

2/13/25

FROM; Concerned Citizens of Sedona (VOC)

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

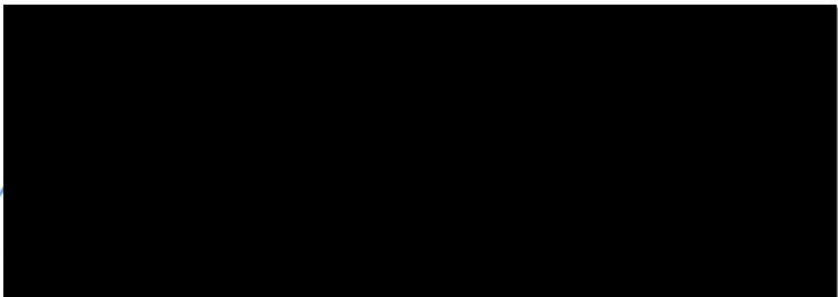
RE; APS Oak Creek to McGuireville 69kV Transmission Line Project on the Coconino National Forest

Dear Regional Forester Martin:

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

— — The Final Environmental Assessment lacks an adequate range of alternatives, which violates the National Environmental Policy Act. 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 prior 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 after the comment period closed, so the public hasn't had a chance to assess whether it provides adequate or appropriate mitigation measures to reduce wildfire risk.



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