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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS

NICK MYERS – CHAIR  
RACHEL WALDEN - VICE CHAIR  
LEA MÁRQUEZ PETERSON  
KEVIN THOMPSON  
RENÉ LOPEZ

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

FEB 12 2026

DOCKETED BY

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF  
CYPRESS CREEK RENEWABLES, LLC, IN  
CONFORMANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS  
OF ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES § 40-360,  
ET SEQ., FOR A CERTIFICATE  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY  
AUTHORIZING THE CACTUS FLOWER  
SOLAR GEN-TIE PROJECT, LOCATED IN  
PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA.

DOCKET NO. L-21370A-25-0228-00254

CASE NO. 254

DECISION NO. 81643

ORDER

February 4, 2026  
Open Meeting

**BY THE COMMISSION:**

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360 et seq., after due consideration of all relevant matters, the Arizona Corporation Commission (“Commission”) finds and concludes that the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (“CEC 254”) issued by the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee (“Siting Committee”) is hereby approved as granted by this Order.

The Commission, in reaching its decision, has balanced all relevant matters in the broad public interest, including the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power with the desire to minimize the effect thereof on the environment and ecology of this state, and finds that granting CEC 254 is in the public interest.

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The Commission further finds and concludes that in balancing the broad public interest in this matter:

1. The Project is in the public interest because it aids the state in meeting the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power.
2. In balancing the need for the Project with its effect on the environment and ecology of the state, the conditions placed on CEC 254 effectively minimize its impact on the environment and ecology of the state.
3. The conditions placed on CEC 254 resolve matters concerning the need for the Project and its impact on the environment and ecology of the state raised during the course of proceedings and, as such, serve as the findings on the matters raised.
4. In light of these conditions, the balancing in the broad public interest results in favor of granting CEC 254.

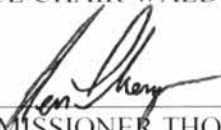
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1 CEC 254 ISSUED BY THE SITING COMMITTEE IS INCORPORATED  
2 HEREIN AND IS APPROVED BY ORDER OF THE  
3 ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

4   
5 CHAIR MYERS

  
VICE CHAIR WALDEN

6   
7 COMMISSIONER MARQUEZ PETERSON

  
COMMISSIONER THOMPSON

  
COMMISSIONER LOPEZ



8 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, DOUGLAS R. CLARK,  
9 Executive Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission,  
10 have hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this  
11 Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix,  
12 this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.

13   
14 DOUGLAS R. CLARK  
15 Executive Director

16 DISSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

17  
18 DISSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

1 **BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT**  
2 **AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE**

3 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
4 OF CYPRESS CREEK RENEWABLES,  
5 LLC, IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE  
6 REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA REVISED  
7 STATUTES § 40-360, ET SEQ., FOR A  
8 CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING THE  
CACTUS FLOWER SOLAR GEN-TIE  
PROJECT, LOCATED IN PINAL COUNTY,  
ARIZONA.

DOCKET NO.: L-21370A-25-0228-00254

Case No. 254

**CERTIFICATE OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
COMPATIBILITY**

9 **A. INTRODUCTION**

10 Pursuant to notice given as provided by law, the Arizona Power Plant and  
11 Transmission Line Siting Committee (“Committee”) held public hearings on December 8,  
12 2025, through December 9, 2025, in Phoenix, Arizona, in conformance with the  
13 requirements of the Arizona Revised Statutes (“A.R.S.”) § 40-360 *et seq.* for the purpose  
14 of receiving evidence and deliberating on the October 24, 2025 Application of Cypress  
15 Creek Renewables, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (“Applicant”), for a  
16 Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (“Certificate”) in the above-captioned case.

