DRAFT - These minutes have not yet been approved by the Board of Public Utilities.



**County of Los Alamos** 

**Minutes** 

1000 Central Avenue Los Alamos, NM 87544

**Board of Public Utilities** 

Jeff Johnson, Chair; Andrew Fraser, Paul Frederickson Stephen McLin and Kathleen Taylor,

Members Tim Glasco, Ex Officio Member Harry Burgess, Ex Officio Member Susan O'Leary, Council Liaison

Wednesday, July 20, 2016

### 5:30 PM

1000 Central Avenue Council Chambers

## **REGULAR SESSION**

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Incorporated County of Los Alamos Board of Public Utilities was held on Wednesday, July 20th, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at 1000 Central Ave., Council Chambers. Board Chair, Jeff Johnson, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Present 6 - Chair Johnson, Vice-chair Fraser, Board Member Frederickson, Board Member McLin, Board Member Taylor and Board Member Glasco

Absent 1 - Board Member Burgess

Deputy County Manager, Mr. Brian Bosshardt, attended in Mr. Burgess' place.

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Johnson opened the floor for public comment on items on the Consent Agenda and for those not otherwise included on the agenda. Members of the public gave the following summarized comments:

1) Mr. Pete Sheehey, 805 Tiffany Court - Mr. Sheehey informed the Board that Ormat Technologies, an energy contractor, has applied to lease approximately 45,000 acres of the Santa Fe National Forest for a geothermal energy project. The SFNF is conducting an environmental impact study. Mr. Sheehey will be following the progress of this project. He provided additional information for the Board, which is included in the minutes as an attachment. Mr. Sheehey has also been following waste-to-energy plants and thought a regional plant may be something for the County to consider. He will be following what the City of Edmonton is doing with regards to their new technology and will keep the Board posted.

## 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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Mr. Fraser moved that the agenda be approved as presented. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Chair Johnson, Vice-chair Fraser, Board Member Frederickson, Board Member McLin and Board Member Taylor

## 4. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

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Board of Public Util	ies Minutes July 20	), 2016
	No public hearings were scheduled for this meeting.	
<u>5.</u> <u>CONS</u>	ENT AGENDA	
	*****	
	Mr. Fraser moved that the Board of Public Utilities approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented and that the motions contained in the staff reports be included in the minutes for the record. The motion passed by the following vote: ******	
	Yes: 5 - Chair Johnson, Vice-chair Fraser, Board Member Frederickson, Board Member McLin and Board Member Taylor	
5.A. <u>8433-16</u>	Approval of Board of Public Utilities Meeting Minutes	
	Sponsors: Board of Public Utilities	
	I move that the Board of Public Utilities approve the meeting minutes of June 15, 2016 and June 24, 2016 as presented.	
5.B. <u>7881-16</u>	Approval of Amendment No. 2 to the Lease for Antenna Collocation and Facilities Site Between the Incorporated County of Los Alamos, as Landlord and Verizon Wireless (VAW) LLC, d/b/a Verizon Wireless, as Tenant	
	Sponsors: James Alarid	
	I move that the Board of Public Utilities approve Amendment No. 2 to the Lease for Antenna Collocation and Facilities Site between the Incorporated County of Los Alamos, as Landlord and Verizon Wireless (VAW) LLC, d/b/a Verizon Wireless, as Tenant and forward to Council for approval.	
5.C. <u>RE0305</u> -	Approval of Incorporated County of Los Alamos Resolution No. 16-13. A Resolution Removing Uncollectible Utility Accounts from Accounts receivable List of Los Alamos County - Fiscal Year 2011	
	Sponsors: Bob Westervelt	
	I move that the Board of Public Utilities approve Incorporated County of Los Alamos Resolution No. 16-13; A Resolution Removing Uncollectible Utility Accounts from Accounts Receivable List of Los Alamos County for Fiscal Year 2011 and forward to the Council with a recommendation for approval.	
5.D. <u>8295-16</u>	Award of Bid No. 16-063 for the Purpose of El Vado and Abiquiu Hydroelectric Plants Back-up Generator Replacement to U.S. Electrical Corporation in the Amount of \$123,240.00, plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax.	
	<u>Sponsors:</u> James Alarid	
	I move that the Board of Public Utilities approve Award of Bid No. 16-063 for the Purpose of El Vado and Abiquiu Hydroelectric Plants Back-up Generator Replacement to U.S. Electrical Corporation in the Amount of \$123,240.00, plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax, and a contingency in the amount of \$25,000.00, for a total of \$148,240.00, plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax.	

