



Southwest Transmission Partners, LLC

**Stakeholder Comments on
2013-2014 Transmission Planning Process
Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan
Stakeholder Meeting
28 February 2013**

Submitted By:	Company:	Date Submitted:
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Thank you again for the opportunity to provide comments on the CAISO 2013/14 Transmission Planning Process, Unified Planning Assumptions and Study Plan; and to provide an update on the North Gila – Imperial Valley #2 (NGIV2) Project. We are coordinating closely with APS as the sponsor for the Hassayampa-North Gila #2 (HANG2) Project, as well as with the IID and SDGE as the existing transmission owners in the southern WECC region to complete Phase 1 of the WECC Three Phase Rating Process in 2013. The most recent WECC Progress Report is included with these comments. The permitting for the NGIV2 Project is progressing with the Draft Environmental Impact Statement to be completed in 2014.

We are encouraged that the CAISO will also continue to evaluate the benefits to the region of the NGIV2 Project for the 2013/14 Planning Cycle as discussed at the February 28, 2013 meeting. As submitted with the comments to the 2012/13 Economic Studies, the latest 2012 cost estimates for the NGIV2 Project for a single-circuit 500kV line and associated terminations is **\$295M** including permitting, ROW, EPC costs, and contingency. We believe this estimate is conservative and will work with the CAISO during the 2013 Study Cycle to discuss the details of this Capital Cost as well as additional scenarios to increase the Benefit/Cost ratio well above the CAISO threshold for approval. There are also significant reliability benefits of the NGIV2 Project to the region that can be explored in more detail over the 2013/14 Planning Cycle.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments, and look forward to presenting the overall economic and reliability benefits for the Project throughout 2013 and along with the CAISO 2013/14 Transmission Plan.