17 The following members and designees of members of the Committee were present  
18 at one or more of the hearing days for the evidentiary presentations, public comment, and/or  
19 for the deliberations:

20 Adam Stafford	Chairman, Designee for Arizona Attorney General
21	Kris Mayes
22 Michael Comstock	Designee of the Chairman, Arizona Corporation
23	Commission (“Commission”)
24 Leonard Drago	Designee for the Director of the Department of
25	Environmental Quality (“ADEQ”)
26 Sal DiCiccio	Appointed Member, representing cities and towns
27 David Kryder	Appointed Member, representing agricultural interests
28 Roman Fontes	Appointed Member, representing counties

**Decision No. 81643**

1 Douglas Fant Appointed Member, representing the general public

2 Margaret "Toby" Little Appointed Member, representing the general public

3 Gabby Saucedo Mercer Appointed Member, representing the general public

4 The Applicant was represented by Bert Acken of Acken Law. No parties requested  
5 intervention pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360.05.

6 At the conclusion of the hearing, the Committee, after considering the (i)  
7 Application, (ii) evidence, testimony, and exhibits presented by the Applicant, and (iii)  
8 comments of the public, and being advised of the legal requirements of A.R.S. §§ 40-360  
9 through 40-360.13, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted 9 to 0, to grant Applicant,  
10 its successors and assigns, this Certificate for construction of the Cactus Flower Solar Gen-  
11 Tie Project ("Project") as described below.

12 **B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

13 The Project includes the construction of a new, approximately nine-mile long, 230  
14 kilovolt ("kV") alternating current transmission line to interconnect the non-jurisdictional  
15 Cactus Flower Solar Project, a 270 megawatt ("MW") photovoltaic generating facility and  
16 a 270 MW battery energy storage system, to the regional grid via a new switchyard to be  
17 constructed on the Arizona Public Service Company ("APS") Tat Momoli-Saguaro 230 kV  
18 transmission line. All Project facilities will be located in Pinal County on privately owned  
19 land and State Trust Land managed by the Arizona State Land Department ("ASLD").

20 The Project originates at the Cactus Flower Solar Facility and terminates at the  
21 approved switchyard location, referred to as the Switchyard Siting Area (a 230-acre area  
22 shown on **Exhibit A**). The Project corridor is a maximum of 1,000 feet in width and the  
23 final right-of-way ("ROW") width for the transmission line will be 150 feet. The new  
24 switchyard will be approximately 20 acres in size. A map of the approved Project, including  
25 the corridor and Switchyard Siting Area, is shown in **Exhibit A**.

26 **CONDITIONS**

27 This Certificate is granted upon the following conditions:  
28

1           1.       This authorization to construct the Project shall expire ten (10) years from the  
2 date this Certificate is approved by the Commission, with or without modification.  
3 Construction of the Project shall be complete, such that the Project is in service within this  
4 ten-year timeframe. However, prior to the expiration of the time period, the Applicant may  
5 request that the Commission extend the time limitation.

6           2.       In the event the Project requires an extension of the term of this Certificate  
7 prior to completion of construction, the Applicant shall file such time extension request at  
8 least one hundred and eighty (180) days prior to the expiration of the Certificate. The  
9 Applicant shall use reasonable means to promptly notify Pinal County, the ASLD, and all  
10 landowners and residents within a two (2) mile of the radius of the centerline of the Project,  
11 all persons who made public comment at this proceeding who provided a mailing or email  
12 address, and all parties to this proceeding. The notification provided will include the request  
13 and the date, time, and place of the hearing or open meetings during which the Commission  
14 will consider the request for extension. Notification shall be issued no more than three (3)  
15 business days after the Applicant is made aware of the hearing date or the open meeting  
16 date.

