

ORIGINAL



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1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

2 **COMMISSIONERS**

3 DOUG LITTLE - CHAIRMAN  
4 BOB STUMP  
4 BOB BURNS  
5 TOM FORESE  
5 ANDY TOBIN

6

7 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
8 OF SUNZIA TRANSMISSION, LLC, IN  
9 CONFORMANCE WITH THE  
10 REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA REVISED  
11 STATUTES 40-360, ET. SEQ., FOR A  
12 CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
13 COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING THE  
14 SUNZIA SOUTHWEST TRANSMISSION  
15 PROJECT, WHICH INCLUDES THE  
16 CONSTRUCTION OF TWO NEW 500KV  
17 TRANSMISSION LINES AND ASSOCIATED  
18 FACILITIES ORIGINATING AT A NEW  
19 SUBSTATION (SUNZIA EAST) IN  
LINCOLN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, AND  
TERMINATING AT THE PINAL CENTRAL  
SUBSTATION IN PINAL COUNTY,  
ARIZONA. THE ARIZONA PORTION OF  
THE PROJECT IS LOCATED WITHIN  
GRAHAM, GREENLEE, COCHISE, PINAL  
AND PIMA COUNTIES.

CASE NO. 171

DOCKET NO. L-00000YY-15-0318-00171

DECISION NO. 75464

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

FEB 22 2016

DOCKETED BY

*[Signature]*

18 Open Meeting  
February 2 and 3, 2016  
19 Phoenix, Arizona

20 **BY THE COMMISSION:**

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

25 The Commission, in reaching its decision, has balanced all relevant matters in the broad  
26 public interest, including the need for an adequate, economical and reliable supply of electric power  
27 with the desire to minimize the effect thereof on the environment and ecology of this state, and finds  
28 that granting the Project a CEC is in the public interest.

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

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

## CHAIRMAN

**COMMISSIONER**

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**COMMISSIONER**

## COMMISSIONER

**COMMISSIONER**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, JODI JERICH, 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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2016.

A large, solid black circle with a jagged, serrated edge, resembling a starburst or a sun. The circle is centered in the frame and has a high-contrast, graphic appearance.



Jodi Jerich  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## DISSENT:

## DISSENT:

1 SERVICE LIST FOR: SUNZIA TRANSMISSION, LLC  
 2 DOCKET NO. L-00000YY-15-0318-00171

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ORIGINAL



0000166993

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

3      IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION      )  
4      OF SUNZIA TRANSMISSION LLC, IN      )  
5      CONFORMANCE WITH THE      )  
6      REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA REVISED      )  
7      STATUTES 40-360, ET SEQ., FOR A      )  
8      CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL      )  
9      COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING THE      )  
10     SUNZIA SOUTHWEST TRANSMISSION      )  
11     PROJECT, WHICH INCLUDES THE      )  
12     CONSTRUCTION OF TWO NEW 500 KV      )  
13     TRANSMISSION LINES AND      )  
14     ASSOCIATED FACILITIES ORIGINATING      )  
15     AT A NEW SUBSTATION (SUNZIA EAST)      )  
16     IN LINCOLN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO,      )  
17     AND TERMINATING AT THE PINAL      )  
18     CENTRAL SUBSTATION IN PINAL      )  
19     COUNTY, ARIZONA. THE ARIZONA      )  
20     PORTION OF THE PROJECT IS LOCATED      )  
21     WITHIN GRAHAM, GREENLEE,      )  
22     COCHISE, PINAL, AND PIMA COUNTIES.      )

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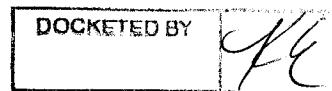
AZ CORP COMMISSION  
DOCKET CONTROL

DOCKET NO. L-00000YY-15031800171

Case No. 171

**CERTIFICATE OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
COMPATIBILITY**  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
**DOCKETED**

NOV 24 2015



14      **CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY**

15      **A. Introduction**

16      Pursuant to notice given as provided by law, the Arizona Power Plant and  
17      Transmission Line Siting Committee (“Committee”) held public hearings on October 19-  
18      21, 2015, in Willcox, Arizona; on October 22-23 and November 2-3, 2015, in Tucson,  
19      Arizona; on November 4-5, 2015, in Casa Grande, Arizona; and on November 16-19,  
20      2015, in Florence, Arizona in conformance with the requirements of Arizona Revised  
21      Statutes (“A.R.S.”) §§ 40-360 *et seq.* for the purpose of receiving evidence and deliberating  
22      on the September 2, 2015, Application of SunZia Transmission, LLC (“Applicant”) for a  
23      Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (“Certificate”) in the above-captioned case  
24      (“Project”). In conjunction with the foregoing, route tours were conducted from Willcox on  
25      October 21, 2015, and from Tucson on November 3, 2015.

26      The following members and designees of members of the Committee were present  
27      at one or more of the hearings for the evidentiary presentations and/or the deliberations:

28      ///

1	Thomas K. Chenal	Chairman, Designee for Arizona Attorney General, Mark Brnovich
2	Steve Olea	Designee of the Chairman, Arizona Corporation Commission
3	Ian Bingham	Designee for Director, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
4	Lisa Williams	Designee for Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources
5	Jack Haenichen	Appointed Member
6	David L. Eberhart	Appointed Member
7	Mary Hamway	Appointed Member
8	Jeff McGuire	Appointed Member
9	Patricia Noland	Appointed Member
10	Jim Palmer	Appointed Member

13                   The Applicant was represented by Albert H. Acken and Samuel Lee Lofland, Ryley  
14 Carlock & Applewhite, and Lawrence V. Robertson, Jr., Of Counsel to Munger Chadwick,  
15 P.L.C. The following parties were granted intervention pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360.05:  
16 Arizona Corporation Commission Staff, by Charles Hains, Staff Counsel; Pinal County, by  
17 Cedric Hay, Deputy County Attorney; Redington NRCD and Winkelman NRCD, by Lat J.  
18 Celmins; Robson Ranch Mountains, LLC, by Jay L. Shapiro; Norm "Mick" Meader, *in*  
19 *propria persona*; Peter T. Else, *in propria persona*; and, Christina McVie, *in propria*  
20 *persona*.

21                   At the conclusion of the hearings, the Committee, after considering the: (1)  
22 Application; (2) evidence, testimony, and exhibits presented by the Applicant and  
23 intervenors; and (3) comments of the public, and being advised of the legal requirements of  
24 A.R.S. §§ 40-360 through 40-360.13, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted 8 to 0  
25 with one abstention and one absent in favor of granting the Applicant this Certificate for  
26 construction of the Project.

27                   ///

28

1      **B. Overview Project Description**

2      The Project includes the construction and operation of two (2) new 500 kilovolt  
3 (kV) interstate transmission lines and associated Project facilities originating at a new  
4 substation (SunZia East) in Lincoln County, New Mexico and terminating at the Pinal  
5 Central Substation in Pinal County, Arizona. This Certificate approves construction of the  
6 Project within the State of Arizona. The Project as approved herein consists of two (2) new,  
7 single-circuit 500 kV transmission lines and associated facilities, including a new 500kV  
8 substation (“500 kV Willow Substation”) and a direct current (DC) converter station. All  
9 Project components are located within Greenlee, Graham, Cochise, Pima and Pinal  
10 counties and the City of Coolidge. A general location map of the Project is depicted in  
11 Exhibit A to the Application.

12     A 200-foot wide right-of-way is approved for each transmission line within the  
13 corridor depicted on the CEC Corridor Map (Attachment A, Panels a through g). The  
14 general width of the certificated corridor is 2,500 feet, with the exception of the following  
15 segments: (1) a corridor width of 750 feet along the segment located in Cochise County  
16 from a point approximately four (4) miles east, to a point one (1) mile west of Ft. Grant  
17 Road, where the specified corridor crosses private lands (Attachment A, Panel b); (2) an  
18 irregularly-shaped corridor of varying width of 2,500 feet to 8,100 feet along the corridor  
19 segment located in Cochise County in the vicinity of Paige Canyon, from a point 7.5 miles  
20 northwest of the San Pedro River route crossing, and continuing for a distance of  
21 approximately 6.6 miles crossing Arizona State Trust lands, along the Proposed Route  
22 shown on the general location map depicted in Exhibit A to the Application (Attachment  
23 A, Panel c, Link C201); and (3) a width of 1,200 feet along the corridor segment located in  
24 Pinal County north of Earley Road, from a point 0.8 miles west of the Central Arizona  
25 Project Canal to a point approximately 0.5 mile east of SR 87 where the specified corridor  
26 crosses private lands (Attachment A, Panel g).

