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August 22, 2012

SunZia Southwest Transmission Project  
C/O EPG, Inc.  
4141 North 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 102  
Phoenix, Arizona 85018

Email: [NMSunZiaProject@blm.gov](mailto:NMSunZiaProject@blm.gov)  
Bureau of Land Management  
Adrian Garcia, BLM Project Manager

Re: SunZia Southwest Transmission Project's

Dear Mr. Garcia:

The Greenlee County Board of Supervisors supports this project. We feel that future growth depends upon having an adequate infrastructure. An adequate Power Grid is foundational to continued development and economic growth in the region.

The County first choice is a route not analyzed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). We feel that exclusion of this route is a flaw in the EIS. This route is from Lordsburg through the Duncan Area then to the Willow substation. This route could follow existing power lines and would have the least total impact on the land. We understand that this route was not evaluated because it is longer hence more expensive. Some considerations in our choice are that the County's major industry is the mine at Morenci and the power line development reflects a planning horizon of 50 to 100 years. As the mine continues to operate and grow, they will need adequate and additional power. While spur lines could be constructed as needed, the County's choice would eliminate some future infrastructure construction.

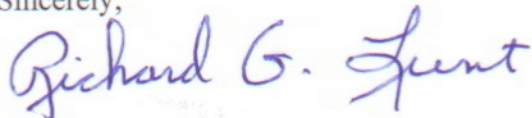
The County's second choice follows B121, B160a, B160b, and B170. Also, this route is labeled the preferred 2008 route. The 2<sup>nd</sup> choice route goes north of the primitive area and is shorter than the EIS preferred route. The EIS preferred route and the County's 2nd choice would have similar visual impacts from the primitive area. Visual impact from I-10 would be greater with the preferred alternative. As a note, we had to look very hard to find the primitive area during the public meetings and we appreciate that in the final documents the area is clearly defined.

While not affecting Greenlee County, the selected route to the west must avoid and minimize impacts.

Also, we feel that suggestions which are foundational to the do-nothing alternative such as implementing conservation measures and increasing technologic management, while commendable, are short sighted and counterproductive. Our economy is dependent on a continuous and dependable power supply. Power delivery needs to grow and to be redundant as new technology is implemented that allows better management of our resources. These issues are beyond the Environmental Impact Statement but are equally important considerations.

We thank you for this opportunity to comment and should you have additional question please contact at (928) 865 2072.

Sincerely,



Richard Lunt  
Greenlee County Board of Supervisors