17           3.       During the development, construction, operation, maintenance, and  
18 reclamation of the Project, the Applicant shall comply with all existing applicable air and  
19 water pollution control standards and regulations, and with all existing applicable statutes,  
20 ordinances, master plans and regulations of any governmental entity having jurisdiction,  
21 including, but not limited to, the United States of America, the State of Arizona, Pinal  
22 County, and their agencies and subdivisions, including but not limited to the following:

- 23           a.       All applicable land use regulations;
- 24           b.       All applicable zoning stipulations and conditions, including but not  
25               limited to landscaping and dust control requirements;
- 26           c.       All applicable water use, discharge and/or disposal requirements of the  
27               Arizona Department of Water Resources and ADEQ;
- 28

- 1 d. All applicable noise control standards; and
- 2 e. All applicable regulations governing storage and handling of
- 3 hazardous chemicals and petroleum products.

4 4. The Applicant shall obtain all approvals and permits necessary to construct,  
5 operate and maintain the Project required by any governmental entity having jurisdiction  
6 including, but not limited to, the United States of America, the State of Arizona, Pinal  
7 County, and their agencies and subdivisions.

8 5. The Applicant shall comply with the Arizona Game and Fish Department  
9 ("AGFD") guidelines and recommendations for handling protected animal species, should  
10 any be encountered during construction and operation of the Project, and shall consult with  
11 AGFD or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as appropriate, on other issues concerning  
12 wildlife. The Applicant shall, to the extent feasible, follow AGFD's recommendations that  
13 are applicable to the Project. The Applicant also commits to follow the mitigation measures  
14 in Section 6 of the Biological Resources Evaluation, Exhibit B-1 to the Application  
15 (Hearing Exhibit CC-1), as applicable and feasible.

16 6. The Applicant shall design the Project's interconnection facilities to  
17 incorporate reasonable measures to minimize electrocution of and impacts to avian species  
18 in accordance with the Applicant's avian protection program. Such measures will be  
19 accomplished through incorporation of Avian Power Line Interaction Committee guidelines  
20 set forth in the current versions of *Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines*  
21 and *Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines* manuals.

22 7. The issuance of a Certificate by the Commission is a state action pursuant to  
23 A.R.S. §§ 41-861 through 41-864, also known as the State Historic Preservation Act ("State  
24 Act"). The Applicant shall consult with the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office  
25 ("SHPO") regarding the Project and its impacts on historic properties. Construction shall  
26 not commence until SHPO has had an opportunity to review and comment in accordance  
27 with the State Act. The Applicant shall, in cooperation with the landowner, complete a Class  
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1 III cultural inventory of the portions of the final ROWs that have not been previously  
2 surveyed to modern standards. If any historic property will be substantially altered or  
3 demolished as a result of the construction or operation of the Project, the Applicant shall  
4 take timely steps to make appropriate documentary recordation in accordance with the  
5 standards established by SHPO.

6 8. If any archaeological, paleontological, or historical site or a significant  
7 cultural object is discovered on state, county, or municipal land during the construction or  
8 operation of the Project, the Applicant or its authorized representative shall promptly report  
9 the discovery to the Director of the Arizona State Museum (“ASM”), and in consultation  
10 with the Director, shall immediately take all reasonable steps to secure and maintain the  
11 preservation of the discovery as required by A.R.S. §41-844.

12 9. If human remains and/or funerary objects are encountered during the course  
13 of any ground-disturbing activities related to the construction or operation of the Project,  
14 the Applicant shall cease work on the affected area of the Project and notify the Director of  
15 the ASM as required by A.R.S. § 41-865 for private land, or as required by A.R.S. § 41-844  
16 for state, county, or municipal lands.

17 10. The Applicant shall comply with the notice and salvage requirements of the  
18 Arizona Native Plant Law (A.R.S. §§ 3-901 *et seq.*) and shall, to the extent feasible,  
19 minimize the destruction of native plants during the construction and operation of the  
20 Project.

