

February 21, 2025

From:
Karen / Bronislaw Gwardys [REDACTED]

RE: APS Oak Creek to McGuireville 69KV Transmission Line Project - Coconino Nat Forest

TO: Responsible Official and Reviewing Officer, Regional Forester Michiko Martin.
333 Broadway Blvd SE
Albuquerque, NM, 87102

Dear Regional Forester Martin,

This is our objection to the above-referenced project on the Coconino National Forest.

- The Final Environmental Assessment does not offer an adequate range of alternatives, which violates the National Environmental Policy Act. For example, an underground Power line routed alongside Highway 179 between Beaver Flat Road and the VOC is feasible and would eliminate wildfire risk and protect scenery. The Forest Service excluded this safe route from consideration and did not develop it as an alternative. I would like to hear from the Forest Service, their thoughts on the feasibility of this option.

- There was crucial information that was not disclosed to the public during the prior comment period. For example, the Draft Decision Notice claims that wildfire risks created by the above ground line near the VOC would be mitigated based on the APS "Comprehensive Fire Mitigation Plan". That plan was not available to the Public until after the comment period was closed, so we have not had a chance to assess whether it provides adequate or appropriate mitigation measures to reduce wildfire risk. We would like to have an opportunity to do so.

REC'D USDA

MAR 04 REC'D

(2)

- The Forest Service has failed to consider information critical to making an informed decision, such as its own rating of the VOC and Sedona at "Very High Risk" of wildfire.
- Please explain further cases where you find the project does not consider concerns such as wildfire, scenery, property values, home insurance rates, lack of adequate evacuation routes, possible loss of wild life, and human life.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]

Lead Objector

[Redacted name]

REC'D USDA

MAR 04 REC'D

REGIONAL FORESTER'S OFFICE
SOUTHWESTERN REGION