

Arrow Canyon Solar Project

Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)

Draft SEIS Meetings
September 1 and 2, 2020



The NEPA Process

- **Chip Lewis**
 - Regional Environmental Protection Officer
 - Bureau of Indian Affairs (Western Region)

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 - Western Region
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Proposed Action

- **Who has proposed:** Arrow Canyon Solar, LLC and Moapa Band of Paiute Indians (Moapa Band)
- **Where:** Clark County, NV on Moapa River Indian Reservation (Reservation)
- **What is proposed:** Expanding the originally approved solar field and associated land lease on the Reservation for the Moapa Solar Energy Center (MSEC) Project from 850 acres to up to 2,200 acres. Originally approved right-of-ways (ROWs) for transmission gen-tie, access road, and water pipeline on Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-managed lands would be remain unchanged.
- **Why:** Provide economic development and other benefits such as jobs and a revenue source for the Moapa Band and help meet goals for renewable energy.



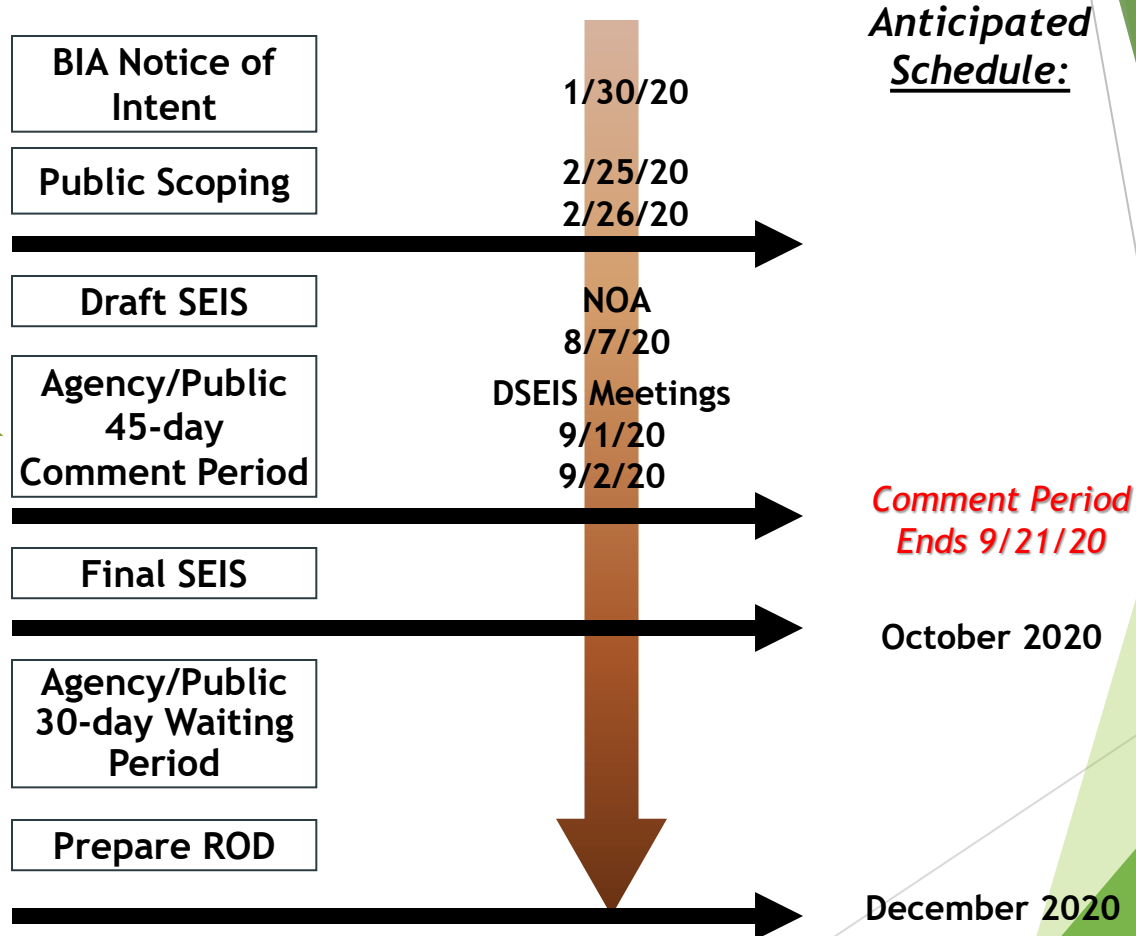
Involved Agencies

- **Lead Federal Agency**
 - U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- **Cooperating Agencies**
 - Moapa Band of Paiute Indians (Moapa Band)
 - Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
 - Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
 - US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)





