



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Phoenix Area Office  
6150 West Thunderbird Road  
Glendale, AZ 85306-4001  
July 01, 2025

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
PXA0-1500  
2.1.4.17

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Subject: Notice of Public Scoping for an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Agua Fria Interconnection Project in Yavapai County, Arizona (action by 30 days from the date of this letter)

Dear Interested Party:

The United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) as required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; Public Law 91-190) that would consider the impacts of a proposed electrical power interconnection to the Navajo Southern Transmission System (NSTS) at the Dugas Substation in Yavapai County, Arizona (Figure 1). Reclamation is part owner of the NSTS, therefore all interconnection requests for the NSTS that result in a Large Generator Interconnection Agreement must be approved by Reclamation's Lower Colorado Basin Region, Regional Director. Reclamation is requesting public input to help identify issues and concerns associated with the proposed interconnection.

## Project Location

The proposed action would be located approximately 60 miles north of Phoenix near Cordes Lakes in Yavapai County, Arizona (Figure 1). The site is on the west side of Interstate-17, entirely on Arizona State Trust land.

## Project Description

Agua Fria, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company d/b/a Agua Fria AZ, LLC in Arizona (Applicant) proposes to construct, operate, and decommission the Agua Fria Interconnection Project (Project). The Project would interconnect a proposed up to 450-megawatt solar photovoltaic (PV) power generating facility to the regional grid at the existing Dugas Substation.

The Applicant would construct a new Project substation on up to 5 acres within the substation siting area shown in Figure 2. At this substation, electricity generated by the PV facility would be stepped up with high voltage transformer(s) to 500-kilovolts (kV). An approximately 2-mile gen-tie transmission line would be constructed between the new substation and the existing Dugas Substation. The gen-tie line would be constructed adjacent to the existing 500-kV regional transmission line connected to the Dugas Substation. An approximately 1-mile permanent access road would be constructed from the existing Old Sycamore Road to the existing Dugas Substation adjacent to the gen-tie line. Construction would also include

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INTERIOR REGION 8 • LOWER COLORADO BASIN

ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA\*, NEVADA\*

\* PARTIAL

temporary disturbance associated with temporary access roads and equipment staging and pulling sites needed to pull and tension transmission structures and conductors outside of the gen-tie corridor (Figure 2). All work associated with the Project at the Dugas Substation would occur within the existing substation footprint.

Reclamation has determined that an EA is the appropriate level of review under NEPA. The EA will evaluate the impacts of the proposed action on the human and natural environments. As part of this EA process, Reclamation is seeking your participation in identifying any potential issues or concerns with the proposed Project. This information will be used to analyze the environmental impacts of the Project and prepare the EA.

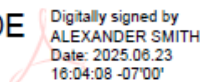
To be most helpful, comments should be as specific as possible and related to the activities of the proposed Project. Please be aware that by law, your name, address, and other personal identifying information may be made publicly available at any time. Individuals may request that their personal identifying information be withheld from public review by stating so prominently at the beginning of your comment. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so; however, we will honor your request to the extent allowable by law. All comments from organizations or businesses will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

Comments should be submitted to: Bureau of Reclamation, ATTN: (Q-337) Agua Fria Interconnection Project, 6150 West Thunderbird Road, Glendale, AZ, 85306 or via email to [dgraziani@usbr.gov](mailto:dgraziani@usbr.gov), no later than 30 days from the date of this letter.

For additional information regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Dominic Graziani, Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist, Reclamation's Phoenix Area Office, at (623) 773-6250 or via email at [dgraziani@usbr.gov](mailto:dgraziani@usbr.gov). If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services

Sincerely,

ALEXANDER  
R SMITH



Digitally signed by  
ALEXANDER SMITH  
Date: 2025.06.23  
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Alexander B. Smith  
Area Manager



Figure 1. Agua Fria Interconnection Project Location.



