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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION**COMMISSIONERS**

LEA MÁRQUEZ PETERSON – Chairwoman
SANDRA D. KENNEDY
JUSTIN OLSON
ANNA TOVAR
JIM O’CONNOR

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
UNS ELECTRIC, INC. AND ITS ASSIGNEES,
IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE
REQUIREMENTS OF A.R.S. §40-360, ET SEQ.,
FOR A FOR CERTIFICATES OF
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY
AUTHORIZING THE GOLDEN VALLEY 230
KILOVOLT (KV) TRANSMISSION LINE
PROJECT, WHICH INCLUDES THE
CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW 230 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE ORIGINATING NEAR
THE INTERSECTION OF INTERSTATE 40
AND SHINARUMP DRIVE (TOWNSHIP 20
NORTH, RANGE 17 WEST, SECTION 4) AND
TERMINATING NEAR U.S. HIGHWAY 93
AND MINERAL PARK ROAD AT THE
PLANNED MINERAL PARK SUBSTATION
(TOWNSHIP 22 NORTH, RANGE 18 WEST,
SECTION 3), MOHAVE COUNTY, ARIZONA.

Open Meeting
June 8-9
Phoenix, Arizona

BY THE COMMISSION:

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360, *et seq.*, after due consideration of all relevant matters, the Arizona Corporation Commission (Commission) finds and concludes that the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (CEC) issued by the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee (Siting Committee) is hereby approved as granted by this Order.

The Commission, in reaching its decision, has balanced all relevant matters in the broad public

DOCKET NO. L-00000F-21-0050-0188**CASE NO. 188****DECISION NO. 78068****ORDER A**

(Sample Form of Order for the
Convenience of the Commission to Use if
the Commission Determines it is in the
Public Interest to Grant the Project a CEC
as Issued by the Siting Committee’s
Decision.)

*Arizona Corporation Commission***DOCKETED****JUN 24 2021****DOCKETED BY**

Decision No. 78068

1 interest, including the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power with the
2 desire to minimize the effect thereof on the environment and ecology of this state, and finds that
3 granting the Project a CEC is in the public interest.

4 The Commission further finds and concludes that in balancing the broad public interest in this
5 matter:

- 6 1. The Project is in the public interest because it aids the state in meeting the need for an
7 adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power.
- 8 2. In balancing the need for the Project with its effect on the environment and ecology of the
9 state, the conditions placed on the CEC effectively minimize its impact on the environment
10 and ecology of the state.
- 11 3. The conditions placed on the CEC resolve matters concerning the need for the Project and
12 its impact on the environment and ecology of the state raised during the course of
13 proceedings and, as such, serve as the findings on the matters raised.
- 14 4. In light of these conditions, the balancing in the broad public interest results in favor of
15 granting the CEC.

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THE CEC ISSUED BY THE SITING COMMITTEE IS INCORPORATED
HEREIN AND IS APPROVED BY ORDER OF THE
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

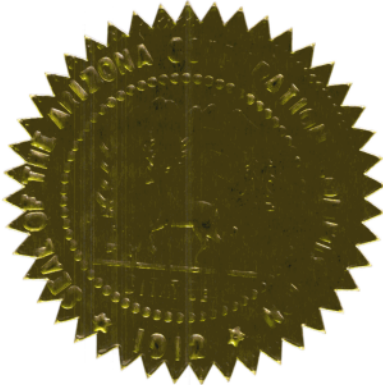

CHAIRWOMAN MÁRQUEZ PETERSON


COMMISSIONER KENNEDY


 Anna Tovar
COMMISSIONER OLSON

COMMISSIONER TOVAR


COMMISSIONER O'CONNOR



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I MATTHEW J. NEUBERT,
Executive Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission,
have hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this
Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix,
this 24 day of June, 2021.