EIS Process/Schedule

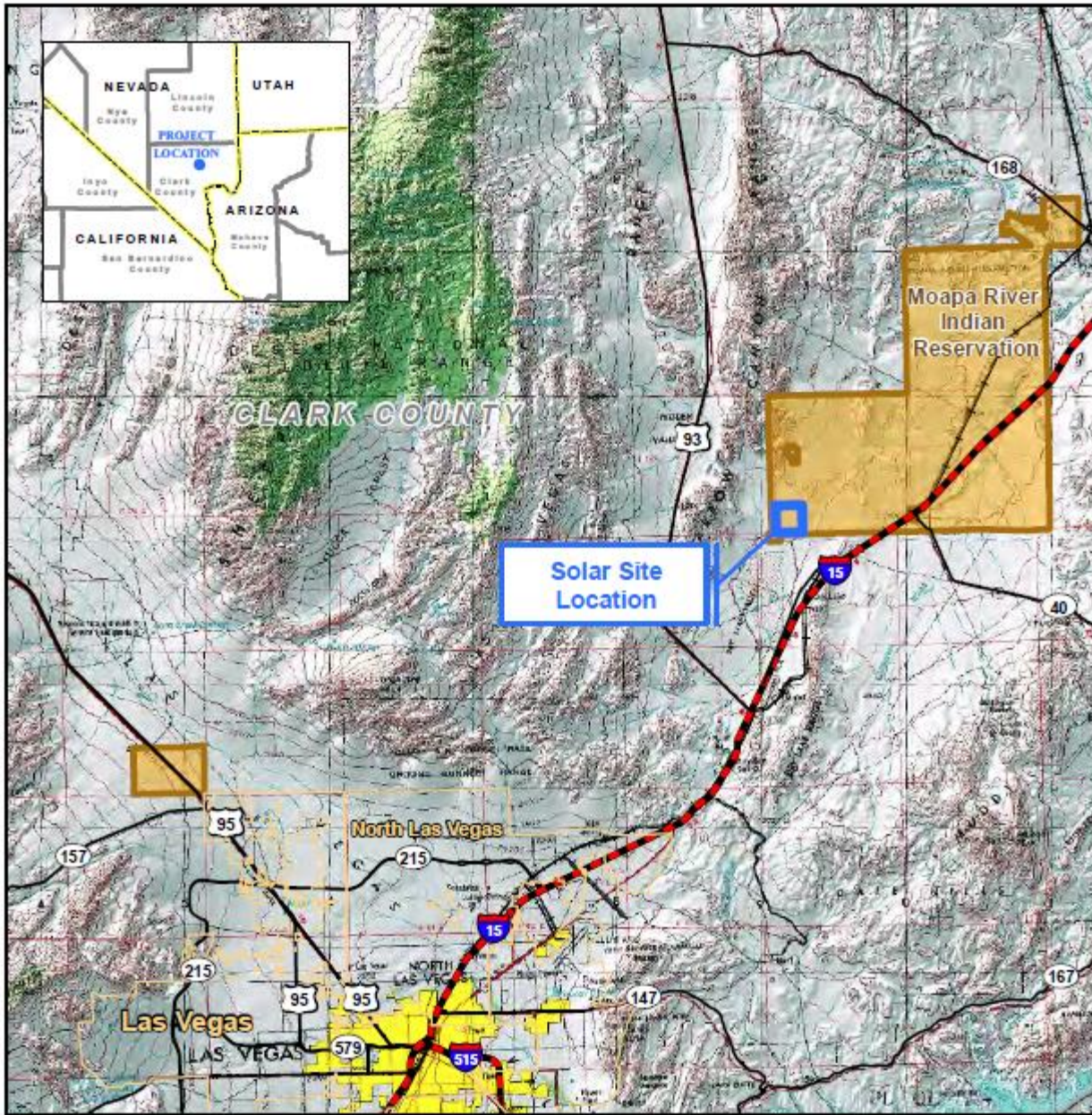


We are here in the process



Project Description

Arrow Canyon Solar Project



