

Comments on the Draft EIS and Responses

NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES

ORIGINAL

THE HOPI TRIBE



Benjamin H. Nuvamsa
CHAIRMAN

Todd Honyama Sr.
VICE-CHAIRMAN

May 3, 2007

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Alisa M. Kykens, Chief, Gas Branch 2
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First St. NE; Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

Re: OEP/DG2E/Gas 2; Docket No. CP06-459-000

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OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY
MAY 11 P 2:21
FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Bose,

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This letter is in response to your March 27, 2007, and April, 2007 correspondences, with enclosed copies of the Historic Property Programmatic Agreement and Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Transwestern Pipeline Company Phoenix Expansion Project.

As we indicated in the enclosed letter on this proposal dated February 1, 2006, the Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to the prehistoric cultural groups in this project area, known to Hopi people as *Hitsatshon*, People of Long Ago, and therefore we appreciate your continuing solicitation of our input and efforts to address our concerns. As we also stated in our February 1, 2006, letter, the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of prehistoric archaeological sites and Traditional Cultural Properties.

We have reviewed the draft Environmental Impact Statement and understand that cultural resources surveys of the project area identified a total of 222 sites. We further appreciate that in general, Transwestern has indicated that all the sites that are recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register or are unevaluated can possibly be avoided by project activities. Therefore, at this time we will defer on being a signatory to the Programmatic Agreement.

However, if sites that are recommended as eligible or are unevaluated cannot be avoided by project activities, or in the event of unanticipated discoveries of significance, please provide us with a copy of the draft Historic Properties Treatment Plan for review and comment.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office. Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Leigh J. Kuwanwisiwma, Director
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

Encl: 2/1/06 letter to TRC
xc: Van Button, FERC
Howard Higgins, TRC

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The Hopi Tribe's comments regarding cultural resources and the PA are noted.



Iván L. Sidney, Sr.
CHAIRMAN

Todd Honyaoma, Sr.
VICE-CHAIRMAN

Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

February 1, 2006

Howard C. Higgins, Project Ethnologist
TRC
4221-A Balloon Park Rd. NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109

Dear Mr. Higgins,

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission dated January 31, 2006, regarding the proposed expansion of a natural gas pipeline system in Arizona and New Mexico, Phoenix Expansion Project. The Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in Arizona and New Mexico, and therefore we appreciate your solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of archaeological sites and Traditional Cultural Properties. Therefore, we have determined that this proposed action is likely to effect cultural resources significant to the Hopi Tribe, and request further consultation.

Please provide us with copies of the cultural resource survey reports on these project areas for review and comment. Subsequent to review of the cultural resource survey reports, we may request a meeting and field tours to determine the proposed project's possible impacts on cultural resources significant to the Hopi Tribe.

Please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office if you have any questions or need additional information. Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Leigh J. Kwanwisiwma, Director
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

cc: Office of the Chairman
Van Button, FERC, 888 First St. NE, Washington, DC 20426

P.O. BOX 123 • KYKOTSMOVI, AZ 86039 • (928) 734-3000 • (928) 734-3629

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