MATTHEW J. NEUBERT
Executive Director

DISSENT: _____

DISSENT: _____

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**BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT
AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE**

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
UNS ELECTRIC, INC. AND ITS ASSIGNEES,
IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE
REQUIREMENTS OF A.R.S. § 40-360, *et seq.*,
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING THE
GOLDEN VALLEY 230 KILOVOLT (KV)
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT, WHICH
INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW
230 KV TRANSMISSION LINE ORIGINATING
NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF INTERSTATE
40 AND SHINARUMP DRIVE (TOWNSHIP 20
NORTH, RANGE 17 WEST, SECTION 4) AND
TERMINATING NEAR U.S. HIGHWAY 93
AND MINERAL PARK ROAD AT THE
PLANNED MINERAL PARK SUBSTATION
(TOWNSHIP 22 NORTH, RANGE 18 WEST,
SECTION 3), MOHAVE COUNTY, ARIZONA

Docket No. L-00000F-21-0050-00188

Case No. 188

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CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY

Pursuant to notice given as provided by law, the Arizona Power Plant and
Transmission Line Siting Committee ("Committee") held public hearings in Kingman,
Arizona, on April 26, 2021 through April 30, 2021 in conformance with the requirements of
the Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") § 40-360 et seq. for the purpose of receiving
evidence and deliberating on the March 16, 2021 Application for a Certificate of
Environmental Compatibility (the "Application") filed by UNS Electric, Inc. ("UNSE" or
"Applicant") seeking approval to construct the Golden Valley 230kV Transmission Line
Project (the "Project").

The following members and designees of members of the Committee were present at
one or more of the hearing days for the evidentiary presentations, public comment, and/or the
deliberations:

1	Thomas Chenal	Chairman, Designee for Arizona Attorney General
2	Leonard Drago	Designee for Director, Arizona Department of Environmental
3		Quality
4	John R. Riggins	Designee for Director, Arizona Department of Water
5		Resources
6	Zachary Branum	Designee of the Chairman, Arizona Corporation Commission
7		("Commission")
8	Karl Gentles	Appointed Member, representing the general public
9	Jack Haenichen	Appointed Member, representing the general public
10	Patricia A. Noland	Appointed Member, representing the general public
11	Mary Hamway	Appointed Member, representing cities and towns
12	James Palmer	Appointed Member, representing agriculture interests
13	Rick Grinnell	Appointed Member, representing the Counties

14

15 The Applicant was represented by Matt Derstine of Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. Patrick J.

16 Cunningham made a limited appearance pursuant to A.R.S. § 40- 360.05(B).

17 At the conclusion of the hearings, the Committee, after considering the (i)

18 Application, (ii) evidence, testimony, and exhibits presented by the Applicant and

19 intervenors, and (iii) comments of the public, and being advised of the legal requirements of

20 A.R.S. §§ 40-360 through 40-360.13, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted 7 to 3 to

21 grant Applicant, its successors and assigns, this Certificate of Environmental Compatibility

22 for the construction of the Project.

23 Overview of the Project

24 The Project consists of a new transmission line that will total approximately 17 miles

25 in length. The transmission line will generally consist of one circuit of 230 kV transmission;

26 however, portions will be constructed as a double circuit 230kV/69kV transmission line in

27 order to co-locate an existing 69kV circuit onto this Project.

28

Applicant, in conjunction with the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM"), considered six alternative routes for the Project identified as the East Cerbat Alternatives (E1 and E2) and the West Cerbat Alternatives (W1, W2, W3, and W4) (the "Route Alternatives") during the federal permitting process. The Route Alternatives were studied through the federal permitting process with BLM ultimately selecting Route E1 as their preferred route for the Project. All six of the Route Alternatives studied by the BLM were presented to the Committee in the Application with Route E1 presented as the preferred route. The Applicant plans to acquire a 125-foot right-of-way except as shown on the map attached as Exhibit A. Having considered the testimony and evidence concerning the Route Alternatives, the Committee has approved Route E1 for the Project with a 500 foot corridor all as shown on the map attached hereto as Exhibit A.

CONDITIONS

This Certificate is granted upon the following conditions:

1. This authorization to construct the Project shall expire ten (10) years from the date this Certificate is approved by the Commission, with or without modification. Construction of the Project shall be complete, such that the Project is in-service within this ten-year timeframe. However, prior to the expiration of the time period, Applicant may request that the Commission extend the time limitation.

2. In the event that the Project requires an extension of the term(s) of this Certificate prior to completion of construction, Applicant shall file such time extension request at least one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the expiration date of the Certificate. Applicant shall use reasonable means to promptly notify the Board of Supervisors of Mohave County and all cities and towns within a five (5) mile radius of the centerline of the Project and all landowners and residents within a five (5) mile radius of the centerline of the Project, all persons who made public comment at this proceeding who provided a mailing or email address, and all parties to this proceeding. The notification provided will include the request and the date, time, and place of the hearing or open meeting during which the Commission

1 will consider the request for extension. Notification shall be no more than three (3) business
2 days after Applicant is made aware of the hearing date or the open meeting date.

