

EXHIBIT I

EXHIBIT I – ANTICIPATED NOISE AND INTERFERENCE WITH COMMUNICATION SIGNALS

As stated in R14-3-219, Exhibits to Application, Exhibit I of the Rules of Practice and Procedure Before Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee:

“Describe the anticipated noise emission levels and any interference with communication signals which will emanate from the proposed facilities.”

NOISE

The proposed Project will generate noise during the construction and operation phases. Construction will result in audible noise from Project equipment and vehicles. Operation and maintenance activities will be similar in terms of the activities that will cause noise. However, during operation and maintenance these activities will occur much less frequently, include fewer individual noise point sources such as pieces of equipment and vehicles, and be of much shorter duration. Additionally, during operation corona noise may occur.

Noise sensitive receptors, including any residential areas, schools and day care facilities, hospitals, long-term care facilities, places of worship, libraries, parks, and recreational areas specifically known for their solitude and tranquility (such as wilderness areas) were identified. Unmitigated noise levels could result as high as 83 A-weighted decibels (dBA) to sensitive receptors near proposed Project construction activities (within 100 feet); however, construction noise will be short-term, temporary, limited to daytime hours and intermittent. The majority of the proposed Project will pass through rural and open areas as well as around a number of small cities and communities including San Simon and Willcox. As a result, a minimal number of receptors will be located along the proposed Project. Corona noise for the CEC Proposed Route facilities will be highest in areas where the new lines are constructed in close proximity to existing transmission lines. Project corona noise was modeled using the Electric Power Research Institute (“EPRI”) ENVIRO computer model. The maximum corona noise for all modeled scenarios for the proposed Project on the edge of the right-of-way will be 52.4 dBA (in foul weather for two double-circuit transmission lines separated by a distance of 200 feet). This value is lower than the exterior noise level guidelines of the Noise Control Act of 1972 and the proposed Project is not expected to cause a significant impact with respect to corona noise.

Overall, because of the relatively dry nature of the area crossed by the proposed Project, the overall level of operational noise will be minimal and will therefore represent a minor, but long-term, impact to ambient soundscapes. Operational noise will decrease rapidly with distance from the transmission line.

Additional information concerning noise impacts can be found in Exhibit B-1, the Final EIS (Section 4.3.2 and Appendix C).

COMMUNICATIONS INTERFERENCE

Electric fields from electric power transmission lines can interfere with radio signals, although the effect may only be experienced for systems located beneath or in close proximity to the power line, with the interference dissipating rapidly as distance from the line increases. The potential for electromagnetic fields (“EMF”) created by the flow of electricity associated with the proposed Project to interfere with radio signals is classified as broadband interference since it occurs over a wide range of electromagnetic spectrum and may be difficult to avoid. The potential for radio interference from the proposed Project is consistent with other transmission facilities of similar voltage and configuration and is not anticipated to produce significant interference to nearby radio and television receivers.

Potential communications impacts to nearby military facilities have been evaluated, and include changes to the “zero point” level for electronics and communications testing purposes on the Buffalo Soldier Electronic Testing Range (“BSETR”), which will require Fort Huachuca to revise its radio frequency emitter inventory for this area to account for the new design and operation of the line. Revisions to radio frequency emitter inventories will be a moderate impact, since the inventories will not need to be relocated, but will need to be adjusted where an intersection of military operations with the proposed Project will occur. This moderate impact will require advanced planning and coordination among the military operations command and planning documents/procedures.

To date, the only guidelines established for EMF exposure by the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”), the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (“IEEE”), and the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (“ACGIH”) are related to human health. No EMF regulations have been established by the Federal Government or by the Arizona State government related to exposure and human health. Nor have any guidelines been established or evaluations

completed of the impact of EMF on interference with radio signals of the type that might be employed by local farmers.