line is necessary in order to properly serve the existing AT&T/Nevada Bell telecommunication site on APN: 084-060-01. The existing telecommunication site was previously authorized under Contract No. 09-LC-20-10008, dated January 22, 2010, and expired License Contract No. 1-07-20-L1954 that was executed on August 28, 1981.

Location: SE¼NE¼ of Section 16, Township 19 North, Range 21 East of the Mount Diablo Meridian, Washoe County, Nevada. Derby Diversion Dam and the Truckee Canal are approximately 10.5 miles northeast of the proposed project site.

7.5 Minute Quad Map: E5; Patrick – 39119

Timeline: NV Energy will begin construction upon receiving approval by Reclamation. It is estimated that construction will take five (5) days to complete and is expected to begin during the winter of 2013/2014.

Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion


1. This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. (40 CFR 1502.3).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
2. This action would have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2) (E) and 43 CFR 46.215 (c)].	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
3. This action will have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
4. This action would have significant impacts such natural resources and unique geographical characteristics as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principle drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (E.O.11990); floodplains (E.O. 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
5. The action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risk (43 CFR 46.215 (d)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>


6. This action would establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
7. This action would have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (f)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
8. This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau (in coordination with a Reclamation cultural resources professional, RM LND 02-01 D(1)(a)) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
9. This action would have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species (43 CFR 46.215 (h)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
10. This action would violate a Federal, State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
11. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (E.O. 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
12. This action would limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (E.O. 13007 and 43 CFR 46.215 (k)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
13. This action would affect Indian Trust Assets. (To be completed by Reclamation official responsible for ITAs) (S.O. 3175; Policy Memorandum dated 12/15/93).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
14. This action would contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act, E.O. 13112, and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>


NEPA Action Recommended: Categorical Exclusion EA EIS


Environmental commitments, explanation, and/or remarks:

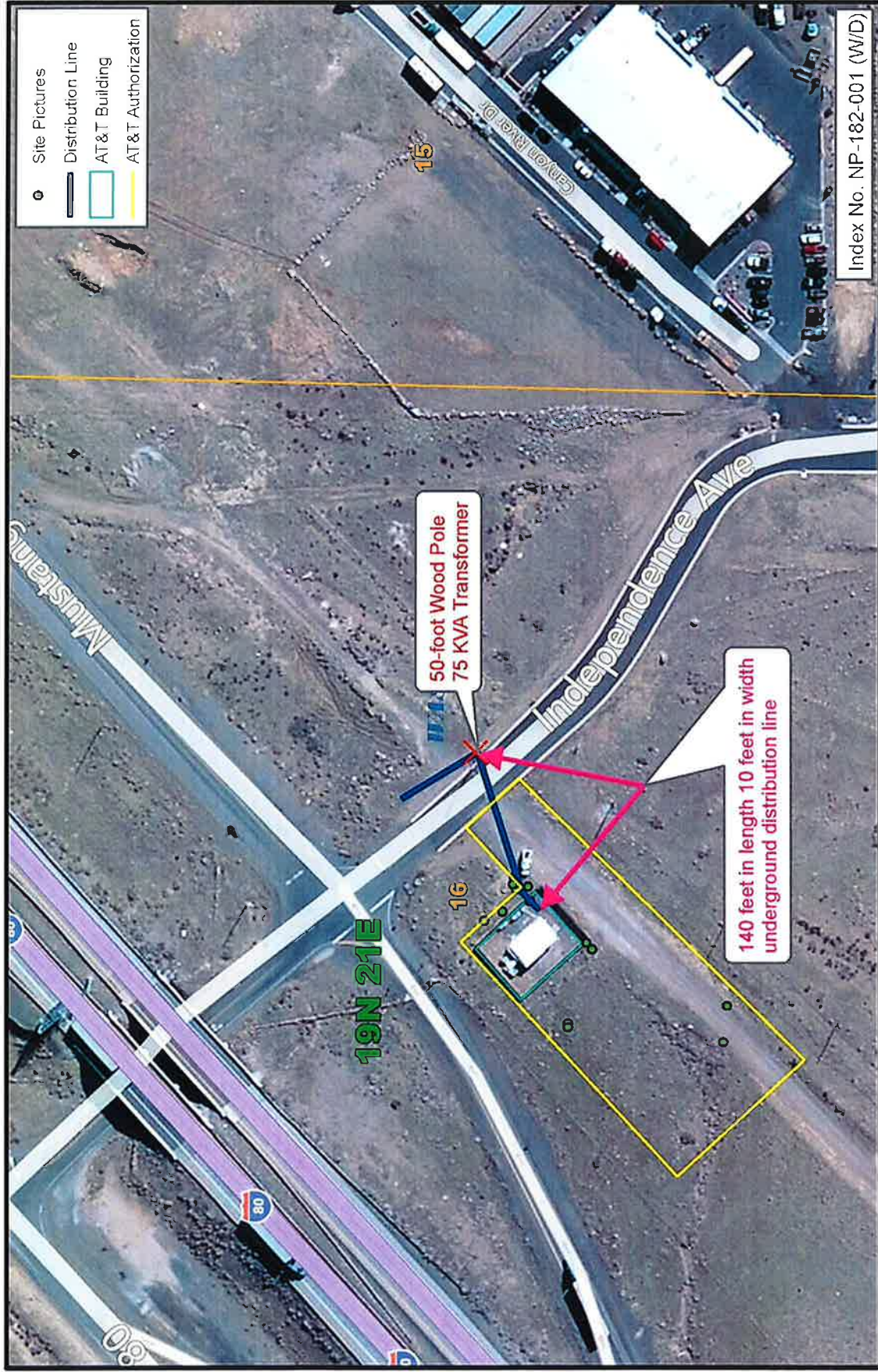
See the attached correspondence from the Mid-Pacific Region Cultural Resources Division regarding concurrence with Item 8 (cultural resources), and from Patricia Rivera regarding Item 13 (Indian Trust Assets).