3 3. During the development, construction, operation, maintenance and
4 reclamation of the Project, Applicant shall comply with all existing applicable air and water
5 pollution control standards and regulations, and with all existing applicable statutes,
6 ordinances, master plans, and regulations of any governmental entity having jurisdiction,
7 including, but not limited to, the United States of America, BLM, State of Arizona, Mohave
8 County, the City of Kingman, the Arizona State Land Department (“ASLD”), and their
9 agencies or subdivisions, including but not limited to the following:

10 3.1 All applicable land use regulations;

11 3.2 All applicable zoning stipulations and conditions, including but not limited to
12 landscaping and dust control requirements;

13 3.3 All applicable water use, discharge and/or disposal requirements of the
14 Arizona Department of Water Resources and the Arizona Department of
15 Environmental Quality;

16 3.4 All applicable noise control standards; and

17 3.5 All applicable regulations governing storage and handling of hazardous
18 chemicals and petroleum products.

19 3.6 All applicable mitigation measures identified in the Golden Valley 230kV
20 Transmission Line Project Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-AZ-C030-2018-
21 0012-EA) Appendix C Resource Protection Measures) for the entire Project, to the
22 extent not inconsistent with Arizona laws and regulations.

23 4. Applicant shall obtain all approvals and permits necessary to construct,
24 operate and maintain the Project required by any governmental entity having jurisdiction
25 including, but not limited to, the United States of America, BLM, the State of Arizona,
26 Mohave County, the City of Kingman, the ASLD, and their agencies and subdivisions.

27 5. Applicant shall comply with the Arizona Game and Fish Department
28 (“AGFD”) guidelines for handling protected animal species, should any be encountered

1 during construction and operation of the Project, and shall consult with AGFD as necessary
2 on other issues concerning wildlife.

3 6. Applicant shall design the Project to incorporate reasonable measures to
4 minimize electrocution of and impacts to avian species. Such measures will be accomplished
5 through compliance with the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee guidelines set forth in
6 the 2006 Electrocution Manual and the 2012 Collision Manual.

7 7. Applicant shall consult with the BLM, the ASLD, and the State Historical
8 Preservation Office ("SHPO") with respect to cultural resources. If any archaeological,
9 paleontological, or historical site or a significant object is discovered on state, county or
10 municipal land during the construction or operation of the Project, Applicant or its
11 representative in charge shall promptly report the discovery to the Director of the Arizona
12 State Museum ("ASM"), and in consultation with the Director, shall immediately take all
13 reasonable steps to secure and maintain the preservation of the discovery as required by
14 A.R.S. § 41-844.

15 8. Applicant shall comply with the notice and salvage requirements of the
16 Arizona Native Plant Law (A.R.S. §§ 3-901 *et seq.*) and shall, to the extent feasible,
17 minimize the destruction of native plants during the construction and operation of the Project.

18 9. Applicant shall make every reasonable effort to promptly investigate, identify
19 and correct, on a case-specific basis, all complaints of interference with radio or television
20 signals from operation of the Project addressed in this Certificate and where such
21 interference is caused by the Project take reasonable measures to mitigate such interference.
22 Applicant shall maintain written records for a period of five (5) years of all complaints of
23 radio or television interference attributable to operations, together with the corrective action
24 taken in response to each complaint. All complaints shall be recorded to include notations on
25 the corrective action taken. Complaints not leading to a specific action or for which there
26 was no resolution shall be noted and explained. Upon request, the written records shall be
27 provided to the Staff of the Commission. Applicant shall respond to complaints and
28 implement appropriate mitigation measures. In addition, the Project shall be evaluated on a

1 regular basis so that damaged insulators or other line materials that could cause interference
2 are repaired or replaced in a timely manner.