21 11. The Applicant shall make every reasonable effort to promptly investigate,  
22 identify and correct, on a case-specific basis, all complaints of interference with radio or  
23 television signals from operation of the Project addressed in this Certificate and where such  
24 interference is caused by the Project take reasonable measures to mitigate such interference.  
25 The Applicant shall maintain written records for a period of five (5) years of all complaints  
26 of radio or television interference attributable to operations, together with the corrective  
27 action taken in response to each complaint. All complaints shall be recorded to include  
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1 notation on the corrective action taken. Complaints not leading to a specific action or for  
2 which there was no resolution shall be noted and explained. Upon request, the written  
3 records shall be provided to the Staff of the Commission. The Applicant shall respond to  
4 complaints and implement appropriate mitigation measures. In addition, the Project shall  
5 be evaluated on a regular basis so that damaged insulators or other line materials that could  
6 cause interference are repaired or replaced in a timely manner.

7 12. Within one hundred twenty (120) days of the Commission's decision  
8 approving this Certificate, the Applicant shall post signs in or near public ROWs, to the  
9 extent authorized by law, reasonably adjacent to the Project giving notice of the Project.  
10 Such signage shall be no smaller than a roadway sign. The signs shall advise:

- 11 a. The future site of the Project;
- 12 b. A phone number and website for public information regarding the Project;
- 13 and
- 14 c. Refer the Public to the Docket.

15 Such signs shall be inspected at least once annually and, if necessary, be repaired or  
16 replaced, and removed at the completion of construction.

17 The Applicant shall make every reasonable effort to communicate the decision either  
18 approving or disapproving the Certificate in digital media.

19 13. At least ninety (90) days before construction commences on the Project, the  
20 Applicant shall provide Pinal County, ASLD, and builders and developers who are building  
21 upon or developing land within one (1) mile of the of the centerline of the Project with a  
22 written description, including the approximate height and width measurements of all  
23 structure types, of the Project. The written description shall identify the location of the  
24 Project and contain a pictorial depiction of the facilities being constructed. The Applicant  
25 shall also encourage the developers and builders to include this information in their  
26 disclosure statements. Upon approval of this Certificate by the Commission, the Applicant  
27 may commence construction of the Project.

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1           14.    The Applicant shall use non-specular conductor and non-reflective surfaces  
2 for the transmission line structures on the Project.

3           15.    The Applicant shall be responsible for arranging that all field personnel  
4 involved in the Project receive training as to proper ingress, egress, and on-site working  
5 protocol for environmentally sensitive areas and activities. Contractors employing such  
6 field personnel shall maintain records documenting that the personnel have received such  
7 training.

8           16.    The Applicant shall follow the most current Western Electricity Coordinating  
9 Council (“WECC”) and North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”)   
10 planning standards, as approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”),  
11 National Electrical Safety Code (“NESC”) standards, and Federal Aviation Administration  
12 (“FAA”) regulations.

13           17.    The Applicant shall provide Commission Staff with a copy of the  
14 Interconnection Agreement for the Cactus Flower Solar Project when it is executed and  
15 approved by Applicant and APS, which will be provided under the existing Protective  
16 Agreement with Commission Staff, and Applicants shall comply with all requirements  
17 contained in the Interconnection Agreement.

18           18.    The Applicant shall participate in good faith in state and regional transmission  
19 study forums to coordinate transmission expansion plans related to the Project and to  
20 resolve transmission constraints in a timely manner.

21           19.    When Project facilities are located parallel to and within one hundred (100)  
22 feet of any existing natural gas or hazardous pipeline, the Applicant shall:

- 23           a.    Ensure grounding and cathodic protection studies are performed to show that  
24 the Project's location parallel to and within one hundred (100) feet of such  
25 pipeline results in no material adverse impacts to the pipeline or to public  
26 safety when both the pipeline and the Project are in operation. The Applicant  
27 shall take appropriate steps to ensure that any material adverse impacts are  
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1 mitigated. The Applicant shall provide to Staff of the Commission, and file  
2 with Docket Control, a copy of the studies performed and additional  
3 mitigation, if any, that was implemented as part of its annual compliance-  
4 certification letter; and

- 5 b. Ensure that studies are performed simulating an outage of the Project that  
6 may be caused by the collocation of the Project parallel to and within one  
7 hundred (100) feet of the existing natural gas or hazardous liquid pipeline.  
8 The studies should either: (a) show that such simulated outage does not result  
9 in customer outages; or (b) include operating plans to minimize any resulting  
10 customer outages. The Applicant shall provide a copy of the study results to  
11 Staff of the Commission and file them with Docket Control as part of the  
12 Applicant's annual compliance certification letter.

