



NEWS RELEASE

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR ■ BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
NEW MEXICO STATE OFFICE ■ 1474 RODEO RD ■ SANTA FE NM 87505

Hans Stuart ■ Public Affairs Chief ■ 505.438.7510

For Immediate Release

March 31, 2004

For Additional Information

Sam DesGeorges 505.751.4713

Theresa Herrera 505.438.7517

BLM Seeks Public Comment on the Alternatives for Upgraded 115kV Transmission Lines

Taos, New Mexico – The Bureau of Land Management Taos Field Office has completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) for upgrading PNM's power transmission system in the Santa Fe and Las Vegas, New Mexico area. The BLM Taos Field Office is requesting comments on the EA for PNM's Project Power application. PNM's technical studies show that the existing transmission line system, some of which crosses BLM public lands, is reaching the limit of its load capacity, leaving the area vulnerable to electrical system problems. The comment period for the EA is 30 days, from March 31-April 30, 2004.

The EA addresses four alternatives for rebuilding existing transmission lines that include Alternative A: Norton to Zia, Alternative F: Norton to Zia North, Alternative O: Norton to Zia via Airport Road, and Alternative S: Norton to New Zia South to Zia.

The EA will be available at www.nm.blm.gov or by calling the Taos Field Office at 505.758.8851. Submit written comments to: Lora Yonemoto, Taos Field Office, 226 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, NM 87571, or e-mail lora_yonemoto@nm.blm.gov.

-BLM-