27     There will typically be a 50-foot separation between the two (2) rights-of-way.  
28 However, in some locations, the separation may be up to 1,000 feet to avoid or traverse

1 adjacent terrain features or heavy equipment limitations, and to preserve critical habitat,  
2 existing land uses and important cultural resources. At least one (1) of the two (2) 500 kV  
3 transmission lines will be constructed and operated as an alternating current (AC) facility;  
4 the other transmission line will be either an AC or DC facility. As contemplated and  
5 provided for in this Certificate, the two (2) transmission lines may be constructed at  
6 different points in time.

7 In addition, the Project includes construction of the new Willow-500 kV Substation  
8 on lands managed by the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) in Graham County,  
9 Arizona. The location of the Willow-500 kV Substation is approximately three (3) miles  
10 north of the Cochise County line and approximately 1.1 miles east of US Highway 191 as  
11 depicted in Exhibit A to the Application. The Project terminates at the existing Pinal  
12 Central Substation, which was approved by the Arizona Corporation Commission  
13 (“Commission”) in 2005 (Siting Case No. 126; Decision No. 68093) and thereafter  
14 constructed by Salt River Project. The Pinal Central Substation is located approximately  
15 7.5 miles east of Interstate 10 on privately owned land within the City of Coolidge,  
16 Arizona. These two (2) substations will provide Arizona utilities and load centers with  
17 access to renewable energy transmitted on the Project’s two (2) transmission lines.

18 Finally, a DC converter station will be required if the 500 kV DC transmission line  
19 option is utilized in order to convert the flow of electricity from DC to AC and thereby  
20 allow the DC line to deliver energy to the Pinal Central Substation. The converter station  
21 herein approved would be constructed within a fenced parcel of up to forty-five (45) acres,  
22 located within the 2,500 foot wide corridor, no more than one (1) mile east of the Pinal  
23 Central Substation, as depicted in Exhibit G to the Application, Figure G-3-3. The  
24 interconnection between the Pinal Central Substation and the DC converter station would  
25 require two (2) 500 kV AC transmission lines, which also would be constructed within the  
26 2,500-foot wide corridor. Typical Project design features and details, including structure  
27 diagrams anticipated for the Project, are provided in Exhibit G to the Application.

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1     C. **Approved Project Route Description**

2         The route herein approved (“Route”) is a total of approximately two hundred (200)  
3 miles in length within Arizona, and will be parallel to approximately one hundred  
4 seventeen (117) miles of existing or designated utility corridors. The Route crosses the  
5 New Mexico-Arizona state line from Hidalgo County, New Mexico into Greenlee County,  
6 Arizona, approximately three (3) miles north of the Cochise County line. The Route then  
7 proceeds east to west for approximately thirty-seven (37) miles from the state line into  
8 Graham County south of the Hot Well Dunes Recreation Area, and continues through the  
9 San Simon Valley to the Willow-500 kV Substation, located approximately three (3) miles  
10 north of the Cochise County line and one (1) mile east of US Highway 191 in Graham  
11 County, Arizona.

12         The Route then proceeds southwest from the Willow-500 kV Substation, parallel to  
13 two (2) 345 kV transmission lines operated by Tucson Electric Power Company (“TEP”)  
14 for approximately forty-seven (47) miles, and crosses two (2) pipelines and US Route 191.  
15 The Route then crosses the TEP 345 kV lines approximately one (1) mile west of the San  
16 Pedro River and turns northwest and continues through the northeast corner of Pima  
17 County into Pinal County, of which approximately twelve (12) miles will be parallel to an  
18 existing pipeline corridor. The Route then turns and heads west approximately two (2)  
19 miles west of San Manuel. The route crosses SR 77 approximately five (5) miles northwest  
20 of the community of Oracle, and continues west for thirteen (13) miles, where it crosses  
21 and then continues southwesterly and parallel to Arizona Public Service Company’s  
22 Cholla-Saguaro 500 kV transmission line for five (5) miles. From that point, the route  
23 crosses SR 79 near the Oracle Junction Substation, then continues to the west and parallel  
24 to the Cholla-Saguaro 500 kV line for approximately thirteen (13) miles. The Route then  
25 proceeds northwest, then north and parallel to TEP’s Pinal Central-Tortolita 500 kV  
26 transmission line for approximately sixteen (16) miles (Siting Case No. 165; Decision No.  
27 73282). The Route then turns northwest, then west, continuing to parallel the Pinal Central-  
28 Tortolita 500 kV line and a pipeline corridor for approximately six (6) miles. As the Route

1 then heads west, it crosses the Central Arizona Project canal and SR 87 before it proceeds  
2 to the Pinal Central Substation, located on the southeast corner of SR 287 and Eleven Mile  
3 Corner Road, paralleling the Pinal Central-Tortolita 500 kV line for an additional twelve  
4 (12) miles. If one (1) of the lines is constructed as a DC facility, then the Project will  
5 include construction of a new DC converter station, which will be located within the 2,500-  
6 foot wide corridor at a location no more than one (1) mile east of the Pinal Central  
7 Substation.

## **CONDITIONS**

9 | This Certificate is granted upon the following conditions:

10        1. The Applicant shall comply with all existing applicable statutes, ordinances,  
11 master plans, and regulations of any governmental entity having jurisdiction during the  
12 construction and operation of the Project, including the United States of America, the State  
13 of Arizona, the counties of Greenlee, Graham, Cochise, Pima, and Pinal, and the City of  
14 Coolidge.

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

18       3. Applicant shall comply with the Arizona Game and Fish Department (“AGFD”)  
19 guidelines for handling protected animal species, should any be encountered during  
20 construction.

21       4. The Applicant shall design the transmission lines to incorporate reasonable  
22 measures to minimize impacts to raptors, cranes, and waterfowl. Such design will be  
23 accomplished through the Applicant's compliance with its Avian Protection Plan ("APP"),  
24 or an equivalent plan, which will be developed pursuant to the Record of Decision  
25 ("ROD") issued by the United States Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") on January  
26 23, 2015. Once completed, the APP or equivalent plan will become part of, and be  
27 incorporated into, this Certificate. In addition, the APP or equivalent plan shall, at a  
28 minimum, include the 2006 standards of the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee.

1 The APP or equivalent plan shall address the application of recommended measures to  
2 minimize the risk of collision, as described in the 2012 guidelines of the Avian Power Line  
3 Interaction Committee.

4 5. The ROD issued by BLM requires the Applicant to prepare a Plan of  
5 Development (“POD”) outlining and detailing the relevant construction, mitigation, and  
6 restoration requirements for the Project prior to commencing construction on any portion  
7 thereof. Where practicable, as determined by the landowner, the POD shall specify that the  
8 Applicant: (a) use existing roads for construction and access; (b) revegetate, unless  
9 revegetation is waived by the landowner, native areas following construction disturbance;  
10 (c) specify the Applicant’s plan for construction access and methods to minimize impacts  
11 to wildlife and to minimize vegetation disturbance outside of the Project right-of-way,  
12 particularly in drainage channels and along stream banks; and (d) specify the manner in  
13 which the Applicant makes use of existing roads.

14 6. The POD shall specify the Applicant’s plans for coordination with AGFD and the  
15 State Historic Preservation Office (“SHPO”). The Applicant shall use existing roads for  
16 construction and access where practicable, consistent with the requirements of the ROD, on  
17 any lands traversed within the Arizona portion of the Project.

18 7. The Applicant shall work with a representative designated by the Redington  
19 Natural Resources Conservation District and the Winkelman Natural Resources  
20 Conservation District (collectively, the “NRCDs”) to develop and implement the Project  
21 POD provisions regarding the fields of land, soil, water, and natural resources management  
22 within the boundaries of the NRCDs during construction and maintenance activities within  
23 the NRCDs’ respective area boundaries. Areas of concern to the NRCDs are minimizing  
24 soil disturbance requiring, where possible and technically feasible, overland access and/or  
25 aerial construction; utilization of existing roads for construction and maintenance activities,  
26 where possible; determination of best management practices for revegetation following  
27 conclusion of construction activities within the NRCDs; determination of best management  
28 practices for erosion control during construction and maintenance activities; and dust

1 abatement and other similar areas where the NRCDs' designated representatives have  
2 special knowledge of the-fields of land, soil, water, and natural resources management  
3 within the boundaries of each NRCD relevant to the development of the POD. Where the  
4 Project is located within the NRCDs' district boundaries, but also on ASLD trust lands, all  
5 proposed POD provisions developed pursuant to this Condition will be subject to the  
6 consent and approval of the ASLD. Where the Project is located within the NRCDs'  
7 boundaries but also on BLM-administered lands, all proposed POD provisions developed  
8 pursuant to this condition will be subject to the consent and approval of the BLM.