3 10. When Project facilities are located within fifteen hundred (1500) feet of any
4 existing AM radio tower, Applicant shall at its own expense perform radio frequency studies
5 prior to construction, and within a year after operations begin, to show that the Project's
6 location within fifteen hundred (1500) feet of the transmission line results in no material
7 adverse impacts to the AM tower or to public safety when both the radio tower and the
8 Project are in operation. Applicant shall take appropriate steps at its own expense to ensure
9 that any material adverse impacts are mitigated by de-tuning or other appropriate methods.
10 Applicant shall provide to Staff, and file with Docket Control, a copy of the studies
11 performed and additional mitigation, if any, that were implemented as part of its annual
12 compliance-certification letter.

13 11. If human remains and/or funerary objects are encountered on private land
14 during the course of any ground-disturbing activities related to the construction or
15 maintenance of the Project, Applicant shall cease work on the affected area of the Project and
16 notify the Director of the ASM as required by A.R.S. § 41-865.

17 12. Within one hundred twenty (120) days of the Commission's decision
18 approving this Certificate, Applicant shall post signs in or near public rights-of-way, to the
19 extent authorized by law, along the route of the Project giving notice of the Project. Such
20 signage shall be no smaller than a roadway sign. The signs shall advise:

21 a. Future site of the Project.

22 b. A phone number and website for public information regarding the
23 Project.

24 c. Refer the Public to the Docket Control Website:
25 <https://edocket.azcc.gov/Search/Docket-Search>.

26 Such signs shall be inspected at least once annually and, if necessary, be repaired or
27 replaced, and removed at the completion of construction.

1 13. At least ninety (90) days before construction commences on the Project,
2 Applicant shall provide cities and towns within five (5) miles of the Project, the BLM, Board
3 of Supervisors for Mohave County, City of Kingman, the ASLD and known builders and
4 developers who are building upon or developing land within one (1) mile of the centerline of
5 the Project with a written description, including height and width measurements of all
6 structure types, for the Project. The written description shall identify the location of the
7 Project and contain a pictorial depiction of the facilities being constructed. Applicant shall
8 also encourage the developers and builders to include this information in their disclosure
9 statements.

10 14. Applicant shall use non-specular conductors for the new circuits and non-
11 reflective surfaces for the transmission line structures on the Project.

12 15. Applicant shall be responsible for arranging that all field personnel involved
13 in the Project receive training as to proper ingress, egress, and on-site working protocol for
14 environmentally sensitive areas and activities. Contractors employing such field personnel
15 shall maintain records documenting that the personnel have received such training.

16 16. Applicant shall follow the most current Western Electricity Coordinating
17 Council ("WECC") and North American Electric Reliability Corporation ("NERC") planning
18 standards, as approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"), National
19 Electrical Safety Code ("NESC") standards and Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA")
20 regulations.

21 17. Applicant shall participate in good faith in state and regional transmission
22 study forum to coordinate transmission expansion plans related to the Project and to resolve
23 transmission constraints in a timely manner.

24 18. When Project facilities are located parallel to and within one hundred (100)
25 feet of any existing natural gas or hazardous liquid pipeline, Applicant shall:

- 26 a. Ensure grounding and cathodic protection studies are performed to
27 show that the Project's location parallel to and within one hundred (100) feet
28 of such pipeline results in no material adverse impacts to the pipeline or to

1 public safety when both the pipeline and the Project are in operation.
2 Applicant shall take appropriate steps to ensure that any material adverse
3 impacts are mitigated. Applicant shall provide to Staff, and file with Docket
4 Control, a copy of the studies performed and additional mitigation, if any, that
5 were implemented as part of its annual compliance-certification letter, and

6 b. Ensure that studies are performed simulating an outage simulation of
7 the Project that may be caused by the collocation of the Project that may be
8 caused by the collocation of the Project parallel to and within one hundred
9 (100) feet of the existing natural gas or hazardous liquid pipeline. The studies
10 should either: i) show that such simulated outage does not result in customer
11 outages, or ii) include operating plans to minimize any resulting customer
12 outages. Applicant shall provide a copy of the study results to the
13 Commission Staff and file them with Docket Control as part of Applicant's
14 annual compliance certification letter.