Project Location

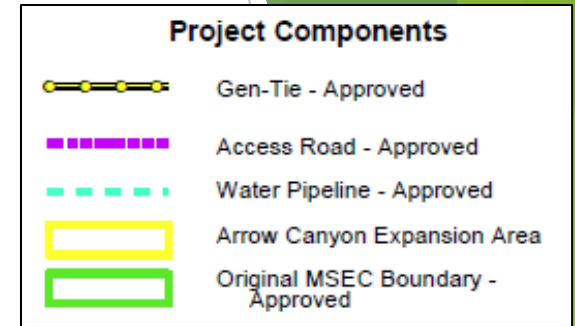
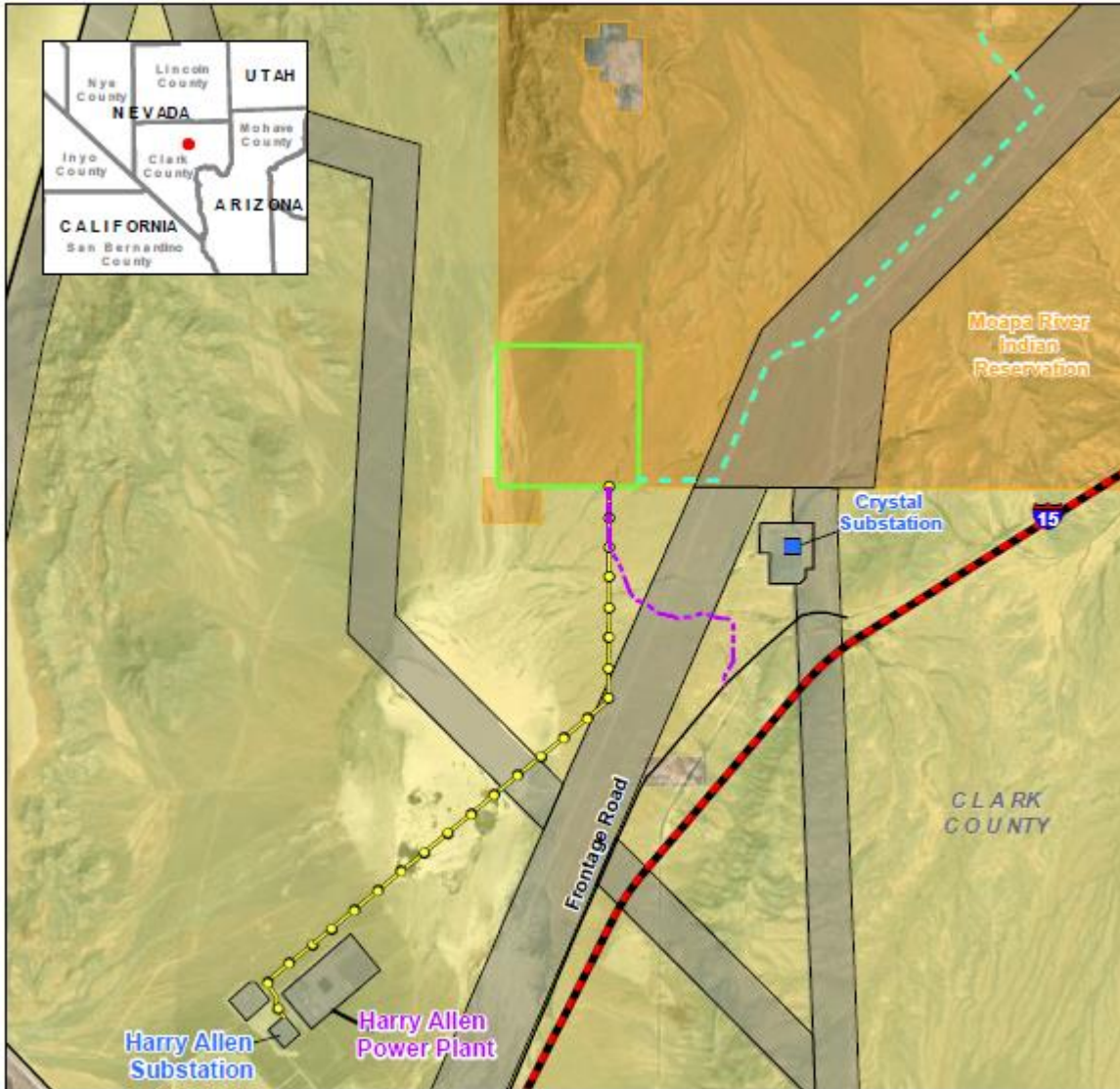
Clark County,
Nevada