9       8. The Applicant shall make every reasonable effort to promptly identify and  
10 correct, on a case-specific basis, all complaints of interference with radio or television  
11 signals from operation of the transmission line(s) addressed in this Certificate. The  
12 Applicant shall maintain written records for a period of five (5) years of all complaints of  
13 radio or television interference attributable to operations, together with the corrective  
14 action taken in response to each complaint. All complaints shall be recorded to include  
15 notations on the corrective action taken. Complaints not leading to a specific action or for  
16 which there was no resolution shall be noted and explained. Upon request, the written  
17 records shall be provided to the Staff of the Commission. Pursuant to the ROD, the  
18 Applicant will respond to complaints of line-generated radio or television interference by  
19 promptly investigating the complaints and implementing appropriate mitigation measures.  
20 In addition, the transmission line(s) will be evaluated on a regular basis so that damaged  
21 insulators or other line materials that could cause interference are timely repaired or  
22 replaced.

23       9. If any archaeological site, paleontological site, historical site, or an object that is  
24 at least fifty (50) years old is discovered on state, county, or municipal land during the  
25 construction of the Project, the Applicant or its representative in charge shall promptly  
26 report the discovery to the Director of the Arizona State Museum ("ASM"), and in  
27 consultation with the Director, shall immediately take all reasonable steps to secure and  
28 maintain the preservation of the discovery, pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-844. Such steps will

1 likely be accomplished through compliance with the Historic Properties Treatment Plan  
2 (“HPTP”) for archaeological and historical sites and the Paleontological Resources  
3 Monitoring Plan (“PRMP”) for paleontological sites, both of which will be developed  
4 pursuant to the ROD. Once completed, the HPTP and the PRMP will become part of, and  
5 be incorporated into, this Certificate.

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

10 11. Applicant will comply with the HPTP to be developed pursuant to the  
11 Programmatic Agreement (“PA”) entered into on December 17, 2014, to ensure that pre-  
12 construction archaeological testing and monitoring of all ground clearing and disturbing  
13 construction activities that may affect historical or cultural sites that are listed, or eligible  
14 for listing, on the Arizona Register of Historic Places (“Register”) are conducted in full  
15 compliance with Arizona and federal law. In the event a listed or listing-eligible site is  
16 discovered, the Applicant will ensure that approved mitigation measures are implemented  
17 according to the PA. Applicant shall coordinate and share results of any archaeological  
18 work and findings with the appropriate tribes, according to the PA.

19 12. Before construction of the Project may commence, the Applicant shall file a  
20 copy of each of the following documents with the Commission’s Docket Control: (a) PA;  
21 (b) HPTP; (c) PRMP; (d) POD; (e) ROD; and (f) APP, or equivalent, including any  
22 amendments to any of such documents subsequent to the granting of this Certificate.  
23 Further, in addition to compliance with the conditions set forth in this Certificate, the  
24 Applicant shall comply with the provisions of these documents as applicable to the Arizona  
25 portion of the Project. Notification of such filing with Docket Control shall be made to the  
26 counties of Greenlee, Graham, Cochise, Pima, and Pinal, City of Coolidge, SHPO, AGFD,  
27 all parties to this Docket, and all parties that made a limited appearance in this Docket.

28 ///

1           13. Within one hundred twenty (120) days of the Commission's decision approving  
2 this Certificate, the Applicant will post signs in or near public rights-of-way giving notice  
3 of the Project corridor to the extent authorized by law. The Applicant shall place such signs  
4 in prominent locations at reasonable intervals (no more than one-half mile apart, subject to  
5 obtaining permission from the landowner) so that the public is notified along the full length  
6 of the Project until the transmission structures are constructed. To the extent practicable,  
7 within forty-five (45) days of securing easements or rights-of-way for the Project, subject  
8 to the landowner's approval, the Applicant shall erect and maintain signs (no more than  
9 one-half mile apart) providing public notice that the property is the site of a future  
10 transmission line or substation. Such signage shall be no smaller than a normal roadway  
11 sign. The signs shall advise:

- 12           (a) That the site has been approved for the construction of Project facilities;  
13           (b) The expected date of completion of the Project facilities;  
14           (c) A phone number for public information regarding the Project;  
15           (d) The name of the Project;  
16           (e) The name of the Applicant; and  
17           (f) The website of the Project.

18 Such signs shall be inspected at least once annually and if necessary be repaired or  
19 replaced.

20           14. Within one hundred twenty (120) days of the Commission's decision granting  
21 this Certificate, the Applicant shall make good faith efforts to commence discussions with  
22 private landowners on whose property the Project corridor is located to identify the specific  
23 location for the Project's right-of-way and placement of poles. A description of the good  
24 faith efforts and discussions shall be included in the annual compliance-certification letter.

25           15. The Applicant will pursue reasonable efforts to work with private landowners on  
26 whose property the Project right-of-way will be located to mitigate the impacts of the  
27 location, construction, and operation of the Project on private land. A description of these  
28 reasonable efforts shall be included in the annual compliance-certification letter.

1           16. At least ninety (90) days, but not more than three hundred sixty-five (365) days  
2 before construction commences on the Project, the Applicant shall provide cities and towns  
3 within five (5) miles of the Project and known homebuilders and developers who are  
4 building upon or developing land within one (1) mile of the centerline of the Project with a  
5 written description, including height and width measurements of all structure types, of the  
6 Project. The written description shall identify the location of the Project and contain a  
7 pictorial depiction of the Project. The Applicant shall also encourage these developers and  
8 homebuilders to include this information in their disclosure statements.

9           17. The Applicant shall use non-specular conductor and non-reflective surfaces for  
10 the Project's transmission line structures.

11           18. The Applicant will follow the most current Western Electricity Coordinating  
12 Council/North American Electric Reliability Corporation planning standards, as approved  
13 by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and National Electrical Safety Code  
14 construction standards. At the San Pedro River crossing, towers and conductors shall be of  
15 sufficient height to minimize tree removal as contemplated in the Biological Opinion.

16           19. With respect to the Project, the Applicant shall participate in good faith in state  
17 and regional transmission study forums to coordinate transmission expansion plans related  
18 to the Project and to resolve transmission constraints in a timely manner.

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

21           a)        Ensure grounding and cathodic protection measurements are performed to  
22 show that the Project's location parallel to and within one hundred (100) feet of  
23 such pipeline results in no material adverse impacts to the pipeline or to public  
24 safety when both the pipeline and the Project are in operation. The Applicant shall  
25 take appropriate steps to ensure that any material adverse impacts are mitigated. The  
26 Applicant shall provide to the Commission Staff and file with Docket Control a  
27 copy of the measurements performed and additional mitigation, if any, that was  
28 implemented as part of its annual compliance-certification letter; and

1           b)     Ensure that measurements are taken during an outage simulation of the  
2           Project that may be caused by the collocation of the Project parallel to and within  
3           one hundred (100) feet of the existing natural gas or hazardous liquid pipeline. The  
4           measurements should either: (i) show that such simulated outage does not result in  
5           customer outages; or (ii) include operating plans to minimize any resulting customer  
6           outages. The Applicant shall provide a copy of the measurement results to the  
7           Commission Staff and file it with Docket Control as part of its annual compliance-  
8           certification letter.

9       21. The Applicant shall submit a compliance-certification letter each January,  
10 identifying progress made with respect to each condition contained in this Certificate,  
11 including which conditions have been met. Each letter shall be submitted to the  
12 Commission's Docket Control commencing January 2017. Attached to each compliance-  
13 certification letter shall be documentation explaining how compliance with each condition  
14 was achieved. Copies of each letter, along with the corresponding documentation, shall be  
15 submitted to the Arizona Attorney General. The requirement for the compliance  
16 certification letter shall expire on the date the Project is placed into operation. Notification  
17 of such filing with Docket Control shall be made to the counties of Greenlee, Graham,  
18 Cochise, Pima, and Pinal, City of Coolidge, SHPO, AGFD, all parties to this Docket, and  
19 all parties that made a limited appearance in this Docket.

20        22. The Applicant shall provide copies of this Certificate to the counties of  
21 Greenlee, Graham, Cochise, Pima and Pinal, the City of Coolidge, SHPO, and AGFD.

22        23. This authorization to construct the Project shall expire at two (2) different points  
23 in time, unless extended by the Commission, as provided below:

24 a) The Certificate for the first 500 kV transmission line and related facilities and the  
25 500 kV-Willow Substation shall expire ten (10) years from the date this Certificate  
26 is approved by the Commission, with or without modification; and

27 | //

1       b) The Certificate for the second 500 kV transmission line and related facilities shall  
2       expire fifteen (15) years from the date this Certificate is approved by the  
3       Commission, with or without modification.

4 However, prior to the expiration of either time period, the Applicant may request that the  
5 Commission extend either or both time limitation(s).

