

**TANC Transmission Project
Public Scoping Meeting**

Transmission Agency of Northern California
Western Area Power Administration
March-April 2009





Welcome and Introduction



Presentation Overview

- Introduce TANC, Western, and the TANC Transmission Project (TTP)
- Explain the environmental review process
- Describe public input opportunities



Rules That Help Respect Everyone's Time Tonight

- Please turn cell phones to silent mode
- Please direct your questions to the specific stations and specialists
- A wide range of opinions is expected, and welcomed
- We encourage open dialogue, but only comments submitted in writing will be considered
- Please wait to be prompted by the facilitator to ask clarifying questions




Who is TANC?

- California joint powers agency that plans, develops, finances, constructs, and operates electric transmission projects on behalf of its Members
- Comprised of 15 publicly-owned utilities (not for profit) in Northern California
- Lead Agency for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance



Who is Western?

- An agency within the U.S. Department of Energy (**DOE**) that markets Federal hydroelectric power
- Service territory covers 15 western states, including California
- Owner and operator of more than 17,000 miles of high-voltage transmission lines
- Lead Federal Agency for National Environmental Policy Act (**NEPA**) compliance



Why are TANC and Western Involved?

- TANC and Western have a history of successful joint transmission development, construction, and operation
- TANC and Western are jointly preparing the environmental review documents for the TTP
- What other agencies are involved?
 - USFS and BLM are NEPA Cooperating Agencies
 - Additional Federal and State agencies and tribes may participate in the process



Environmental Review Process

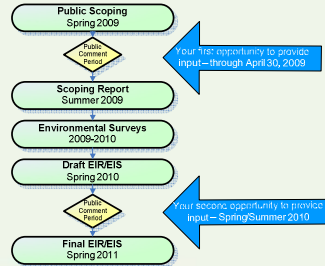


What is the CEQA/NEPA Environmental Review Process?

- Assess potential impacts of the proposed Project
- Identify and analyze alternatives that would avoid or reduce potentially significant impacts
- Recommend mitigation measures that would help reduce potentially significant impacts
- Provide environmental information to decision makers
- Disclose potential impacts to the public



How do you get involved?



What is Scoping?

- An opportunity to provide input to the environmental review process by providing information on:
 - Scope and content of the EIR/EIS
 - Potential environmental issues and mitigation
 - Potential alternatives to be analyzed
- To ensure they are considered, written comments are due April 30, 2009

Proposed TANC Transmission Project

What is the Project? Where Might it be Located?

- Approximately 600 miles of 230-kV and 500-kV transmission lines and substations
- Extends from Lassen County to the South Bay Area, San Joaquin Valley, and Sierra Foothills
- Consists of 5 segments – North, Central, West, East, and Sierra Foothills
 - 2 transmission lines for the North Segment
 - 1 to 2 transmission lines for the Central, East, West and Sierra Foothills Segments



What is the Need for this Project? What are the Public Benefits?

- Increases California transmission system reliability
- Reduces and relieves existing transmission system constraints, reducing system-wide electricity costs
- Facilitates access to and integration of renewable resources for California
- Facilitates compliance with California renewables and emissions mandates
- Allows for greater use of existing clean hydroelectric generation instead of regional fossil fuel power plants



What California Requirements would the TTP Help Fulfill?

- Greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy requirements
- Improvements to transmission infrastructure to access renewable resources
- Governor Schwarzenegger's executive order requires utilities to provide 33% of their power from qualified renewable sources

The TTP could access more than 85% of the identified renewable generation sources in Northern California



Where in Project Development are We?

- Early stage of project development
- Studies conducted to date:
 - Regional Transmission Planning
 - Engineering
 - Economic
- All studies showed need and benefits of Project
- Currently, starting the environmental review process for 1000-ft wide proposed study areas for all segment alternatives



How were the Proposed Study Areas Developed?

- Identified needed electricity delivery points
- Considered several factors between delivery points, including minimizing crossing:
 - Steep slopes and highly visible areas
 - Residences and the human-built environment
 - Wetlands and wildlife habitat, and other sensitive environmental resources

Resulting proposal demonstrates TANC's and Western's commitment to a process that respects the physical, human, and biological environments.



Public Input Opportunities



How Does the Public Provide Input During Scoping?

- Review the proposed alternatives and issues to be studied in the EIR/EIS
- Identify environmental issues of concern to you within or near the proposed study areas
- Propose alternatives, refinements, or mitigation measures that you think would minimize or avoid environmental impacts
- Provide written comments



What Issues Will be Studied?

- Aesthetics/Visual
- Agricultural Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Electric and Magnetic Fields
- Environmental Justice
- Geology and Soils
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Recreation
- Noise
- Public Services and Utilities
- Socioeconomics
- Transportation and Traffic
- Other Issues



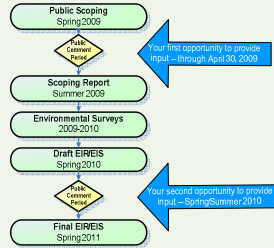
How are Your Scoping Comments Considered?

- To be considered, comments must be:
 - Received by April 30, 2009
 - Written
 - Not anonymous
- Comments will be compiled and summarized in a publicly-available Scoping Report
- Scoping comments will be used in Draft EIR/EIS preparation
- Comment forms are accepted by e-mail, fax, US mail, online, or at the comment station



What Happens Next?

- We will be in touch via letters, newsletters, fact sheets, and continual website updates throughout the environmental review process.



Thank You

- For coming to this meeting
- For having an interest in the Project
- For respecting everyone's time tonight
- Most importantly – for submitting written comments to ensure that your input is considered – we appreciate it!
- Please visit our stations for more detailed information on the Project




Information Stations

- Project Overview and Schedule
- NEPA/CEQA Overview
- Electric System
- Map Station
- Comment Station



Clarifying Questions?



Contact Information

Submit comments to: Mr. David Young
 Manager National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Document
 Region Western Area Power Administration, Sierra Nevada
 114 Parkshore Drive
 Folsom CA 95630

Fax: (916) 353-4772

Email: TTPEIS@wapa.gov

For additional information about the **NEPA/CEQA** process, please visit the Western website at: www.wapa.gov/transmission/tp.htm or call 916-353-4777.

For additional information about the overall project, please visit the **TANC** website at www.tanc.us.