Approximately
30 miles
northeast
of Las Vegas



Project History

Date	Action
February 2014	Moapa Solar Energy Center (MSEC) Final EIS published
May 2014	Records of Decision (RODs) issued by BIA and BLM
June 2014	Solar ground lease approved by BIA
August 2015	Right-of-Way (ROW) issued by BLM for linear facilities (gen-tie, access road, and water pipeline)
March 2017	EDF Renewables purchased the MSEC Project, renamed it Arrow Canyon Solar Project (ACSP), and transferred it to Arrow Canyon Solar, LLC (a subsidiary)
May 2018	Moapa Band agreed for the Applicant to expand the solar lease from the originally-approved 850 acres to 2,200 acres
January 2020	Notice of Intent (NOI) published for ACSP Supplemental EIS



Approved

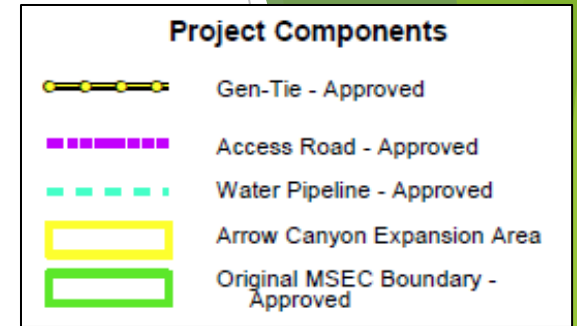
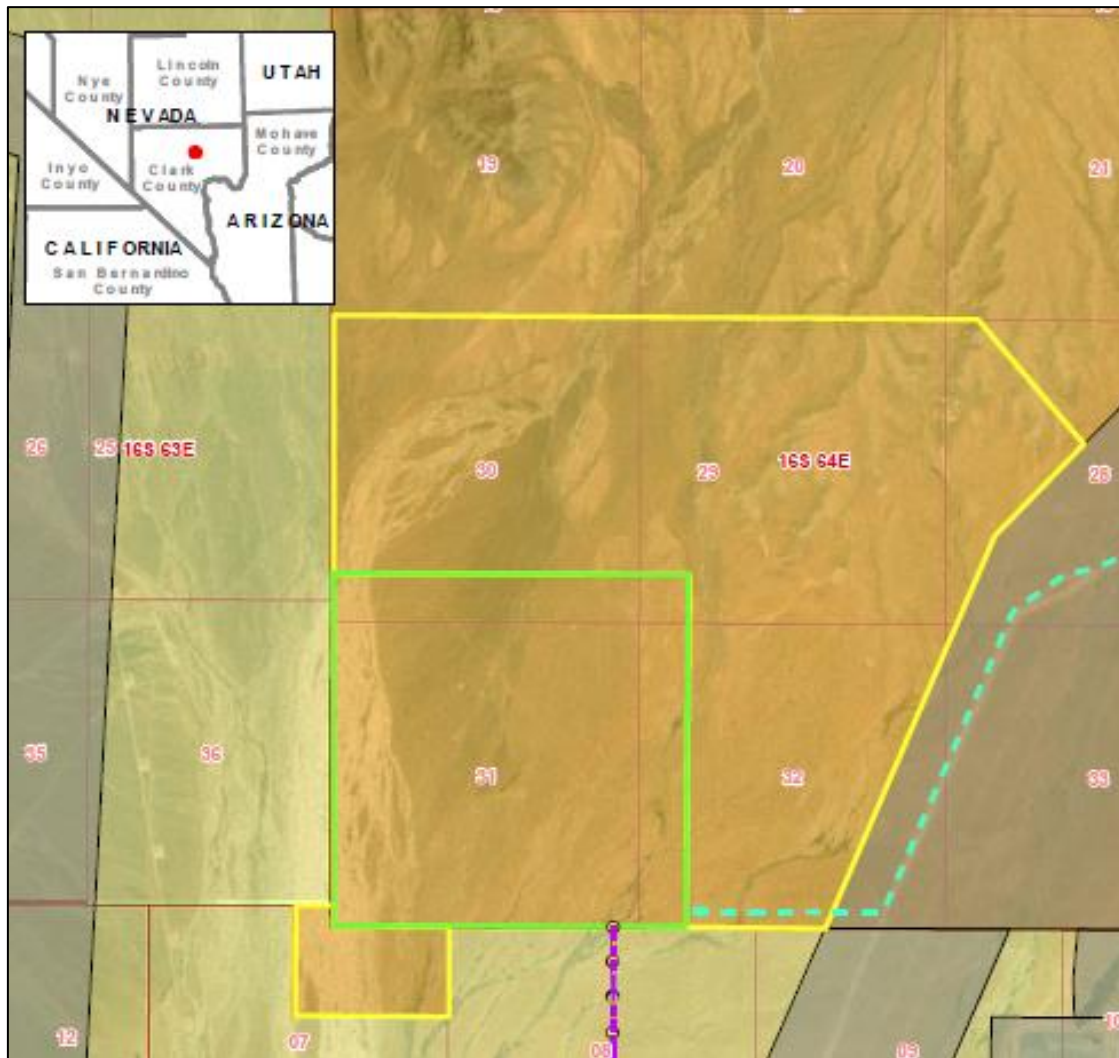
May 2014