6       24. In the event that the Project requires an extension of either or both term(s) of this  
7       Certificate prior to completion of construction, the Applicant shall file such a time  
8       extension request at least one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the expiration date of the  
9       Certificate. The Applicant shall use reasonable means to promptly notify all cities and  
10      towns within five (5) miles of the Project and all landowners and residents within one (1)  
11      mile of the centerline of the Project, all persons who made public comment at this  
12      proceeding who provided a mailing or email address, and all parties to this proceeding of  
13      the request and the date, time, and place of the hearing or open meeting during which the  
14      Commission will consider the request for extension. Notification shall be no more than  
15      three (3) business days after the Applicant is made aware of the hearing date or the open  
16      meeting date.

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

21        26. The POD will identify and require the necessary steps to avoid the creation of  
22 new roads, including the employment of aerial construction for the setting of transmission  
23 structures and conductors within the San Pedro River Valley in the eight-mile area that  
24 includes Paige Canyon, as depicted in Attachment B hereto, subject to the approval of the  
25 landowner, ASLD. In so doing, the Applicant will work with ASLD in determining how,  
26 when, and where the use of helicopters can assist in mitigating the impact of construction  
27 activities, setting transmission structures and conductors, including tower placement,  
28 stringing, tensioning, and operation and maintenance of any transmission line(s) on

1 biological and cultural resources in the remainder of the San Pedro River Valley in which  
2 the Project will be built. All of the above shall take into account, where relevant, the  
3 potential air wash effect of and/or tribal sensitivity to the use of helicopters near cultural  
4 sites. Nothing in the foregoing precludes the Applicant from considering or utilizing aerial  
5 construction along other portions of the Route.

6 27. A Class III cultural resource survey and cultural landscape study shall be  
7 conducted to fully evaluate the impacts of the Project on the cultural landscape prior to the  
8 commencement of construction, pursuant to and as required by the PA.

9 28. The Route will be micro-sited to minimize paralleling Paige Canyon through  
10 coordination with and subject to approval by ASLD. To accommodate this effort, the  
11 corridor maps submitted herewith reflect a wider corridor to allow the Applicant maximum  
12 micro-siting capabilities.

13 29. Upon commencement by the Applicant of activities related to the initiation of  
14 the POD, the Applicant will invite, in writing, the following persons to coordinate with the  
15 Applicant on the development of the Arizona portion of the POD prior to submission to the  
16 BLM (hereinafter referred to as the “invited stakeholders”):

- 17 • All parties who intervened in the SunZia Certificate Process.
  - 18 ○ The *Pro Se* interveners may either respond and participate in their individual  
capacity, or in a representative capacity on behalf of an organization which  
they represent.
- 19 • All agencies which were Arizona Cooperating Agencies during the NEPA Process  
for the Project.
- 20 • All counties through which the Project traverses.
- 21 • The Nature Conservancy.
- 22 • All cities and towns within five (5) miles of the centerline of the Project.

23 Any person invited by the Applicant to coordinate in the development of the  
24 Arizona portion of the POD who wishes to participate in such coordination must respond to  
25 the Applicant, in writing, accepting the invitation, within thirty (30) days from the date the  
26 Applicant mailed the invitation. For ease of reference, any person accepting the invitation  
27 will be hereinafter referred to as “participating stakeholder.” Any person invited by the  
28 Applicant to coordinate in the development of Arizona portion of the POD who does not

1 respond to the Applicant, in writing, accepting the invitation within thirty (30) days from  
2 the date the Applicant mailed the invitation shall have no further right or ability to  
3 coordinate with the Applicant in the development of Arizona portion of the POD.

4 The Applicant will coordinate with the participating stakeholders by, at least,  
5 engaging in the following steps prior to submitting the Arizona portion of the POD to the  
6 BLM for review:

- 7 1. The Applicant will coordinate and participate in a workshop with the participating  
8 stakeholders.
- 9 2. Thereafter, the Applicant will provide the participating stakeholders with a  
preliminary draft of the Arizona portion of the POD for review and comment.
- 10 3. Participating stakeholders may, but for consideration must, within thirty (30) days of  
receipt, provide the Applicant with written comments, suggestions, and  
recommendations on the Arizona portion of the POD. The Applicant is under no  
obligation to review or in any way consider any comments, suggestions, or  
recommendations on the Arizona portion of the POD if said comments are received  
by the Applicant more than thirty (30) days after the Arizona portion of the POD is  
provided to the participating stakeholders for review.
- 11 4. The Applicant will, to the extent practicable and feasible, as determined in the  
Applicant's sole judgment, incorporate any comments, suggestions, and revisions by  
the participating stakeholders into the Arizona portion of the POD, which are timely  
submitted as outlined herein, prior to submittal of the POD to the BLM.

12 The aforementioned coordination will include, but will not necessarily be limited to, the  
13 identification of and coordination on the development of the portions of the POD that  
14 discuss monitoring and adaptive management with respect to: cultural and historic  
15 resources; a vegetative and invasive species management plan; raptor, crane, and other  
16 avian mitigation measures; erosion management techniques; application of Standard and  
17 Selective Mitigation Measures; vegetative replacement and restoration techniques; and  
18 residual impacts for the life of the permit.

19 30. In the event the Applicant, its assignee, or successor, seeks to modify the  
20 Certificate terms at the Commission, it shall provide copies of such request to the counties  
21 of Greenlee, Graham, Cochise, Pima, and Pinal, the City of Coolidge, SHPO, AGFD, all  
22 parties to this Docket, and all parties that made a limited appearance to this Docket.  
23

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1       31. Applicant will, in good faith, and consistent with the requirements of state and  
2 federal law, use its best efforts to secure transmission service contracts for renewable  
3 energy generation.

4       32. Applicant shall add the monopole Y-Tower to the family of towers that may be  
5 used on the Project.

6       33. Within sixty (60) days of filing a transmission service agreement with FERC,  
7 the Applicant shall file a copy of the same with this Docket.

8       34. Prior to construction of any Project transmission facilities, Applicant shall  
9 provide the Commission Staff with copies of any Agreement(s) it enters into with the entity  
10 or entities it selects to own and operate the 500 kV transmission facilities. Such  
11 Agreement(s) shall be filed with the Commission Staff within thirty (30) days of execution  
12 of such Agreement(s), with the summary thereof filed at Docket Control.

13       35. Prior to construction of any Project transmission facilities, Applicant shall  
14 provide the Commission Staff with copies of the transmission interconnection agreement(s)  
15 it ultimately enters into with any transmission provider(s) with whom it is interconnecting  
16 within thirty (30) days of execution of such agreement(s), with the summary thereof filed at  
17 Docket Control.

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

22       37. In the event Pima County loses the ability to claim credit pursuant to their  
23 proposed Multi Species Conservation Plan , available online at  
24 <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Documents/HCPs/SonoranDesert/>  
25 PimaMSCP\_Public\_Draft.pdf (last visited November 20, 2015), with respect to currently  
26 existing lands it leases from the ASLD because of the SunZia Project, the Applicant will  
27 either work with Pima County to secure replacement lands or provide compensatory  
28 mitigation to offset such loss.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

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

1. The Project may aid the state and the southwest region in meeting the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power.

6           2. The Project may aid the state in preserving a safe and reliable electric  
7 transmission system.

8       3. The Project may assist the state in meeting the goal of increasing the use of  
9 renewable energy in the state.

10        4. The Project and the conditions placed on the Project in this Certificate effectively  
11 minimize the Project's impact on the environment and ecology of the state.

12        5. The conditions placed on the Project in this Certificate resolve matters concerning  
13 balancing the need for the Project with its impact on the environment and ecology of the  
14 state arising during the course of the proceedings, and, as such, serve as findings and  
15 conclusions on such matters.

16        6. The Project is in the public interest because the Project's potential contribution to  
17 meeting the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power  
18 outweighs the minimized impact of the Project on the environment and ecology of the  
19 state.

DATED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015.

## THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT AND TRANSMISSION LINE SIZING COMMITTEE

Bx

~~Thomas K. Chenal, Chairman~~

# **Attachment A**

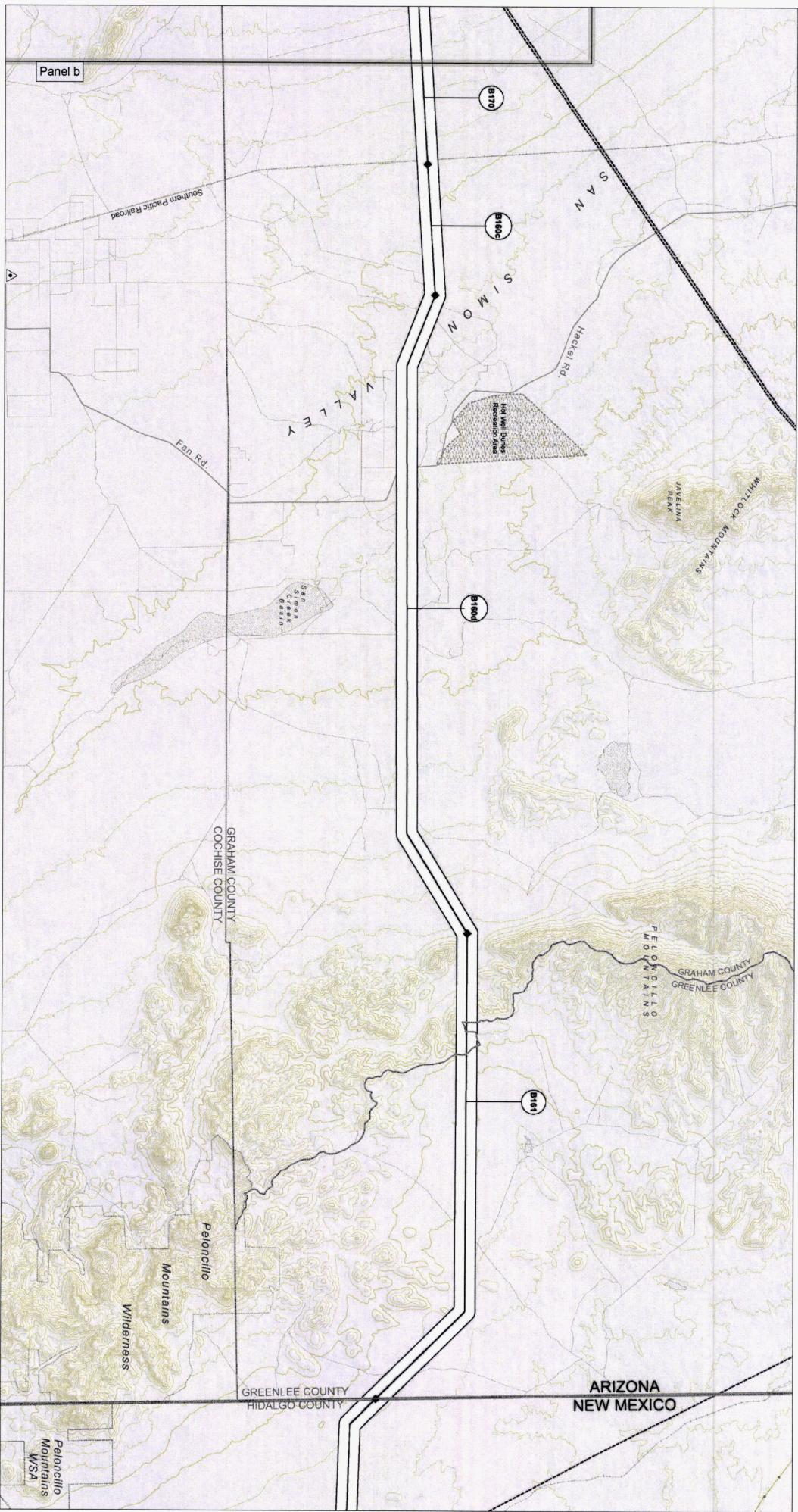
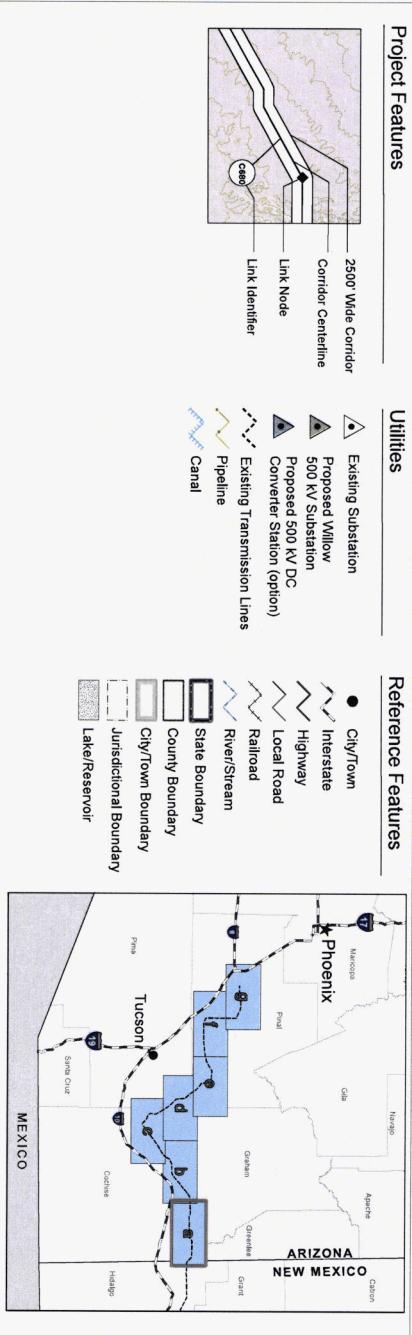
## CEC Corridor Map

