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First name: Karl

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Organization: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.

Title: Transmission Siting & Environmental Manager

Comments: Dear Mr. Woodruff,

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. appreciates the Forest Service's publication of a proposed directive that establishes guidance for allowing electric utilities to conduct voluntary vegetation management adjacent to powerline rights-of-way. This directive is important to Tri-State since we operate electric power infrastructure on several National Forests in the western United States. Due to the recent holidays we have been unable to complete our review of the proposed directive and respectfully request additional review time beyond January 11th. Please contact us if you have questions on this request. Thank you for your consideration.