



# Notice of Public Scoping Meetings

for the

Southern California Edison (SCE)

Devers-Palo Verde No. 2 Transmission Line Project

Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS)



The United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) are preparing an EIR/EIS for SCE's proposed Devers-Palo Verde No. 2 Transmission Line Project (DPV2). On December 7, 2005, BLM (as the federal lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act [NEPA]) published its Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS. As part of the NEPA process, BLM will hold public scoping meetings at the following times and locations to obtain input from agencies and the public on the scope and content of the EIR/EIS:

Date	Wednesday, January 18, 2006	Wednesday, January 18, 2006	Thursday, January 19, 2006
Time	2:00 – 4:00 p.m.	6:30 – 8:30 p.m.	2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Location	Estrella Mountain Community College South Community Room 2nd Floor, Estrella Hall 3000 N. Dysart Road Avondale, Arizona 85323	Harquahala Valley Irrigation Dist. 402. S. Harquahala Valley Road Tonopah, Arizona 85354	Quartzsite Town Hall Council Chambers 465 N. Plymouth Avenue Quartzsite, Arizona 85346

## California Scoping Meetings

Please note that a 30-day scoping period was already held under the California Environmental Quality Act, ending on November 28, 2005. During this period, five public scoping meetings were held in California (two in Beaumont, two in Palm Desert, one in Blythe). Notice of those meetings was mailed to all parties that were on the project mailing list at the time; a copy of the original Notice of Preparation (NOP) is attached to this notice for parties added to the list after November. The NOP may also be viewed on the project website (link provided on page 2).

### Availability of NOP Scoping Report

A summary of the public outreach process and of all comments received through November 2005 has been prepared. It is available at all project repositories and on the project website. A limited number of additional copies are available; to request a copy, please call the project hotline at (800) 886-1888 and leave your name and mailing address, or email us at dpv2@aspenerg.com.

An **Addendum to the Scoping Report** will be prepared after the NOI public review period to incorporate all comments received during the current scoping period. The Addendum will be distributed in the same manner as described above, and a separate Notice of Availability will be mailed to the project mailing list.

## **Devers–Palo Verde No. 2 Transmission Line Project Background**

SCE is proposing to construct a new electric transmission line to import power generated in Arizona into southern California. The 278-mile DPV2 project would consist of two components: (1) construction of a 230-mile 500 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from Devers Substation north of Palm Springs, California to Harquahala Generating Substation near the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (west of Phoenix, Arizona), and (2) upgrades to about 40 miles of an existing 230 kV transmission system in California. Between SCE's Devers Substation and the Harquahala Generating Station, SCE would build a new transmission line, roughly following the route of Interstate 10 and paralleling SCE's existing 500 kV transmission line, Devers–Palo Verde No. 1. Approximately 102 miles of this line would be located in Arizona. It would cross BLM, privately-owned, and Arizona state lands within La Paz and Maricopa Counties. In California, the 500 kV project segment would be 128 miles long.

The installation of the new 500 kV transmission line into Devers Substation would also require the upgrading of transmission lines that serve the more developed portions of southern California. Along 40 miles of existing transmission corridors (through the Cities of Palm Springs, Banning, Beaumont, and Calimesa), one new 230 kV transmission line would be built and two existing lines removed. Along two other existing transmission line segments (in the Cities of Redlands, Loma Linda, Colton, and Grand Terrace), existing transmission towers would be reconducted (existing wires would be replaced with new, larger capacity wires).

## **Project Information**

Information regarding the project's environmental review process, project documents, contact/mailing information, and a list of repository sites where project documents are available for public review can be found at

**<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/aspen/dpv2/dpv2.htm>**.

The EIR/EIS public scoping comment period for the NOI began on December 7, 2005 and ends on January 20, 2006. During this period, comments on the scope and content of the document may be provided at the public meetings noted above, sent via e-mail or fax to the address/number below, or mailed to **John Kalish/Billie Blanchard, BLM/CPUC, c/o Aspen Environmental Group, 235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935, San Francisco, CA 94104-3002**, no later than January 20, 2006. For more information or to provide comments, email us at [dpv2@aspene.com](mailto:dpv2@aspene.com), or call or fax: (800) 886-1888.