### SUNZIA SOUTHWEST TRANSMISSION PROJECT



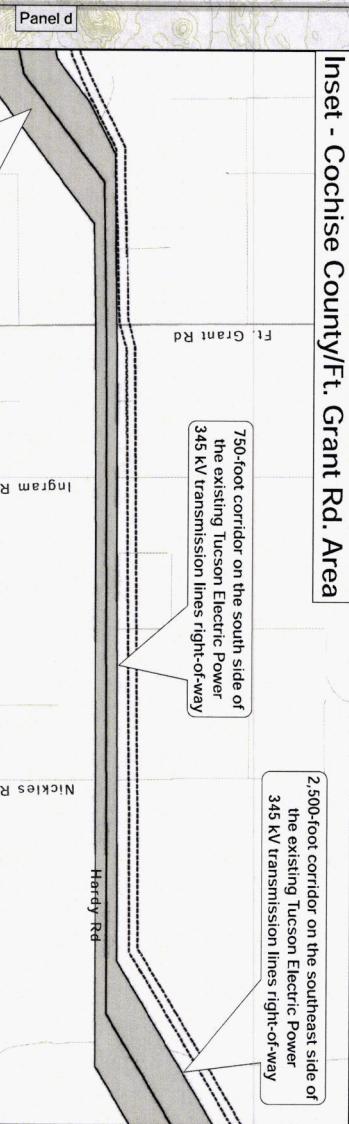
#### Panel a

Case No. 171  
Attachment A

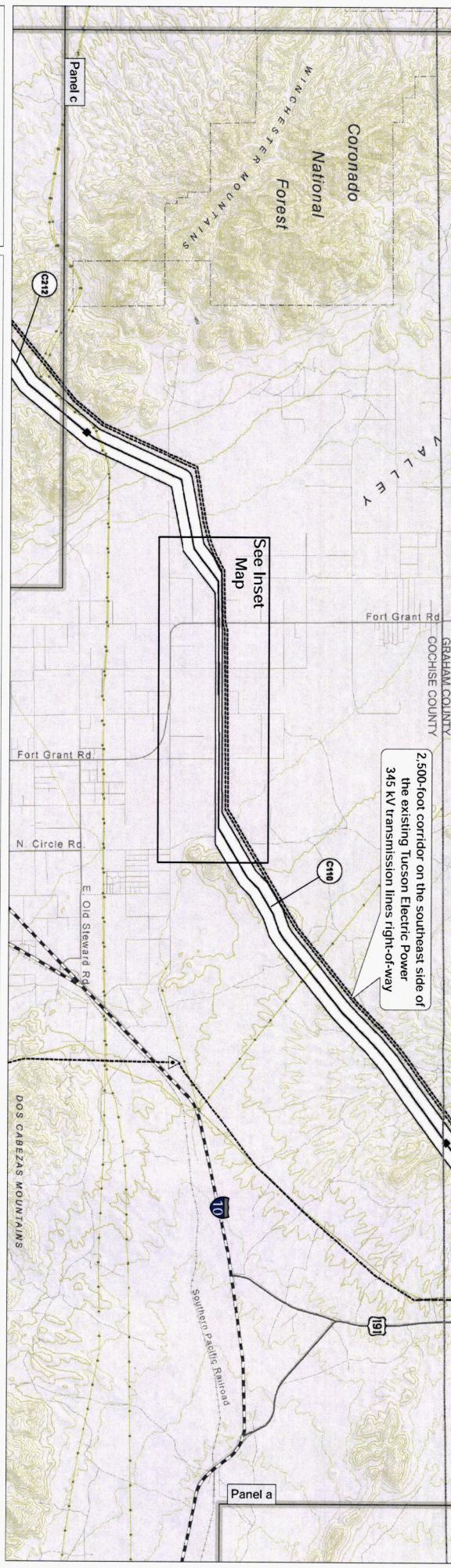


## Inset - Cochise County/Ft. Grant Rd. Area

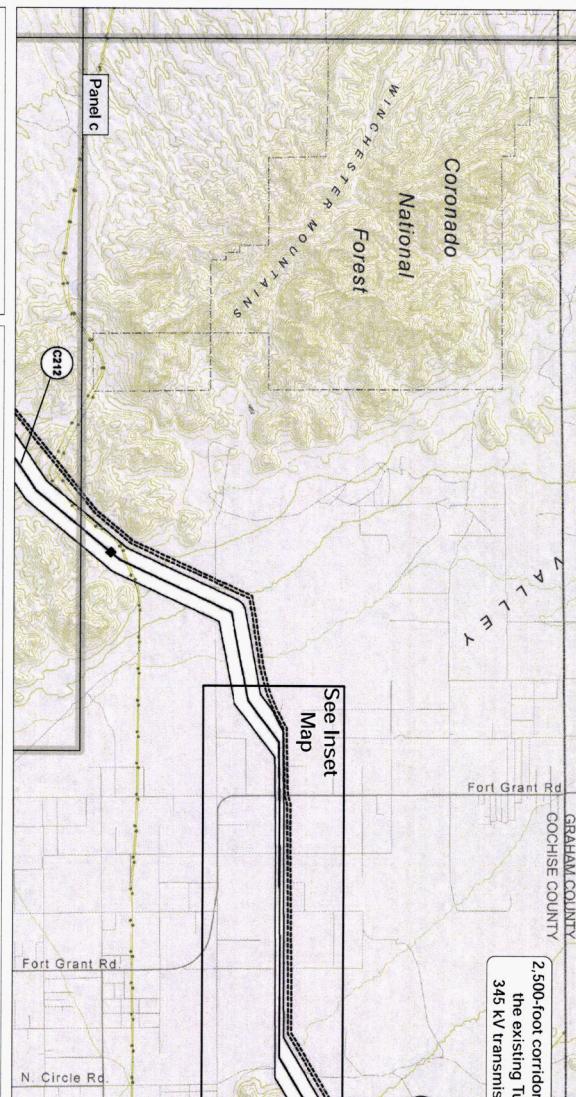
2,500-foot corridor on the southeast side of the existing Tucson Electric Power 345 kV transmission lines right-of-way



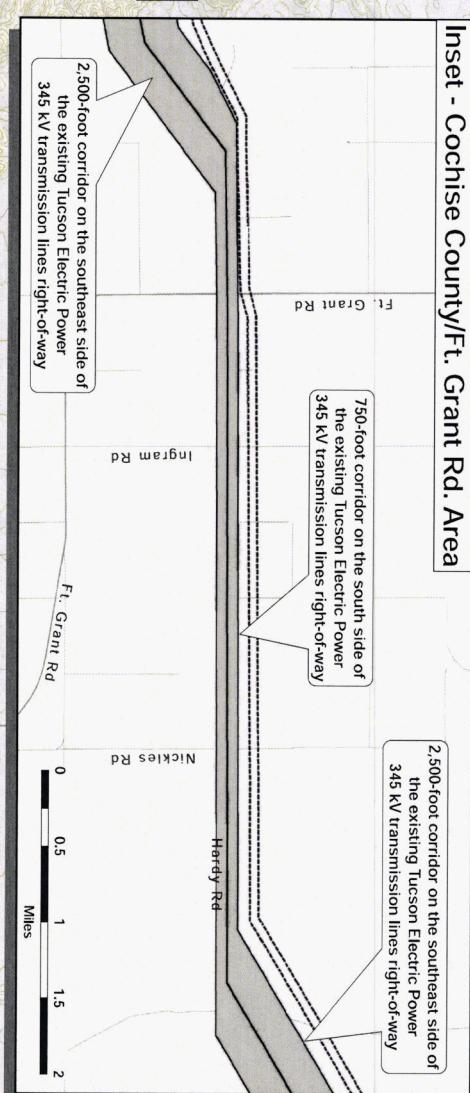
2,500-foot corridor on the southeast side of the existing Tucson Electric Power 345 kV transmission lines right-of-way



Panel c



Panel d



## CEC Corridor Map

### SUNZIA SOUTHWEST TRANSMISSION PROJECT



Panel b

Case No. 171

Attachment A



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Contour Interval = 100 Feet

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Miles

Contour Interval = 100 Feet

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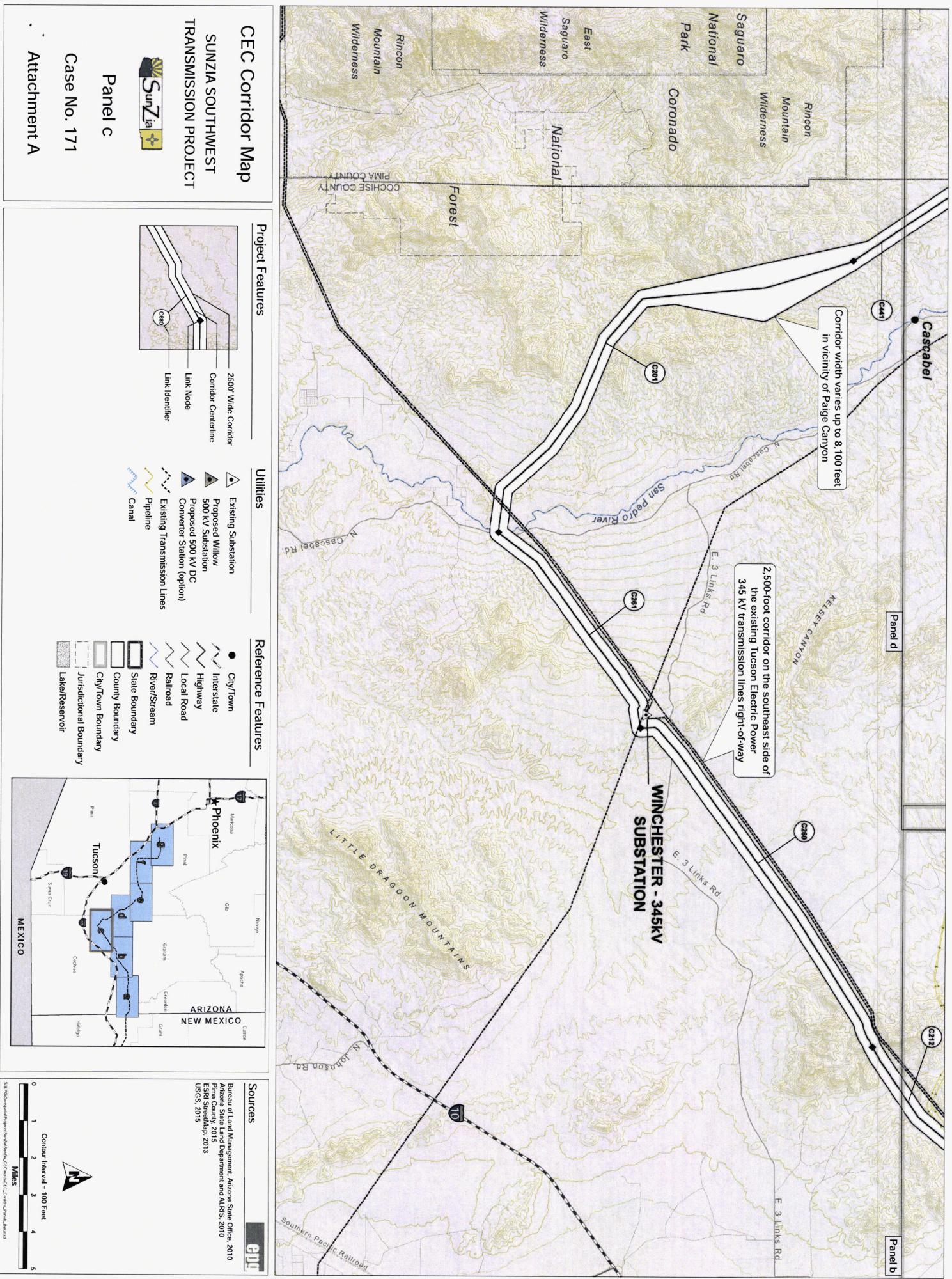
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Contour Interval = 100 Feet