Originally Approved MSEC Project



Project Description

- Expansion of solar field on Reservation approved for the MSEC Project from 850 acres to up to 2,200 acres
- Addition of Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
- Modifications to technical elements of design, layout, and construction



SOLAR FIELD
Township, Range, Section
T16S, R64E
Sections 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33
T17S, R64E
Section 7

Solar Field Expansion



Project Approved ROWs

- Rights-of-Way (ROWs) for transmission gen-tie line, access road, and water pipeline on BLM-managed lands
 - Previously approved as part of original project
 - ROWs issued by BLM
 - Will be developed as part of expanded project with no changes to original approvals



Analysis Focus for SEIS

- Expansion of solar field on Reservation from 850 acres to up to 2,200 acres, addition of BESS, modifications to design elements / layout are the focus of SEIS analysis
- Approved ROWs for transmission gen-tie line, access road, and water pipeline will not change and were not analyzed in SEIS

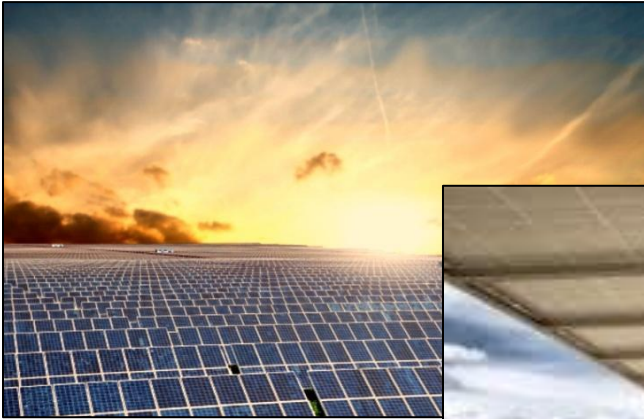


PV Solar Field

- Solar arrays
- Inverters (converts DC to AC current)
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
- Electrical collection system
- Operation & Maintenance Building on site
- Fencing around the solar arrays



