



Update on Southern California Transmission Corridor Study Proposal

Prepared in Support of the 2004 Integrated Energy Policy
Report Update Proceeding (03-IEP-01)

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Background

- The Energy Commission requested information, comments, and study suggestions at May 10 workshop
- Individual letters were sent to utilities in S. CA region



Comments on Corridor Study

To date, comments received from:

- Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
- Mammoth Pacific L.P.
- San Diego Gas & Electric
- Southern California Edison



Summary of Mammoth Pacific Comments

- Path 60 lines 30 and 31 (115 kV) between Bishop and Inyokern are a significant impediment to new renewable generation from the Mono-Long Valley Known Geothermal Resource Area.
- Improvements could increase generation from 40 MW to ≥ 150 MW.
- The CEC should recognize Path 60 as a priority corridor.



Summary of LADWP Comments

The study should:

- identify land corridors that may be reserved for future transmission construction;
- recommend potential upgrades to existing facilities to increase transfer capability; and
- include considerations for expected in- and out-of-state resource locations,
- feasibility of maintaining the corridor for future use,
- planned utilization of existing facilities,
- upgrade potential of existing facilities, and
- considerations for future demand distribution in the state.



Summary of SDG&E Comments

- The study should identify expansion needs to ensure access to the optimum mix of long-term energy resources in California, including renewable resources and energy imports from outside of the state.
- The State's energy policy must include a process to designate appropriately sited utility planning corridors across state-and federal-owned land, such as the Anza Borrego Desert State Park, and Cleveland Nat'l Forest.



SDG&E Comments continued

- The study should also outline how this process aligns with the CA ISO Grid Planning Process and the CPUC licensing requirements.
- CEC and CPUC should work together to identify steps needed for the timely, efficient construction of future transmission infrastructure.
- Joint efforts should consider full system integration, including an engineering system analysis of the grid to determine how much wind generation can be connected in a single wind regime without creating operability problems.



SCE Comments

Study Proposal

1. The corridor study should identify transmission corridors for future needs, consistent with the provisions of GO 131-D.
2. The study should focus on identifying viable transmission “options” in which (a) project can be constructed, (b) sensitivities can be mitigated, and (c) system reliability can be maintained.
3. At the conclusion of the study, the viable options would be adopted as corridors by the Energy Commission.



SCE Comments continued

Study Proposal continued

4. The state could then initiate a Program EIR, the development of a statewide mitigation plan, and coordination with local jurisdictions to include the adopted corridors into local general plans.
5. Initially the study should focus on the S. CA region and lines necessary for the interconnection of renewable generation resources.
6. Lessons learned would then be applied to studies of other geographic regions (e.g., N. CA) and other types of needs (e.g., service to load, imports etc.)



SCE Comments continued

Recommended Study Process:

1. Establish protocols, rules, and principles for corridor evaluation (e.g., corridors should avoid common contingencies or avoid cultural and environmental sensitivities) for assessing the viability of transmission options.
2. Define corridor width considering widths that are appropriate for a Program EIR and sufficient to prevent creating new reliability problems from common contingencies.



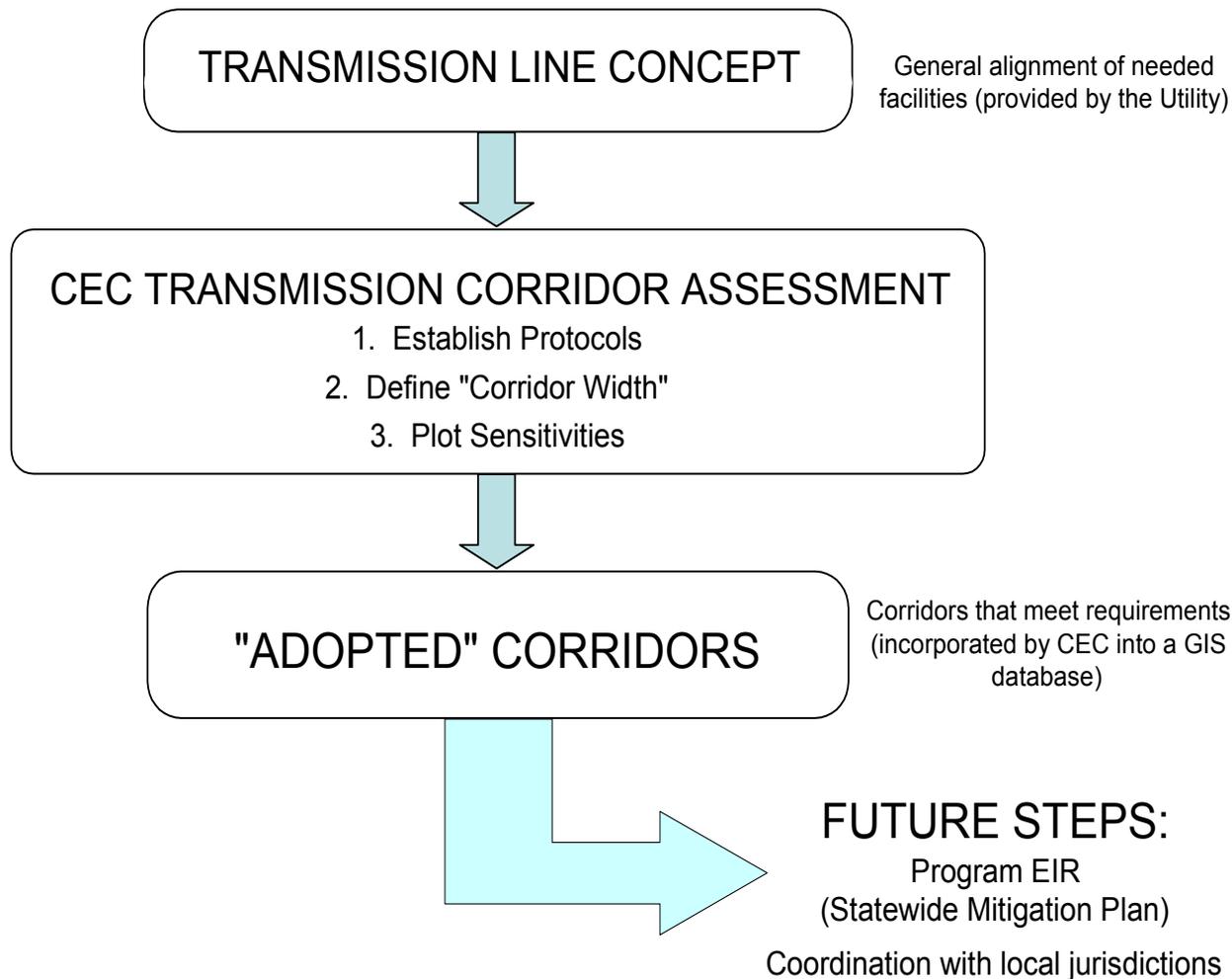
SCE Comments continued

Recommended Process cont.

3. Plot sensitivities using all available data sources. Corridors found to be both consistent with the identified need and within the defined protocols will be adopted.
4. Once adopted and incorporated into an official database, then the Energy Commission can take steps to develop a Programmatic EIR, programmatic mitigation plan, coordinate with local jurisdictions, and develop studies for other parts of CA.



SCE Comments continued





Next Steps

- Staff to meet with the Committee to determine the course of action for the study for 2004 and the 2005 IEPR proceedings.



Public Input

Any input on any of the recommendations or comments that have been submitted?

(Please submit by June 25.)