15 19. Applicant shall submit a compliance certification letter annually, identifying
16 progress made with respect to each condition contained in this Certificate, including which
17 conditions have been met. The letter shall be submitted to the Commission's Docket Control
18 commencing on June 15, 2021. Attached to each certification letter shall be documentation
19 explaining how compliance with each condition was achieved. Copies of the letter, along
20 with the corresponding documentation, shall be submitted to the Arizona Attorney General's
21 Office. With respect to the Project, the requirement for the compliance certification letter
22 shall expire on the date the Project is placed into operation. Notification of such filing with
23 Docket Control shall be made to the BLM, Board of Supervisors for Mohave County, City of
24 Kingman, the ASLD, all parties to this Docket, and all parties who made a limited
25 appearance in this Docket.

26 20. Applicant shall provide a copy of this Certificate to the BLM, the ASLD, the
27 Board of Supervisors for Mohave County and the City of Kingman.

1 21. Any transfer or assignment of this Certificate shall require the assignee or
2 successor to assume, in writing, all responsibilities of Applicant listed in this Certificate and
3 its conditions as required by A.R.S. § 40-360.08(A) and R14-3-213(F) of the Arizona
4 Administrative Code.

5 22. In the event Applicant, its assignee, or successor, seeks to modify the
6 Certificate terms at the Commission, it shall provide copies of such request to the BLM, the
7 ASLD, the Board of Supervisors for Mohave County, the City of Kingman, all parties to this
8 Docket, and all parties who made a limited appearance in this Docket.

9 23. The Certificate Conditions shall be binding on Applicant, its successors,
10 assignee(s) and transferees and any affiliates, agents, or lessees of Applicant who have a
11 contractual relationship with Applicant concerning the construction, operation, maintenance
12 or reclamation of the Project. Applicant shall provide in any agreement(s) or lease(s)
13 pertaining to the Project that the contracting parties and/or lessee(s) shall be responsible for
14 compliance with the Conditions set forth herein, and Applicant's responsibilities with respect
15 to compliance with such Conditions shall not cease or be abated by reason of the fact that
16 Applicant is not in control of or responsible for operation and maintenance of the Project
17 facilities.

18 24. Applicant shall continue to make good faith efforts to discuss, with the private
19 landowners on whose property the Project is located, the specific location of the right-of-
20 way, and placement of poles. A copy of this Certificate shall be provided to the private
21 landowners, and a description of the good faith efforts and discussions shall be included in
22 the annual compliance certification letter.

23 25. Applicant shall pursue reasonable efforts to work with the private landowners
24 on whose property the Project will be located to mitigate the impacts of the location,
25 construction, and operation of the Project on private land and negotiate such right-of-way
26 agreements in good faith. Any such right-of-way agreement shall, where practicable and
27 after consultation with the landowner, require Applicant, at a minimum to (a) use existing
28 roads for construction and access where practicable, (b) minimize impacts to wildlife, (c)

1 minimize vegetation disturbance outside of the Project right-of-way, particularly in drainage
2 channels and along stream banks, and (d) revegetate native areas following construction
3 disturbance unless revegetation is waived by the landowner.

4 26. Applicant shall negotiate with the landowner the location and construction of
5 new access roads, permit the landowner to access and use all new access roads and rights-of-
6 way on the landowner's property for ingress and egress and on all properties adjacent to the
7 landowner's property for ingress and egress.

8 **FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

9 This Certificate incorporates the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

10 1. The Applicant made reasonable efforts to work with landowners and minimize
11 the impact of the facilities.

12 2. The Project aids the Applicant in meeting the need for an adequate,
13 economical, and reliable supply of renewable electric power.

14 3. The Project aids the state, in preserving a safe and reliable electric
15 transmission system.

16 4. During the course of the hearing, the Committee considered evidence on the
17 environmental compatibility on the Project as required by A.R.S. § 40-360 et seq.

18 5. The conditions placed on the Project in this Certificate effectively minimize
19 the impact of the Project on the environment and ecology of the state.

20 6. The conditions placed on the Project in this Certificate resolve matters
21 concerning balancing the need for the Project with its impact on the environment and ecology
22 of the state arising during the course of the proceedings, and, as such, serve as findings and
23 conclusions on such matters.

24 7. The Project is in the public interest because the Project's contribution to
25 meeting the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power
26 outweighs the minimized impact of the Project on the environment and ecology of the state.