# DRAFT - These minutes have not yet been approved by the Board of Public Utilities.

Board of Public Utilities		Minutes		July 20, 2016	
5.E.	<u>8312-16</u>	Approval of Revised Operating Procedures to the Electric Energy Power Coordination Agreement (ECA) Between the Incorpora of Los Alamos and the Department of Energy (DOE).		0,	
		Sponsors:	Steve Cummins		
		Procedures	the Board of Public Utilities approve the revised Operating to the Electric Energy and Power Coordination Agreement (EC/ council for their consideration with a recommendation for appro		
<u>6.</u>	BUSINESS	<u>)</u>			
6.A.	<u>8411-16</u>		on of an Integrated Implementation Plan for the Five Hig ture Energy Resources Recommendations	ghest	
		Sponsors:	Steve Cummins		
		1 5 5	Y Manager of Power Supply, Mr. Steve Cummins, presented this ite he substance of the item being considered.	em. The	

In January 2016, the Board adopted a Strategic Policy for Electrical Energy Resources. Two months later in March 2016, the Board adopted a strategic Policy for Distributed Energy Resources (DER) and Rate Structure. The Board also directed the Utilities Manager to schedule and develop a preliminary implementation plan for the five highest priority items from the adopted Future Energy Resources recommendations, present the plan at the June Board meeting, and follow-up with a completed integrated implementation plan no later than June FY17. Following the presentation at the June meeting the Board requested that staff include more detail in the Preliminary Implementation Plan to present to the Board at a later date.

The Board discussed this item and requested clarification where necessary.

The following actions were identified for follow-up:

1) Prior to the 2018 decision point on whether or not to exit the San Juan Generating Station, Mr. Johnson would like staff to return to the Board well before that point so that there is sufficient time to get Board buy-in.

2) The next time staff briefs the Board on progress, Mr. Johnson would like to see the "Costs to Implement the FEERR Plan" graph broken out in a way that is cleaner and more transparent and identify costs that would be incurred whether or not the plan is implemented.

3) Mr. Johnson would like staff to identify times in the plan's schedule when they will need to return to the Board. He would like those times to be added to the Board's tickler and noted in the schedule so that they are obvious.

4) In the schedule provided in the plan, Mr. Johnson would like to see noted the interdependencies and how they impact other actions. He would like to see the schedule and a monthly status report included in the Board agendas.

5) Mr. McLin would like the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) report referenced in the plan to be available on the Department's website.

