Environmental Issue Area	Potential Issues or Impacts
Noise	• On-site noise during construction primarily from heavy-duty diesel and gasoline-powered construction equipment • Off-site noise generated from trucks delivering materials and equipment to the job-sites, as well as from vehicles used by workers commuting to and from the job sites • Operational noise as a result of corona noise discharge from active electrical lines, noise generated from substation activities, and noise generated from maintenance activities • On-site groundborne vibration and groundborne noise during construction primarily from heavy-duty diesel and gasoline-powered construction equipment • Off-site groundborne vibration and groundborne noise generated from trucks delivering materials and equipment to the job-sites • Impacts from both construction and operational noise activities violating local noise ordinances (volume and hours of operation)
Public Services and Utilities	• Impacts from increased usage of public resources, services, and utilities • Impacts to emergency access and response times resulting from construction activities • Impacts from increased generation of waste and disposal needs
Socioeconomics	• Impacts from the employment of construction personnel during construction of the TTP to established and projected population, housing, and employment levels within the project area • Potential positive fiscal impacts in property-taxing jurisdictions, which would receive tax revenues from the TTP • Impacts to property values of parcels crossed by or near the TTP
Transportation and Traffic	• Temporary disruption of traffic flow, transit services, or rail services during construction activities • Physical impacts to public roadway rights of way (i.e., lane closures, detours, driveway blockages, loss of parking, and disruptions to traffic, transit, and pedestrian movements in the construction area)
Other Issues	• Cumulative Impacts (considering other projects that are planned, proposed, or under construction in the project area) • Growth-Inducing Effects

We understand that community residents and organizations are important sources of information about local environments, and we are interested in hearing from you. We invite you to suggest specific issues and concerns within these general categories or to suggest other issues that should be evaluated in the EIS/EIR. Please take the time to submit comments about resource areas of concern.

Environmental Studies
Scoping Information Handout

What is Scoping?

The scoping process is the best time to identify issues and provide recommendations to the agencies. The overall goal is to define the scope of issues to be addressed in depth in the analyses that will be included in the EIS/EIR. Specifically, the scoping process will help Western and TANC:

- Identify people or organizations who are interested in the TTP;
- Identify the significant issues to be analyzed in the EIS/EIR;
- Identify and eliminate from detailed review those issues that will not be significant or those that have been adequately covered in prior environmental review; and
- Identify gaps in data and informational needs.

Scoping provides you with an opportunity to become involved as soon as the EIS/EIR process begins.

How do I make useful comments?

To make useful comments, review the project description, alternatives, and list of issues (below) that will be studied in the EIS/EIR. Then develop your comments, taking the following into consideration:

- What issues are of greatest concern to you and why?
- What alternatives or mitigation measures do you think would help to lessen or avoid the impacts?

What potential issues will be studied?

Western and TANC have identified issues to be studied during the NEPA/CEQA process, as outlined in the following table. Potential issues may be added or eliminated, based on comments received during scoping.

TANC Transmission Project
Reliability & Renewable Power for California

Transmission Agency of Northern California
25 Years
1984 - 2009

Western
Area Power Administration

Environmental Issue Area	Potential Issues or Impacts
Aesthetics / Visual	• Visual contrast, increased industrial character, view blockage, and skylining resulting from placement of structures in all project segments • Impacts to sensitive viewpoints from which the TTP would be visible, including but not limited to residences, park and recreation areas, scenic roadways, public lands, and open space areas
Agricultural Resources	• Impacts during the construction phase resulting from the removal of cropland from production, interference with tilling and irrigation patterns, and/or potential conflict with agricultural aviators (crop dusters) due to temporary laydown areas, tensioning, and pulling sites • Impacts on zoning for agricultural use, Williamson Act contracts, or conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use • Long-term operational impacts where transmission line structure foundations would permanently remove active agricultural land from production and interfere with tilling and irrigation patterns
Air Quality	• Impacts during construction when heavy equipment, support vehicles, and internal combustion equipment create fugitive dust and/or generate exhaust containing: carbon monoxide (CO), reactive organic compounds (ROC), nitrogen oxide (NOx), sulfur oxides (SOx), and particulate matter (PM10) • Ongoing impacts from emissions and fugitive dust produced during operation and maintenance activities • Temporary and long-term impacts from toxic air contaminants that may have localized effects • Impacts resulting from violation of the Federal Air Quality Conformity Rule in non-attainment areas for one or more air pollutants • Impacts to human and environmental health from non-attainment of the EPA's National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) • Impacts resulting from violations to any areas designated as non-attainment for particulate matter or any other pollutant based on California Air Resources Board (CARB) or local Air Quality Management District (AQMD) Standards
Biological Resources	• Temporary and permanent loss of native habitat, including habitat for special-status species • Disruption in wildlife behavior (e.g., breeding, foraging, roosting, nesting, etc.). • Bird electrocution and collision resulting from contact with overhead transmission lines • Direct, permanent impacts to wildlife and plants during construction, operations, and maintenance activities

Environmental Issue Area	Potential Issues or Impacts
Cultural Resources	• Impacts to known and unknown prehistoric and historic resources and archaeological sites, which may be determined to be eligible for the National Register of Historical Places (NRHP) • Impacts to Traditional Culture Properties (TCPs) or potential TCPs
Electric and Magnetic Fields	• Public concern about electric and magnetic field effects of the transmission line
Environmental Justice	• Disproportionate impacts on low-income and/or minority populations
Geology and Soils	• Damage to uncoated steel from highly corrosive soils
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	• Impacts from improper storage or handling of hazardous materials and/or hazardous wastes during construction, operations, or maintenance activities • Impacts from leaking or spilling of petroleum or hydraulic fluids from construction equipment or other vehicles during construction, operation, or maintenance activities • Impacts from the inadvertent uncovering of hazardous materials during excavation activities, causing toxic releases to the environment • Construction vehicles would require on-site refueling, and may require routine or emergency maintenance that could result in the release of oil, diesel fuel, transmission fluid or other materials • Fire hazards during construction by workers and equipment use, and during TTP operation through the contact of transmission line with vegetation
Hydrology and Water Quality	• Impacts from increased surface water runoff, erosion, siltation, and sedimentation • Impacts to streams or washes from violation of water quality standards or waste discharge requirements • Impacts to groundwater recharge resulting from creation of impermeable surfaces • Hydrological impacts to creeks and rivers and flood control channels
Land Use and Recreation	• Conflicts with applicable Federal, State, and local land use plans, policies, or regulations adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect • Impacts to residential, recreational, commercial, and transportation corridor land uses resulting from disruption, impedance, or removal of existing and planned land uses • Impacts resulting from reduced access to recreation areas during construction activities