1 DATED this 7th day of May, 2021.

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4 THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT AND
5 TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE


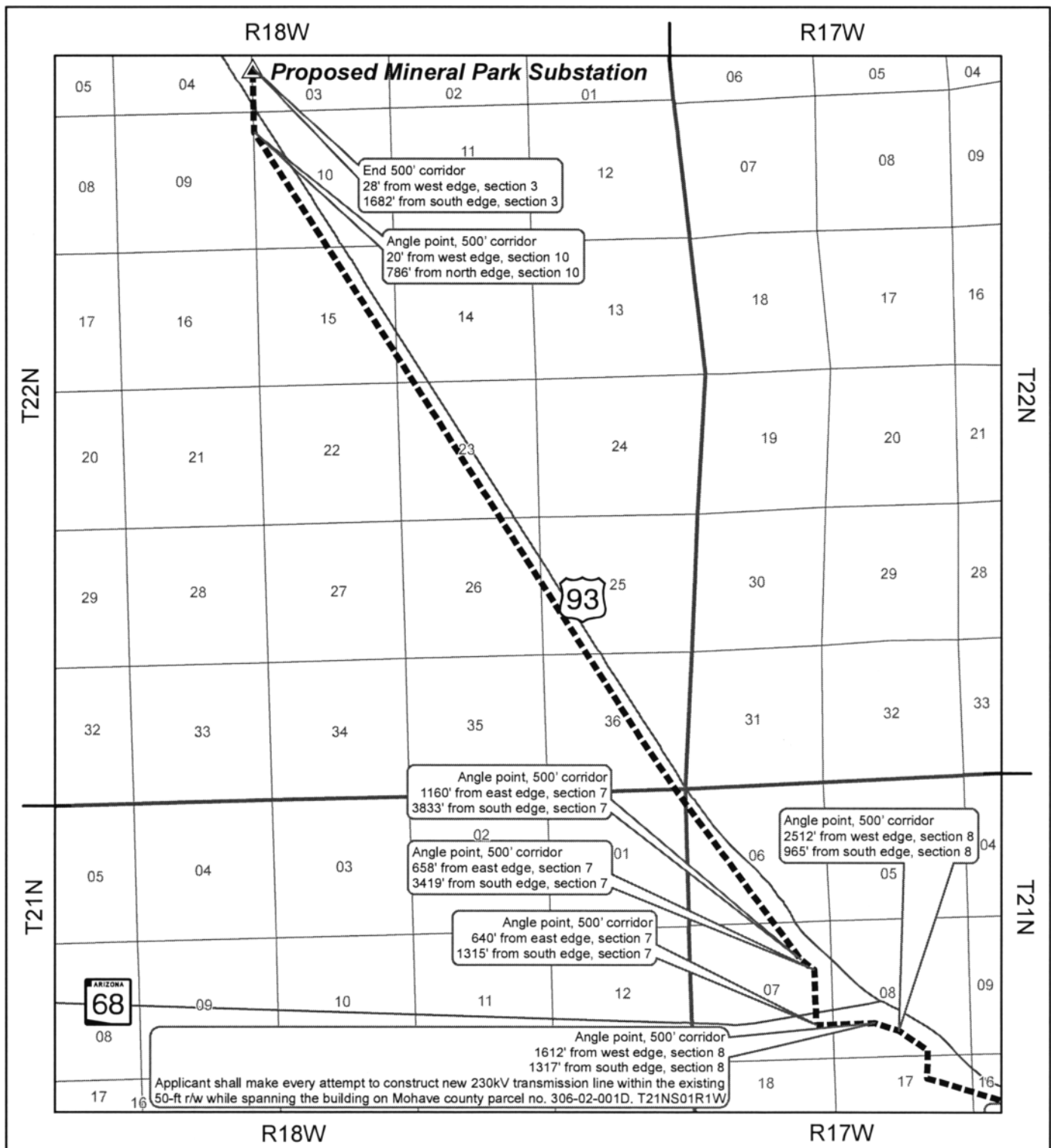
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8 Thomas K. Chenal, Chairman
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Exhibit A

Exhibit A

**Case 188**

Docket No.