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6.B.	<u>8410-16</u>	Presentation of Draft Board of Public Utilities Financial Policies		
		<u>Sponsors:</u> Bob Westervelt		
		Deputy Utility Manager of Finance & Administration, Mr. Bob Westervelt, presented this item. The following is the substance of the item being considered.		
		At the June Board meeting a near final draft of the recommended financial policies was presented and discussed. Discussion with the County Finance Department staff had been ongoing, and Utilities staff and Finance Department staff were still working on achieving consensus on content and style. The draft presented at this meeting represents the culmination of that collaboration. Both departments are now ready to endorse the proposed policies and recommend approval. At the June Board meeting it was decided that staff would bring this item back in July for presentation and further discussion and bring it back for approval and adoption at the August regular meeting.		
		The Board discussed this item and requested clarification where necessary.		
		The following actions were identified for follow-up:		
		1) Staff will return to the Board at the August meeting for adoption of the financial plan.		
		2) After the plan is adopted, staff will return to the Board with a status and implementation plan for financial policies and reserve requirements.		
6.C.	<u>8043-16</u>	Preliminary Discussion on Incorporated County of Los Alamos Code Ordinance Amending Chapter 40, Article III, Sections 40-151 and 40-152 and Deleting Chapter 40, Article III, Section 40-154 Relating to Gas Rates		
		Sponsors: Bob Westervelt		
		Deputy Utility Manager of Finance and Administration, Mr. Bob Westervelt, presented this item. The following is the substance of the item being considered.		
		In FY12 the Board proposed a gas rate structure incorporating a pass-through commodity cost component. Council approved the rate structure effective November 1, 2012, but with a "sunset" date of September 30, 2016. This "sunset" was incorporated to cause the Board to evaluate public feedback and the effectiveness of the rate and to consider whether continuing the pass-through rate structure was desired. While it was intended that rates would simply revert to the old amounts and structure unless the Board takes specific action to reenact the pass-through, the ordinance is worded poorly, and strict interpretation would result in simply having no rates in place upon which to bill for delivery of natural gas. Staff is recommending the pass-through rate structure be reenacted without a specific "sunset" or expiration. In the FY2017/18 budget adopted by the Board and Council, a ten percent (10%) revenue reduction was projected. To achieve a 10% reduction in total revenue, the "fixed component" of the consumption charge is adjusted, in this recommendation, to effect the entire desired revenue reduction. An additional 10% reduction is budgeted in FY2018. Staff feels it is prudent to space the anticipated reductions this way to allow time to assess the results and adjust future actions accordingly, if needed.		
		The Board discussed this item and requested clarification where necessary.		

The following actions were identified for follow-up:

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	1) Staff will return at the August meeting for ordinance approval.	

6.D. <u>8128-16</u> Policy on Opt-outs for Smart Meters

#### Sponsors: Tim Glasco

Utilities Manager, Mr. Timothy Glasco, presented this item. The following is the substance of the item being considered.

The Future Energy Resources Committee recommended revisions to the rate structure that would allow for innovations related to distributed energy resources. Central to these new types of rates, however, is the ability for two-way communication between the utility and customers. Accordingly, the DPU has begun to replace existing electric meters with "smart meters". In some areas of the U.S., citizens have expressed concern over having "smart meters" installed at their properties. Beginning midway through FY18, the DPU will begin widespread deployment of radio transmitting devices on gas and water meters and will replace all the existing traditional electric meters with new "smart meters." If customers are allowed to opt out of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project, then at least one meter reader position will have to be retained. The process of collecting manual reads would significantly negate the efficiencies obtained from going to AMI. If opting out of AMI is to be allowed, a fee must be imposed on those customers to collect the extra costs incurred in manually reading these meters. Additionally, utility meters in Los Alamos are the property of the DPU. Traditionally customers have not been allowed to dictate the types of meters placed at properties. Allowing an opt-out policy would be a major change in this paradigm.

The Board discussed this item and requested clarification where necessary.

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Ms. Taylor moved that the Department of Public Utilities install data transmitting meters on all metered services at all locations and not allow manually read meter alternatives.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

**Point of Order:** Mr. McLin made a point of order because he felt the comments being made were not relevant to the motion on the floor. Mr. Johnson had asked staff to clarify if customers receiving smart meters would receive a reduction in the service fee portion of their bills since manual meter reading would no longer be necessary. Staff responded to Mr. Johnson. Mr. McLin's point of order was overruled. Mr. Johnson felt that since the Board was presented with two choices to either allow or not allow opt outs, it was important to understand the implications if the decision is made that no one can opt out.

#### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. McLin moved to table this item until the Department can produce a benefit to the customer, then vote on the motion. The motion failed due to lack of second.

The original main motion passed by the following vote:

- Yes: 4 Chair Johnson, Vice-chair Fraser, Board Member Frederickson and Board Member Taylor
- No: 1 Board Member McLin

Mr. Johnson called for a recess at 7:55 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:04 p.m.

6.E. <u>8314-16</u> Approval of Construction Funds for Abiquiu Vent Shaft Modifications in an

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#### Amount Not to Exceed \$537,500.00

Sponsors: Steve Cummins

Deputy Utility Manager of Power Supply, Mr. Steve Cummins, presented this item. The following is the substance of the item being considered.