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CEC Corridor Map

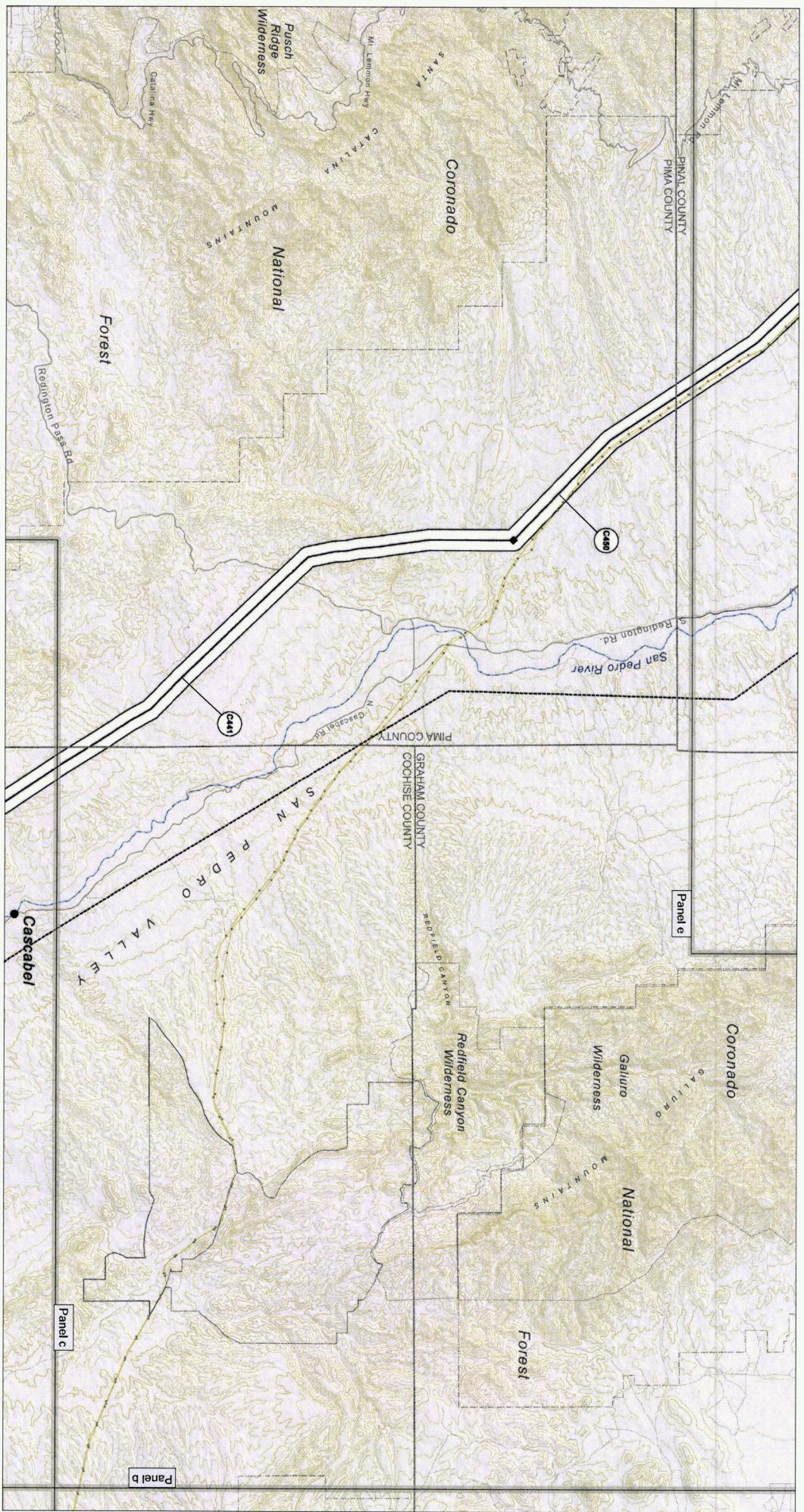
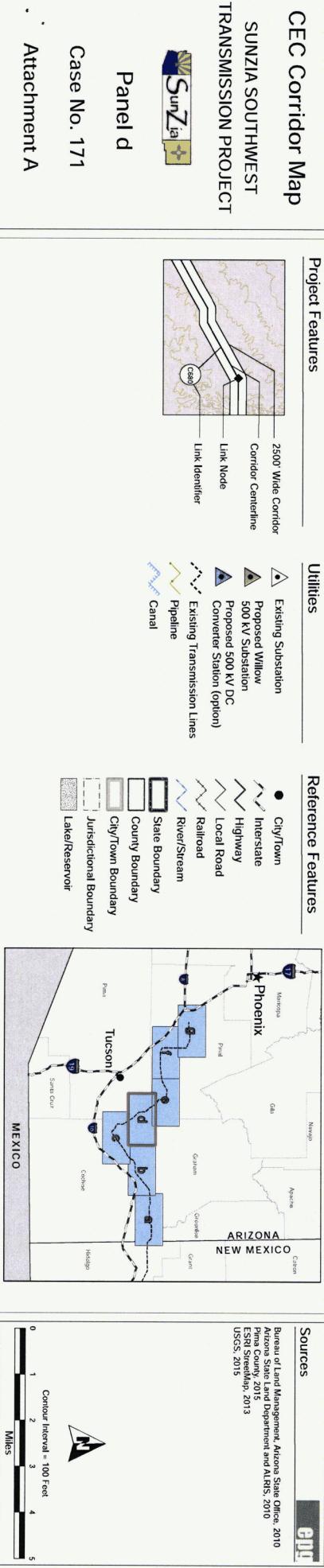


TRANSMISSION PROJECT

### Panel d

Case No. 171

Attachment A



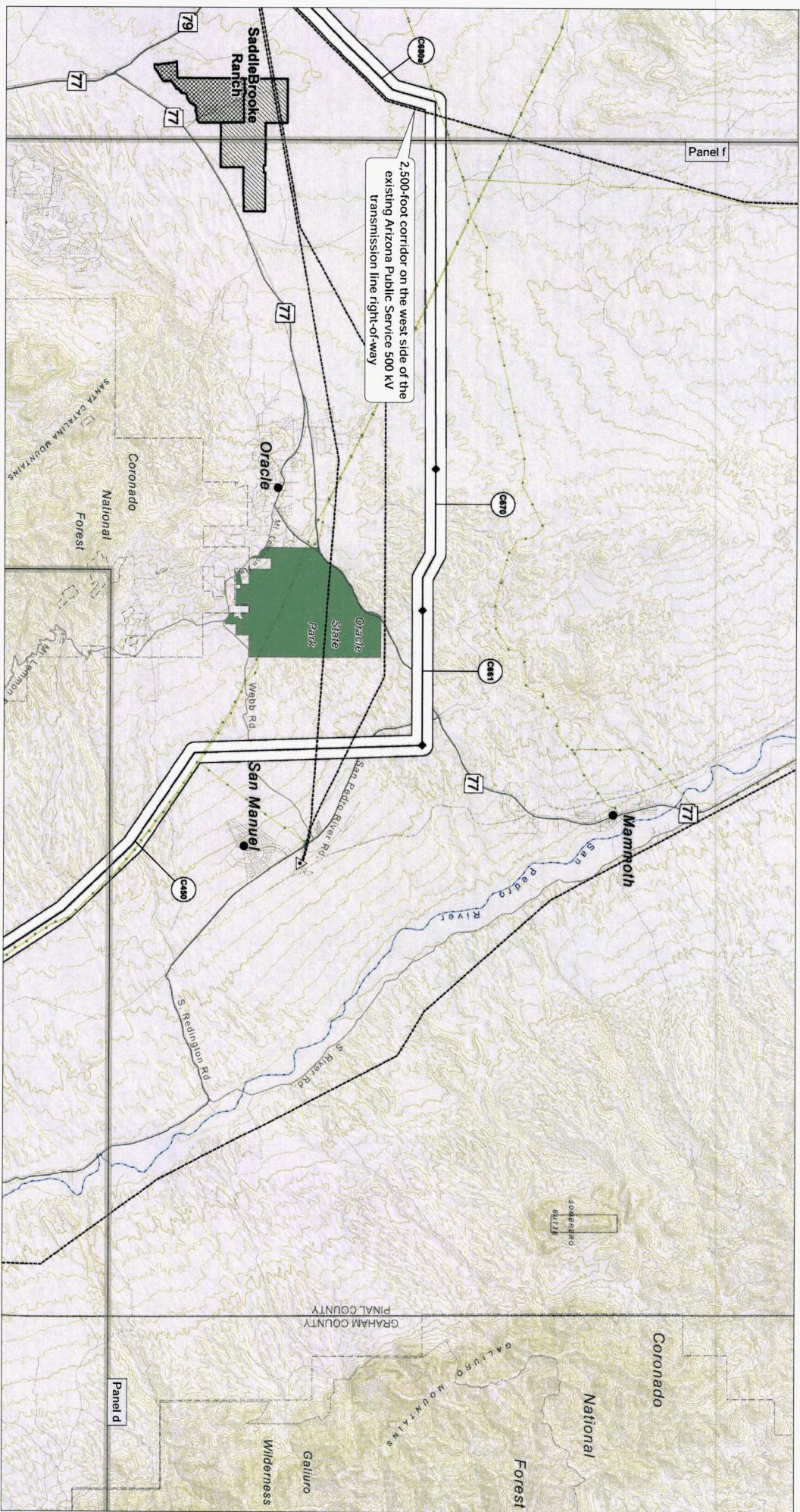
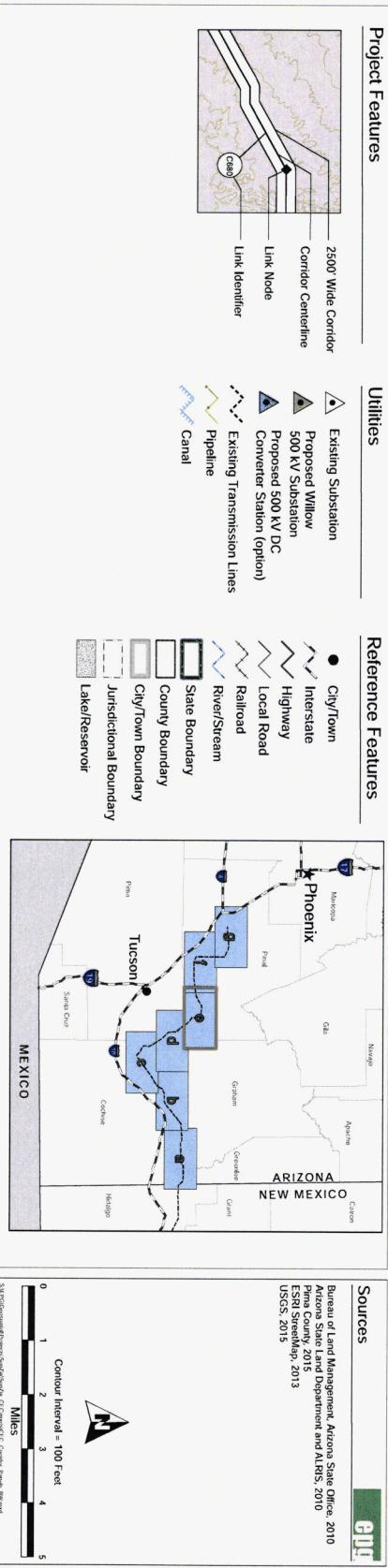
CEC Corridor Map