L-00000F-21-0050-00188

Golden Valley 230kV
Transmission Line Project

April 2021

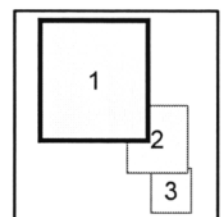
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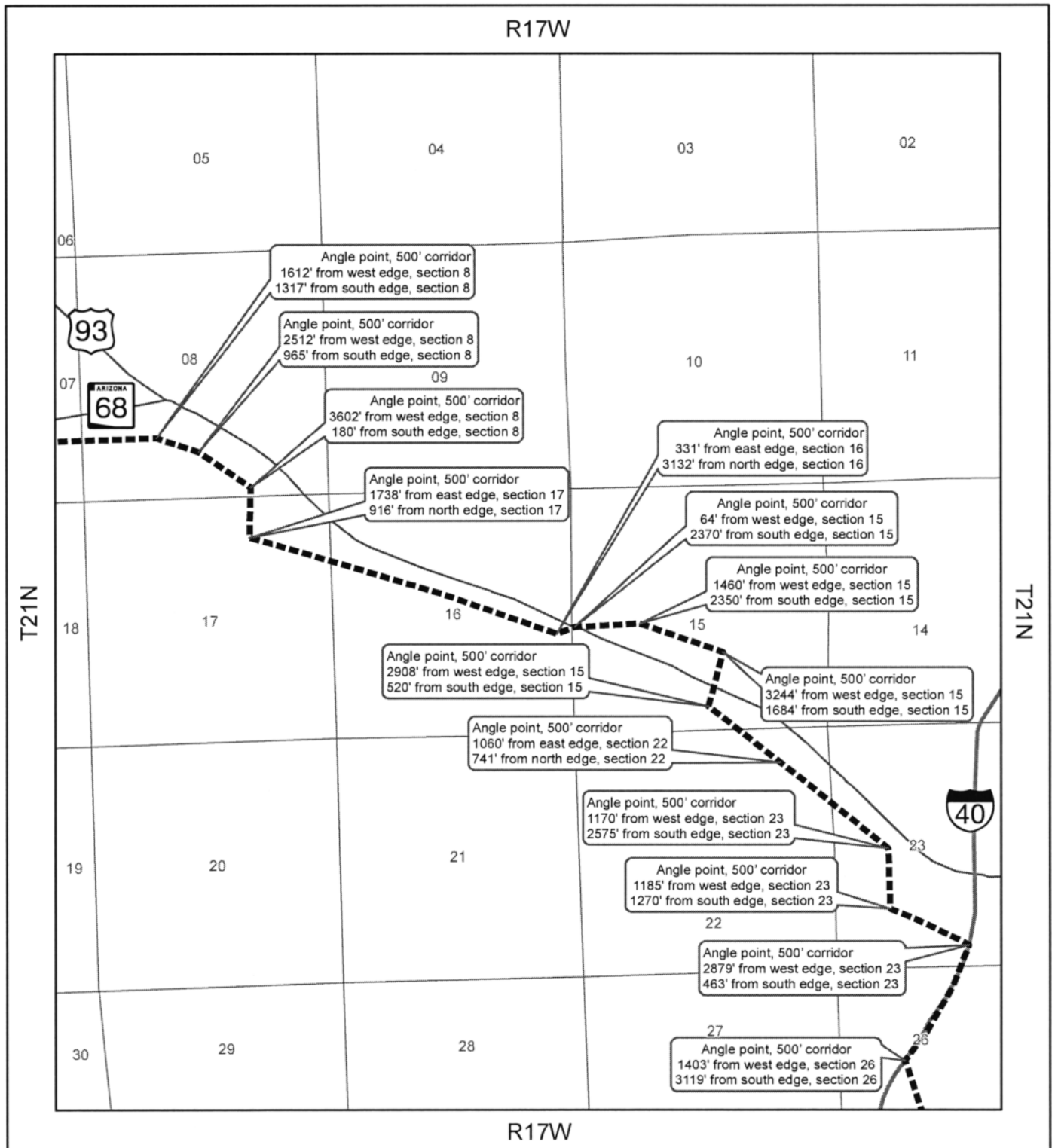
----- Approved 500' Corridor

▲ Substation

— Interstate

— Highway

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Miles**Exhibit A-1**

**Case 188**

Docket No.