On July 18, 2015 the Abiguiu Hydroelectric Plant was shut down because of a leak in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) vent shaft located within the bell chamber of the dam. The USACE proceeded to fix the leaking section of the vent shaft in the months following the leak. After further investigation, the Corps determined there were additional areas within the vent shaft that had been compromised and would require additional work. The County has a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with USACE for the operation and maintenance of the hydroelectric project and the related facilities. Per the MOA section 9(b), "Any damage to the Abiguiu Dam and its appurtenances as a result of the County's activities shall be repaired by the Corps at the County's expense. At such time as the Corps furnishes the County with its reasonable cost estimates for such repairs, the County shall advance funds to the Corps for these reimbursable costs...." Staff believes that the damage to the vent pipe was due to the County's activities. Additionally staff believes that the expenses associated with the alternate solution is the best and fastest way to resume generating. Therefore, in accordance with Section 9(b), the Corps has furnished the County with estimates for the Abiquiu Vent Pipe Project alternate solution. The Engineer's estimate is \$537,500.00 for the construction work and construction administration performed by the Corps along with an \$80,000.00 contingency. Upon approval by the County to advance the funds and the Corps' receipt of those funds, the Corps will execute the contract.

The Board discussed this item and requested clarification where necessary.

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Ms. Taylor moved that the Board of Public Utilities approve funding for the construction of the Abiquiu Vent Pipe Project with the United States Army Corps of Engineers in an amount of \$457,500.00 an \$80,000.00 contingency for a total approved amount not to exceed \$537,500.00, plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax and forward to Council for approval. Ms. Taylor further moved that the Board of Public Utilities approve a budget revision No. 2017-06 in the amount off \$537,500.00 plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax to cover this expense and forward to Council for approval. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Chair Johnson, Vice-chair Fraser, Board Member Frederickson, Board Member McLin and Board Member Taylor

## 7. STATUS REPORTS

### 7.A. <u>8432-16</u> Status Reports

Sponsors: Board of Public Utilities

The following informational status reports were provided to the Board in the agenda packet:

1) Electric Reliability Update

- 2) Accounts Receivables Report
- 3) Safety Report

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The following actions were identified for follow-up:

1) Mr. Glasco will find out for Mr. Johnson how outages are accounted for in the SAIDI report for multi-residential units and whether or not they are counted as a single outage.

## 8. BOARD BUSINESS

#### 8.A. Chair's Report

Mr. Johnson reported on the following items:

1) Mr. Johnson discussed an idea with the Board and felt that if the Board thought it was a good idea, he would discuss it with Council. Part of his idea comes from his own experience coming onto the Board a year ago and thinking about the experience of Ms. Taylor right now. He felt that getting appointed at the end of June, then being put immediately into the Board was difficult. He has been thinking it would not be a bad idea to try to forward shift the appointment of new members by one month so that they are appointed in May by Council and would come onto the Board at the June meeting as a non-voting ex officio member. That would give them a month to get acclimated before they are thrust into the meetings and trying to digest all the information. The Board gave feedback to Mr. Johnson. After discussion, Mr. Johnson decided that he would discuss it further with Council.

#### 8.B. Board Member Reports

Board members reported on the following items:

1) Mr. Fraser - Mr. Fraser would like to add an item on the August agenda regarding a rate philosophy, which would dovetail on the discussion about fuel cost adjustments for gas and determine whether or not the Board thinks that is the right kind of structure for the electric rates. Mr. Fraser would prepare an agenda item to launch that and maybe put in a strawman motion of some sort.

2) Mr. McLin - Mr. McLin is on the County Audit Committee. They had a kick-off meeting. On the committee are three Councilors, Mr. McLin, Mr. Westervelt, the County Manager and the Chief Financial Officer. With the exception of Mr. Westervelt, he wasn't sure of the financial background of the rest of the members. There will be ongoing communication, probably once every two weeks between now and October and once a week from October to November. The target date for completing the audit is prior to Thanksgiving. This is something required by New Mexico state law. The committee serves as an oversight group. The state auditor will review the final report. CliftonLarsonAllen was the firm selected. This is their third year working with the County, and they have helped the County receive financial audit awards in the past. He is encouraged by that and hopes to make additional reports in the future.

