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January 23, 2015

William Dunkelberger
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
1200 Franklin Way
Sparks, NV, 89431

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2015

HTNF - S.O.

Subject: Bordertown to California 120 kV Transmission Line

Dear Mr. Dunkelberger:

Thank you for providing the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) with the opportunity to comment on the Bordertown to California 120 kV Transmission Line. As a cooperating agency, we wish to identify potential impacts to wildlife prior to project implementation and to suggest measures to avoid, minimize, and offset wildlife impacts. As such, we are providing the following recommendations and look forward to participating further as a cooperating agency.

We agree with and support the project design features listed in Appendix B. We recommend adding a design feature/requirement that all acres permanently disturbed will be offset at a 3:1 ratio to address mule deer habitat loss impacts. In addition, acres that are rehabilitated that do not meet the success criteria after 5 years should be offset at a 3:1 ratio. As discussed in previous comment letters and the draft EIS, substantial impacts have occurred to the Truckee-Loyalton Interstate Herd. As such and in order to achieve our "no net loss" objective, we recommend that all permanent impacts be offset to prevent further habitat loss for mule deer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Freese".

Mark Freese
Supervisory Habitat Biologist