Prepared by:  2/11/2014
Jennifer L. Birri
Water and Lands Specialist
Date

Recommended:  2/11/14
Julia Long
Natural Resource Specialist
Date

Concurrence:  2/12/2014
Robert Edwards
Resource Division Manager
Date

Approved:  2/12/14
Terri Edwards
Deputy Area Manager
Date



RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West

Lahontan Basin Area Office
 705 N. Plaza Street, Carson City, NV 89701

Tracking No. LO-2012-1021
 NV Energy for AT&T
 Construction of Distribution Line

SENE of Section 16, T. 19N, R. 21E
 M.D.M., Washoe County, Nevada



Photo 1. Facing west towards AT&T/Nevada Bell telecommunication site



Photo 2. Facing east towards existing power pole



Photo 3. Facing south-southwest towards the existing telecommunications site

CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE
Reclamation Division of Environmental Affairs
MP-153

MP-153 Tracking Number: 13-LBAO-015

Project Name: NV Energy Underground Distribution Line,

NEPA Document: LO – 2012-1021

MP 153 Section 106 Reviewer: Scott A. Williams 

Date: 12-16-2013

Jennifer,

The Bureau of Reclamation initiated consultation with the Nevada SHPO on November 5, 2013 and requested concurrence that the issuance of a license to NV Energy to construct a new distribution line to serve an existing AT&T/Nevada Bell telecommunication site approximately ten miles west of Reno, Nevada will result in no historic properties affected.

The area of potential effects (APE) was delineated as the area needed for constructing approximately 80 feet of underground service cable to connect an existing AT&T/Nevada Bell telecommunication facility to a power pole. The existing power pole will be replaced with a slightly larger 50-foot pole with two anchors (Figure 2 of the enclosed report). The trench for the underground service cable will measure approximately 4 feet deep and 2 feet wide and will be backfilled with sand and the excavated material. From the new power pole, approximately 1,106 feet of new distribution line will be attached to existing power lines. SHPO responded on December 9, 2013 (Undertaking #2014-2943) and concurred with Reclamation's finding of no historic properties affected.

I concur with Evaluation Criteria for Categorical Exclusion, item 8, within LO – 2012-1021.

This concludes the Section 106 review process. Please retain a copy of this record of compliance with the administrative record for this action. If the project activities change or circumstances are altered after this review, there may be additional Section 106 review responsibilities up to and including consultation with the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer.



Long, Julia <jlong@usbr.gov>

Fwd: ITA Request for LO-2012-1021

1 message

RIVERA, PATRICIA <privera@usbr.gov> Wed, Sep 4, 2013 at 1:12 PM
To: Julia Long <jlong@usbr.gov>

Just received Kristi's input so here is a completed determination with location of nearest ITA.

Julia,

I reviewed the proposed action to approve the applicant's, NV Energy, request to issue a license to construct an overhead and an underground distribution line on withdrawn lands under Reclamation's jurisdiction. Proposed construction will consist of:

- Approximately 1,106-feet of 30 overhead (O/H) primary line;
- Approximately 80-feet of underground (U/G) service cable;
- 1 – 50 foot butt treated wood pole, and
- 2 – Anchors

The trench for the underground service cable shall have a minimum depth of 48 inches x 24 inches wide and will be backfilled with sand and the native material excavated from the trench site.

New construction will occur on existing sites that were previously disturbed under the AT&T /Nevada Bell telecommunication project and the Mustang waterline project.

The proposed construction is located on first form withdrawn land.

During construction activities, Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be incorporated to the maximum extent practicable to mitigate potential soil erosion and/or surface runoff problems. To prevent the

spread of invasive species onto Reclamation owned property, heavy equipment will be power washed and free of mud and plant material before entering the construction site. If straw wattles or bales are required during the construction process, they will be certified weed seed free.

The construction of the overhead and underground distribution line is necessary in order to properly serve the existing AT&T/Nevada Bell telecommunication site on APN: 084-060-01. The existing telecommunication site was previously authorized under Contract No. 09-LC-20-10008, dated January 22, 2010, and expired License Contract No. 1-07-20-L1954 that was executed on August 28, 1981.

NV Energy will begin construction upon receiving approval by Reclamation. It is estimated that construction will take five (5) days to complete and is expected to begin during the winter of 2013/2014. The proposed action does not have a potential to impact Indian Trust Assets. The nearest ITA is the Reno-Sparks Colony of the AIR, approximately 8 miles West of the project locations.

Patricia Rivera
Native American Affairs Program Manager
US Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region
2800 Sacramento, California 95825
(916) 978-5194

Julia

I will be on leave for two weeks starting Friday so I am trying to get the determinations out quickly. The provided determination is valid and does not need the location identification so please use this decision. Kristi will provide the location information to me and I will send the complete determination with location if you wish, but if I do not receive her input before I leave this will have to suffice until my return.

On Wed, Sep 4, 2013 at 11:52 AM, Long, Julia <jlong@usbr.gov>
wrote:

Hello,

Attached is an ITA request form for installing overhead and
underground electric distribution lines. Please review.

Thank you,

Julia Long
Natural Resource Specialist
Lahontan Basin Area Office
Bureau of Reclamation
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