#### 8.C. Utilities Manager's Report

Mr. Glasco provided a written report, which is included in the minutes as an attachment.

#### 8.D. County Manager's Report

Mr. Harry Burgess was absent. Mr. Brian Bosshardt attended in his absence but left the meeting early. There was no report given.

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8.E.	Council Lia	ison's Report	
		Ms. Susan O'Leary was present at the meeting but left early. No report was g	jiven.
8.F.	Environme	ntal Sustainability Board Liaison's Report	
		An ESB liaison was not present. No report was given.	
8.G.	General Bo	ard Business	
8.G.1	<u>8222-16</u>	Election of Board of Public Utilities Vice-chair for the Remainder	of 2016
		Sponsors: Board of Public Utilities	
		The Board of Public Utilities shall annually elect its chair and such officers as from among its members. The election shall occur at a regular meeting in Jar each year. (LAC Ordinance Sec. 40-41. Board of Public Utilities - Organization January, David Powell was elected as vice-chair to serve until his term ended 30th. A new vice-chair should now be elected to serve until the next regular ended in January 2017.	nuary of n.) In on June
		*****	
		Member McLin nominated Member Frederickson	
		Chair Johnson nominated Member Fraser	
		After a roll call vote, Member Fraser was appointed Board Vice-chair.	
		Member Frederickson: 2 - Member McLin, Member Taylor	
		Member Fraser: 3 - Member Fraser, Member Frederickson, Chair Johnson	
8.G.2.	<u>8407-16</u>	Placeholder for Possible Continuation of Department of Public U Mission/Vision/Values Review and Strategic Planning Input	tilities
		<u>Sponsors:</u> Jeff Johnson	
		On July 18th, the Board held a special meeting to review the Department of P Utilities Mission/Vision/Values statements and provide input for the staff strate planning workshop in August. This item was a placeholder if the Board wishe continue discussions or take some sort of action on this item at the regular me Board did not feel additional discussion was necessary.	egic d to
8.G.3.	<u>7955-16</u>	Planning for Upcoming Board of Public Utilities Annual Boards & Commissions Presentation to Council on September 20th, 2016	
		<u>Sponsors:</u> Jeff Johnson	
		Board Chair, Mr. Jeff Johnson, presented this item. The following is the substitem being considered.	tance of the
		On September 20th, the Board of Public Utilities is scheduled to give its annual Commissions presentation to Council. During the 2015 Board Self-evaluation agreed that the entire Board should be more involved in the development and presentation to Council, and a rehearsal presentation should also be done pric Chair's presentation. In preparation for the upcoming presentation, the Board discuss with the Chair possible topics for the presentation.	, the Board annual or to the

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		The Board discussed this item and requested clarification where necessary.	
		The following actions were identified for follow-up:	
		1) Mr. Johnson will prepare a draft presentation for the August meeting.	
8.G.4.	<u>8002-16</u>	Annual Affirmation of the Board of Public Utilities Policies and Procee Manual	dures
		Sponsors: Jeff Johnson	
		Board Chair, Mr. Jeff Johnson presented this item. The following is the substance item being considered.	of the
		Article 1.9 of the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) Policies and Procedures Manual (P states that each year during the July BPU meeting each board member will affirm the he/she has received, read, understands, and agrees to abide by the PPM and the applicable documents referenced in its Appendix.	
		The Board discussed this item and requested clarification where necessary.	
		All Board members signed the affirmation sheet.	
8.G.5.	<u>8046-16</u>	Annual Review and Revision of Board of Public Utilities Policies and Procedures Manual	
		Sponsors: Jeff Johnson	
		Board Chair, Mr. Jeff Johnson presented this item. The following is the substance item being considered.	of the
		The Board of Public Utilities Policies and Procedures Manual (PPM) Section 1.5 sta "These policies will be reviewed and revised as necessary at least annually at the reviewed processes of the BPU formulate new language PPM by distributing proposed changes in advance using software that shows all ch for BPU members to review. Any changes to this PPM must be approved by a vote least four of the five voting members of the BPU. Any BPU member as well as the Utilities Manager may submit proposed changes." Changes suggested by members to the July meeting were noted in the staff report in the agenda packet. At this meet the Board may wish to further discuss the annual PPM review process, or members propose additional changes. Board members may propose changes to the PPM at	egular e in the anges e of at s prior eting, s may

