
From: Chris Silk [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2025 2:30 PM
To: FS-objections-southwestern-regional-office
Subject: [External Email]APS Oak Creek to McGuireville 69kV Transmission Line Project on the Coconino National Forest

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Hello Regional Forester Martin,

I'm writing to you in a request to urgently reconsider any approval on this project that would allow APS to move forward. Please consider the following:

- The Final Environmental Assessment lacks an adequate range of alternatives, which violates the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). For example, an underground power line routed alongside Highway 179 between Beaverhead Flat Road and the VOC is feasible and would eliminate wildfire risk and protect scenery. But the Forest Service excluded this route from consideration and did not develop it as an alternative.
- Crucial information was not disclosed to the public during the comment period. For example, the Draft Decision Notice claims that wildfire risk created by the above ground line near the VOC would be mitigated based on an APS "Comprehensive Fire Mitigation Plan." That plan was not available to the public until March 2022, which was after the comment period closed. So the public didn't have a chance to assess whether the APS plan—written by the company that would build the powerline—provides adequate or appropriate mitigation measures to reduce wildfire risk.
- The Forest Service failed to consider information critical to making an informed decision, such as its own rating that the VOC and Sedona are at "very high risk" of wildfire.
- Explain further cases where you find the Forest Service documents do not properly consider concerns such as wildfire risk, scenery, property values, or home insurance rates.

Thank you, Chris Silk

Home owner, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Home Owner in the Village of Oak Creek, AZ