PV Solar Field Components





SEIS Focus

Summary of Changes between previously Approved MSEC and Proposed ACSP

Component	Approved MSEC Project	Proposed ACSP	Note
Solar Field	850 acres	2,200 acres, including original 850 acres	Analysis required
Single Axis Trackers	Height of 6 to 12 feet	Change to up to 18 feet	Analysis required
Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)	Not analyzed by MSEC FEIS	Change to incorporate BESS in either a distributed or centrally located configuration	Analysis required
Water Use	50 AFY for construction, up to 30 AFY for operation	100-300 AFY for construction, up to 30 AFY for operation	Analysis required
Wastewater Management	Site evaporation ponds	Revision to septic disposal system	Analysis required
Perimeter Fencing	8' Tall chain link fence with tortoise exclusion fence around entire solar site	Perimeter fencing around groups of solar arrays, addition of 6 to 8-inch opening at bottom of fence	Analysis required



Summary of Impacts

Resource	Proposed Project	No Action Alternative
Soils	Increased acreage of overall soil disturbance (2,200 vs 850 acres) but less acreage of grading than original MSEC Project (187 vs 850 acres)	Same as previously described for the MSEC Project
Surface Water	More acreage and drainages affected than the original MSEC Project, less grading (187 vs 850 acres) expected to result in less sediment production, like the MSEC Project, construction within major washes would be minimized	Same as previously described for the MSEC Project
Groundwater	Greater (300 vs 100 acre-feet per year (AFY)) short-term use of groundwater from Tribal wells during the up to 20-month construction period than the original MSEC Project and the same long-term use of 30 AFY during operations, would not impact other water users	Same as previously described for the MSEC Project
Vegetation	Short-term direct and indirect effects on more acres of vegetation than the original MSEC Project (up to 1,937 vs 850 acres) of vegetation from construction; and long-term impact to 187 acres, potential more rapid site restoration and lower potential spread of invasive or noxious species because of mowing vs grading on most of the site	Same as previously described for the MSEC Project



Summary of Impacts

Resource	Proposed Project	No Action Alternative
Wildlife	Short-term direct and indirect effects on more acres of habitat than the original MSEC Project (up to 1,937 vs 850 acres) from construction and long-term impact to 187 acres of habitat	Same as previously described for the MSEC Project
Special Status Species	Short-term direct and indirect effects on more acres of tortoise habitat than the original MSEC Project (up to 1,937 vs 850 acres) from construction and long-term impact to 187 acres of tortoise habitat and foraging area, potential more rapid restoration of tortoise habitat because of mowing vs grading, lower long-term impacts to tortoise than the original MSEC Project from raised perimeter fencing allowing tortoises to reoccupy and move through the site	Same as previously described for the MSEC Project
Cultural Resources	Same as original MSEC Project, no effect on eligible historic properties because none are located within the Area of Potential Effect (APE), no potential visual effects on eligible resources and the Old Spanish National Historic Trail	Same as previously described for the MSEC Project



Summary of Impacts

Resource	Proposed Project	No Action Alternative
Socioeconomics	Similar to original MSEC Project, lower projected operations workforce (12 vs 20-40), beneficial short- and long-term direct and indirect impacts from increases in employment, population and local spending, economic stimulus to the Band, higher projected construction workforce (500 vs 300) and slightly shorter construction period (20 vs 24 months)	Short and long-term adverse impacts from no economic stimulus to the Band and local area beyond those previously described for the MSEC Project
Land / Resource Use	Short-term direct and indirect impacts to traffic due to construction workforce and commercial truck traffic during construction. Negligible long-term impacts from operational traffic	Same as previously described for the MSEC Project
Visual Resources	Same as original MSEC Project, the ACSP would be visible from some locations on I-15 but many potential views from I-15 would be blocked by intervening topography, would not be visible from portions of Old Spanish National Historic Trail	Same as previously described for the MSEC Project



Comments / Questions

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How to Comment

- Submit comment verbally at the end of the presentation
- Submit comment via mail:
 - Chip Lewis
 - BIA
 - Western Region
 - Branch of Environmental Quality Services (EQS)
 - 2600 North Central Avenue
 - 4th Floor Mailroom
 - Phoenix, AZ 85004
- Submit comment via email to:
 - chip.lewis@bia.gov
- Submit comment via the Project Website at:
 - www.ArrowCanyonSolarSEIS.com