The Board discussed this item and requested clarification where necessary.

The following actions were identified for follow-up:

time throughout the year.

1) Mr. Johnson recommended a change to the PPM to add adopted Board strategic initiatives as an appendix. After discussion, it was decided that Mr. Johnson will return at the August meeting with a revised motion that includes stronger language giving non-chair members authority to revisit adopted strategic initiatives.

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#### 8.H. Approval of Board Expenses

There were no Board expenses.

#### 8.I. Preview of Upcoming Agenda Items

8.I.1. <u>8440-16</u> Tickler File for the Next 3 Months

Sponsors: Board of Public Utilities

In addition to the items already listed in the tickler provided in the agenda packet, the following items were identified for the tickler for upcoming meetings:

July 20, 2016

1) 08/17/2016 - Rate Philosophy (Andy Fraser)

2) 08/17/2016 - Adoption of Board of Public Utilities Financial Policies (Bob Westervelt)

3) 08/17/2016 - Addition to the Board of Public Utilities Policies and Procedures Manual to Formally Add Adopted Strategic Initiatives as an Appendix (Jeff Johnson)

4) TBD - Status and Implementation Plan for Financial Policies and Reserve Requirements (Bob Westervelt)

## 9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Johnson opened the floor for public comment on any items. There were no comments.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

APPROVAL

Board of Public Utilities Chair Name

Board of Public Utilities Chair Signature

Date Approved by the Board

# ATTACHMENT WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

People who give public comment at a meeting may submit a written copy before, during or after the meeting to be included in the minutes. OFMAT TECHNOLOGIES, AN ENERGY CONTRACTOR, HAS APPLIED TO LEADERFILE THESE ANTI- THE FOR THE F

# Santa Fe National Forest



## Overview of the Santa Fe National Forest Geothermal Leasing Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

The Santa Fe National Forest (SFNF) proposes to identify lands in the project area as closed to geothermal leasing under either nondiscretionary or discretionary authorities, or open to geothermal leasing, subject to stipulations. Stipulations include No Surface Occupancy, Controlled Surface Use, and Timing Limitations. The project area encompasses approximately 194,900 acres in the Coyote, Cuba, Espanola and Jemez Ranger districts, of which approximately 168,600 acres are National Forest System lands.

This action is needed because the Forest Service has obligations under Section 225 of the Energy Policy Act to enable the development and production of geothermal energy, and the existing forest plan does not allocate areas as open or closed to geothermal leasing, nor does it have adequate stipulations or Best Management Practices to apply to geothermal leases to protect sensitive resources.



#### Decision to be Made

Based on the environmental analysis and supporting documents in the project record, the forest supervisor will decide whether the proposed action should be implemented as proposed, modified by another action alterative, or not implemented at all. This decision is subject to the pre-decision administrative review process (objection process).

## How to Comment

The public is encouraged to send written comment letters to the Forest Service by mail, e-email, fax, and/or hand-written on comment cards

Comments will be most helpful if they are solutionoriented, provide specific examples, included suggested changes, sources, or methodologies, and reference to a section or page number.

Comments containing only opinion or preferences, that are ambiguous (such as "is this right?"), or deal with existing law, rule, regulation, or policy will be considered and included as part of the decisionmaking process, although they will not receive a formal response from the Forest Service. Examples of some of these types of comments include:

- Alternative I is the best alternative
- The preferred alternative does not reflect balanced land management
- More land should be protected as wilderness

It is also important to note that while all comments are reviewed and considered, they are not counted as "votes." The NEPA public comment period is neither considered an election nor does it result in a representative sampling of the population.