L-00000F-21-0050-00188

Golden Valley 230kV
Transmission Line Project

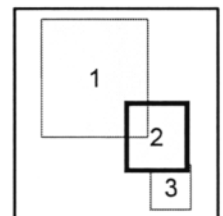
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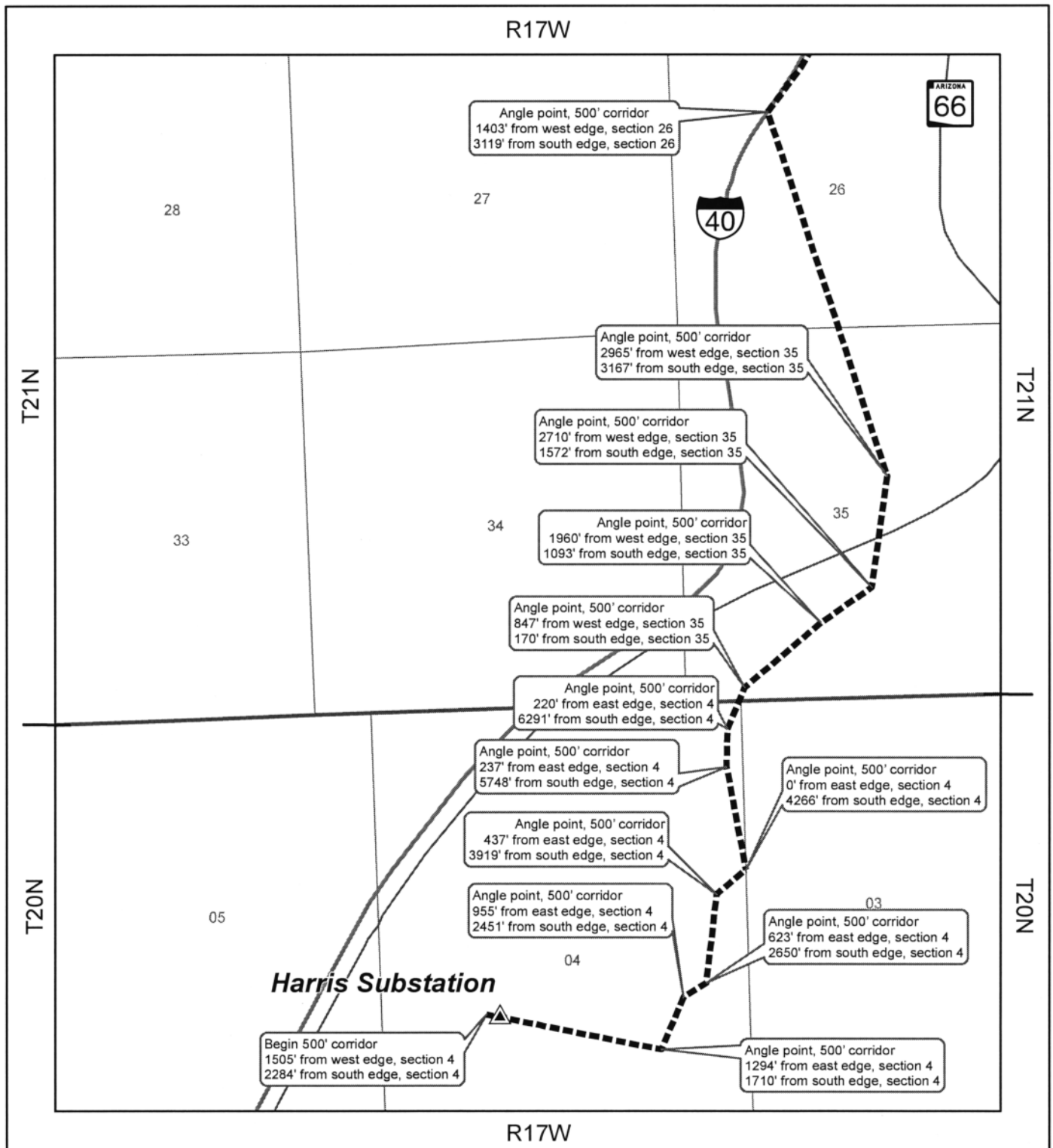
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- Approved 500' Corridor
- ▲ Substation
- Interstate
- Highway



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Exhibit A-2

**Case 188**

Docket No.

L-00000F-21-0050-00188

Golden Valley 230kV
Transmission Line Project

April 2021

Legend

----- Approved 500' Corridor

▲ Substation

— Interstate

— Highway



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Exhibit A-3