



Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
FACT SHEET  
February 25, 2008  
Southern California Edison  
Docket No. PT08-1

**Representatives of Southern California Edison (SCE) met today with staff from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to discuss the company's request to initiate a pre-filing process for the proposed Devers-Palo Verde No. 2 transmission project.**

This marks the start of the initial consultation required under FERC's regulations for the electric transmission facilities siting process pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAAct 2005). To make the process as transparent as possible, FERC officials have contacted the Arizona Corporation Commission and the California Public Utilities Commission to let them know that the consultation meeting took place and to ask for their input as to whether EPAAct 2005 requirements giving FERC backstop siting authority have been met.

This does not constitute acceptance into the pre-filing process or a formal application on the part of SCE. This also does not constitute approval to begin the application process for the proposed transmission project.

### **Background**

SCE is proposing to build a new 500-kilovolt (kV) transmission line near Palm Springs, Calif., to west of Phoenix, Ariz. The line would extend from SCE's existing Devers substation and end in the vicinity of the Harquahala generating station switchyard near the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station.

EPAAct 2005 authorizes FERC to issue construction permits for proposed transmission facilities that meet certain statutory qualifications. FERC Order No. 689, issued Nov. 16, 2006, describes the application process for electric transmission construction permits.

Prior to filing an application for approval of the project, a prospective applicant must be accepted into and complete what is known as the pre-filing process. The applicant may not initiate this process without the consent of FERC staff. During the pre-filing process, interested parties are welcome to participate in evaluation of the project, its environmental implications, alternative routes, and other relevant issues. During this phase, FERC staff and parties gather the information needed to complete the application and for staff to develop its recommendation. The developer is required to implement a participation plan to inform interested parties of the proposed project.

Once the pre-filing process is complete, the applicant may then file its application for the project, which the Commission will then consider.

Commission staff will notify the applicant if and when it has completed the pre-filing process. Upon completion, the applicant may then file an application with FERC. In this process, FERC will review the record developed by the states and other federal agencies; coordinate all actions required by federal law, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); and conduct an independent evaluation. FERC will make a decision on the permit application within one year of its submission.

**More information:** <http://www.ferc.gov/industries/electric/indus-act/siting.asp>