Comments must be received within 45-days of the Notice of Availability publication. A person must provide specific written comments during a comment period in order to have standing to object to the draft decision later in the process JUUY 2016

Comments can be submitted tonight or sent to: Geothermal EIS Project, Santa Fe National Forest, 11 Forest Lane, Santa Fe, NM 87508. Comments may also be sent via email to comments-southwesternsantafe@fs.fed.us, or via facsimile to 505-438-5390.

#### **Project Website**

The draft EIS, along with other project-related documents is available online at:

http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/santafe/landm anagement/projects

## DRAFT - These minutes have not yet been approved by the Board of Public Utilities

## **Geothermal Leasing Project**

United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service Southwest Region Santa Fe National Forest



### Alternatives Considered

Alternative 1, No Action: the SFNF would not make an availability determination for geothermal leasing. Geothermal leasing applications would be processed on a case by case basis under separate NEPA analysis. Lands already closed to leasing by law would remain closed.

Alternative 2, Proposed Action: lands would be identified as either closed to leasing, or open to geothermal leasing, subject to stipulations.

Alternative 3, No Leasing: the SFNF would amend the Forest Plan to implement discretionary closures to geothermal leasing on all lands in the project area not already closed to leasing.

Alternative 4, Development Alternative: lands would be identified as either closed to leasing, or open to geothermal leasing, subject to stipulations. There would be fewer areas closed to geothermal leasing, and the stipulations would be less restrictive, compared to Alternative 2.

# Summary of Acres Open and Closed to Geothermal Leasing, by Alternative (Table 2-1 in DEIS) <sup>1,2,3</sup>

Allocation		Alternative	2. A set of the set
	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
	Acres/percent of decision area	Acres/percent of decision area	Acres/percent of decision area
Closed to geothermal leasing	32,000 19	168,600 100	28,900 17
Open to geothermal leasing, subject to NSO stipulations	132,900 79	0 0	122,500 73
Open to geothermal leasing, subject to CSU stipulations	80,300 48	0 0	122,600 73
Open to geothermal leasing, subject to TLs	39,500 23	0	42,200 25
Open to geothermal leasing, subject to standard lease terms and conditions	1,400 1	0 0	3,800 2
Available for surface occupancy <sup>4</sup>	3,700 2	0 0	17,200 10
	(largest parcel = 300 acres)		(largest parcel = 1,900 acres)

<sup>1</sup> NSO, CSU, and TLs do not overlap areas closed to leasing

<sup>2</sup> NSO, CSU, and TLs overlap each other, as exceptions, modifications, or waivers may be applied to some stipulations, and the lesser stipulation would still be applied

<sup>3</sup> Acres identified as closed or open to geothermal leasing, subject to stipulations, are not provided for in Alternative 1, as the SFNF would not make an availability determination for geothermal leasing under this alternative.

<sup>4</sup> Lands that are neither closed to leasing nor subject to NSO stipulations are considered available for surface occupancy

# ATTACHMENT OFFICER REPORTS SUBMITTED AT THE MEETING

## **MANAGER'S REPORT**

## JULY 20, 2016

- 1. Electrical fire on N Mesa due to blown fuse dropping molten metal on the dry grass below. The fire was quickly extinguished by LAFD
- 2. New Employee Mark Lujan, Engineering Associate started work on July18. He replaces Andrew Alarid, who recently retired.
- 3. Installation of bridge on LA Canyon Dam on Wednesday, the 13<sup>th</sup> went off without a hitch.
- 4. Met with SNL on energy storage project, currently in information gathering stage. The project will give an evaluation of the economic value of the batteries in various applications.
- 5. Received an invitation from DOE to submit a proposal for SHINES grant. Partnering with NMSU, SNL, Idaho Nat. Lab., OATI and others.
- 6. Received a plaque from AWWA for 50 years of membership
- 7. Letter on water meter relocation is going out the week of August 8.
- 8. Setting up tour of the Cove Fort II Geothermal Project in Southwestern Utah in September.