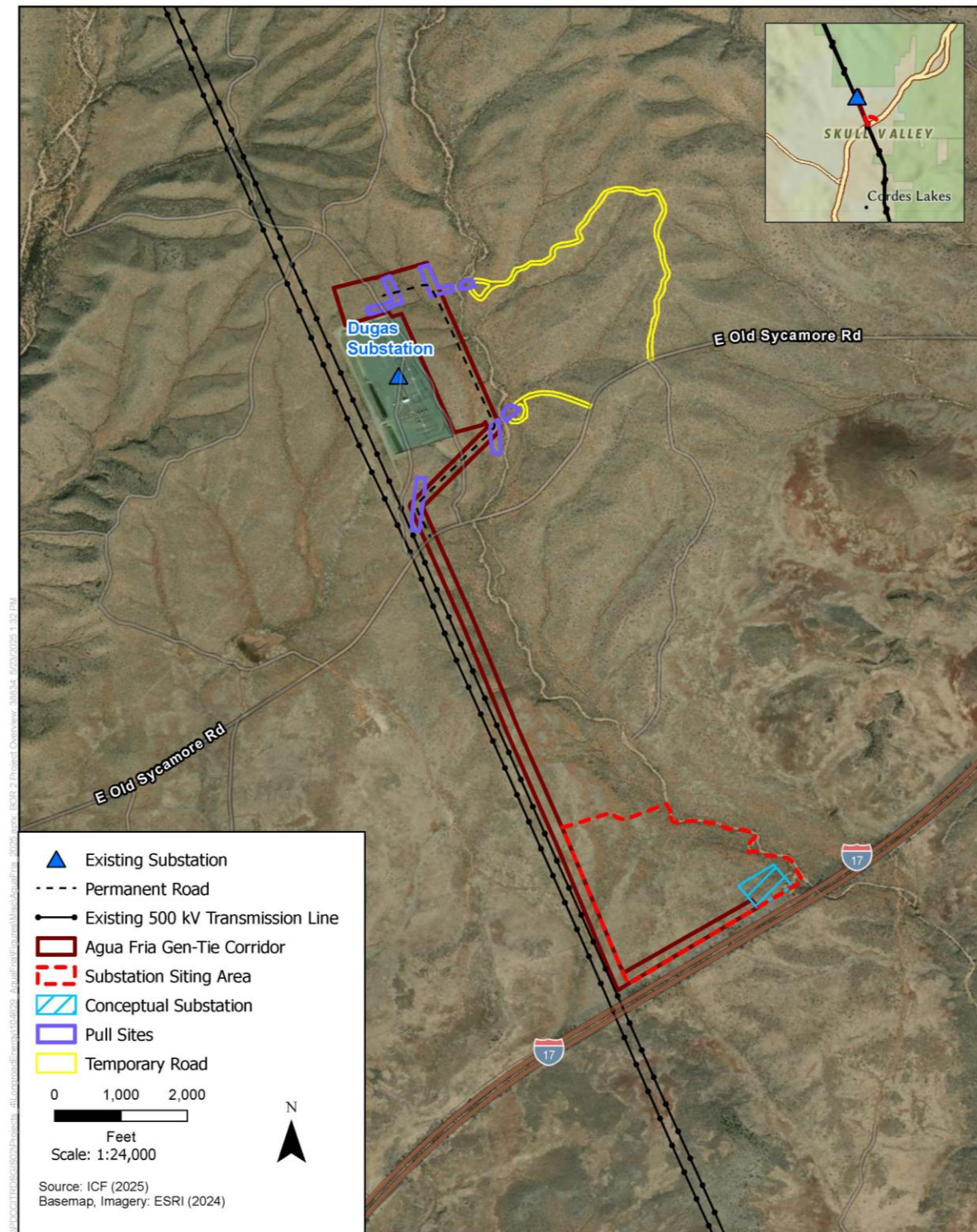


Figure 2. Agua Fria Interconnection Project Overview.