## SUNZIA SOUTHWEST TRANSMISSION PROJECT



Attachment

### Panel e



CEC Corridor Map



## Project Features

## Utilities

## Reference Features

Collage

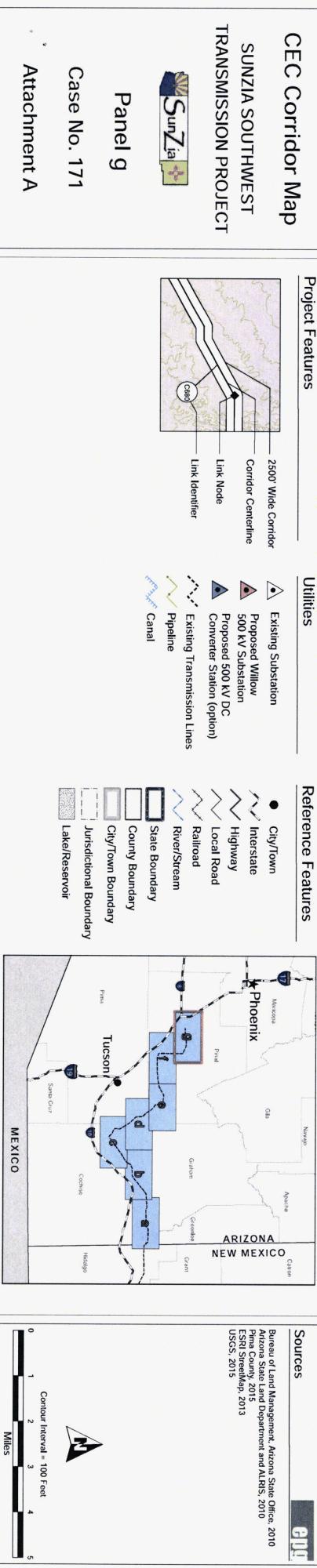
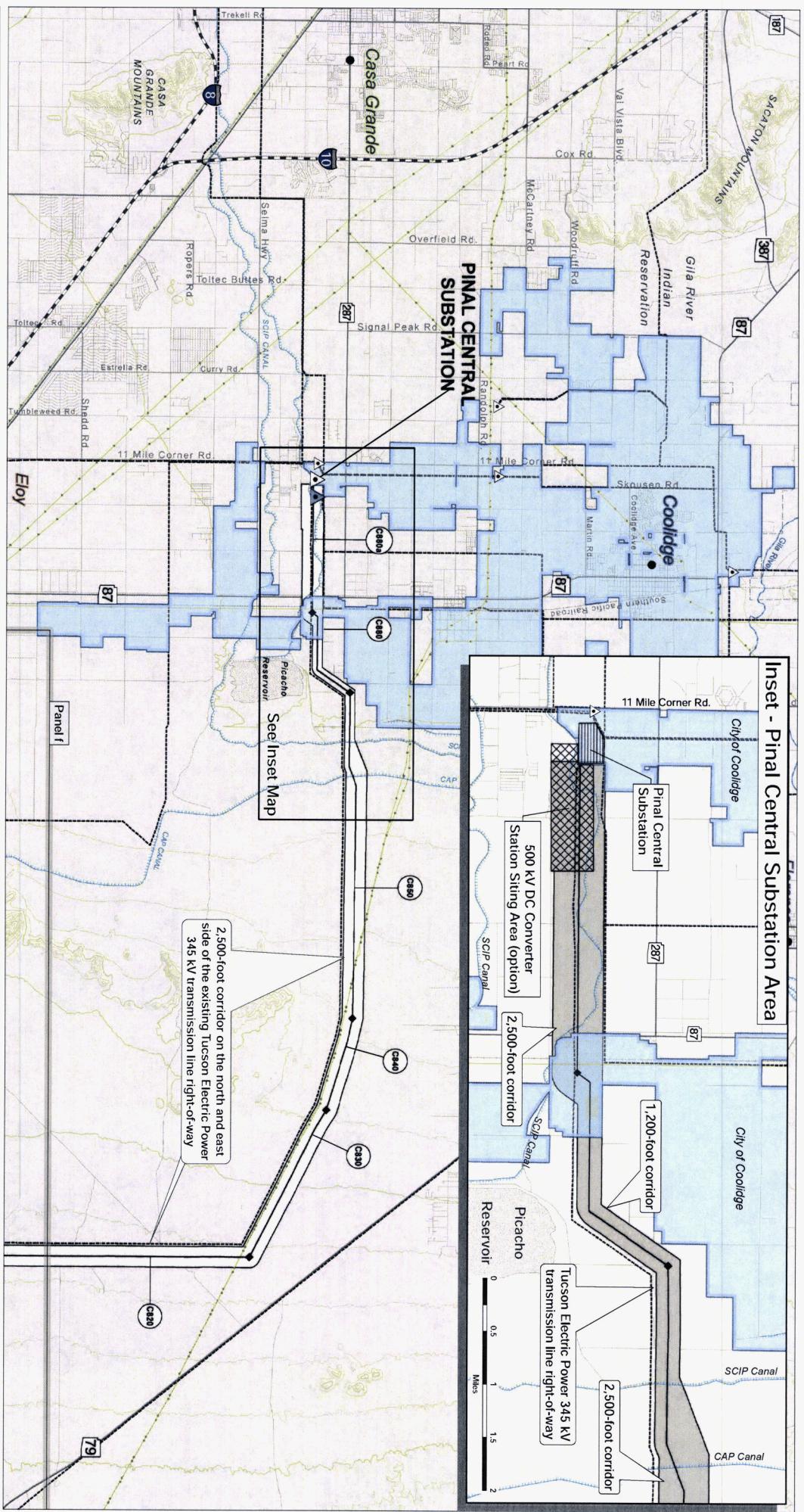
Panel f

Case No. 171

Attachment A

A geological map showing a fault system with several parallel, slightly curved lines. A circular area is labeled 'C6BD' and is bounded by a dashed line. A small arrow points from the text 'C6BD' to the center of the circle. The background of the map is a light brown color with darker brown, wavy lines representing topography or geological boundaries.

A legend containing eight entries, each with a small line drawing of the symbol followed by its name: Interstate, Highway, Local Road, Railroad, State Boundary, River/Stream, County Boundary, and City/Town Boundary. Below these are two additional entries: Jurisdictional Boundary and Lake/Reservoir, each with a small rectangular symbol.



# **Attachment B**

## Attachment B

### Siting Case No. 171