13 20. The designation of the transmission line corridor in this Certificate, as shown  
14 in **Exhibit A**, does not authorize ROWs greater than 150 feet wide for the transmission line  
15 nor does it grant the Applicant exclusive rights within the corridor outside of the final  
16 designated transmission ROWs. The maximum height of the structures shall not exceed 199  
17 feet.

18 21. The Applicant shall submit a compliance certification letter annually,  
19 identifying progress made with respect to each condition contained in this Certificate,  
20 including which conditions have been met. The letter shall be submitted to Commission's  
21 Docket Control commencing on January 31, 2027. Attached to each certification letter shall  
22 be documentation explaining how compliance with each condition was achieved. Copies of  
23 each letter, along with the corresponding documentation, shall be submitted to the Arizona  
24 Attorney General's Office. With respect to the Project, the requirement for the compliance  
25 letter shall expire on the date the Project is placed into operation. Notification of such filing  
26 with Docket Control shall be made to Pinal County, ASLD, all parties to this Docket, and  
27 all parties who made a limited appearance in this Docket.

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1           22.    The Applicant shall provide a copy of this Certificate to Pinal County, ASLD,  
2 and the owner/operator of the El Paso Natural Gas pipeline (as shown in **Exhibit A**).

3           23.    Any transfer or assignment of this Certificate shall require the assignee or  
4 successor to assume, in writing, all responsibilities of the Applicant listed in this Certificate  
5 and its conditions as required by A.R.S. § 40-360.08(A) and R14-3-213(F) of the Arizona  
6 Administrative Code.

7           24.    In the event the Applicant, its assignee, or successor, seeks to modify the  
8 Certificate's terms at the Commission, it shall provide copies of such request to Pinal  
9 County, ASLD, all parties to this Docket, and all parties who made a limited appearance in  
10 this Docket.

11          25.    The Certificate Conditions shall be binding on the Applicant, its successors,  
12 assignee(s) and transferees and any affiliates, agents, or lessees of the Applicant who have  
13 a contractual relationship with the Applicant concerning the construction, operation,  
14 maintenance or reclamation of the Project. The Applicant shall provide in any agreement(s)  
15 or lease(s) pertaining to the Project that the contracting parties and/or lessee(s) shall be  
16 responsible for compliance with the Conditions set forth herein, and the Applicant's  
17 responsibilities with respect to compliance with such Conditions shall not cease or be abated  
18 by reason of the fact that the Applicant is not in control of or responsible for operation and  
19 maintenance of the Project facilities.

20                           **FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

21           This Certificate incorporates the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

22           1.    The Project aids the State and the Southwest Region of the United States in  
23 meeting the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of renewable electric  
24 power.

25           2.    When constructed in compliance with the conditions imposed in this  
26 Certificate, the Project aids the state, preserving a safe and reliable electric transmission  
27 system.

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3. During the course of the hearing, the Committee considered evidence on the environmental compatibility of the Project as required by A.R.S. § 40-360 *et seq.*

4. The Project and the conditions placed on the Project in this Certificate effectively minimize the impact of the Project on the environment and ecology of the state.

5. The conditions placed on the Project in this Certificate resolve matters concerning balancing the need for the Project with its impact on the environment and ecology of the state arising during the course of the proceedings, and, as such, serve as findings and conclusions on such matters.

6. The Project is in the public interest because the Project's contribution to meeting the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power outweighs the minimized impact of the Project on the environment and ecology of the state.

DATED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025.

THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT AND  
TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE



By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adam Stafford, Chairman

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

**ORIGINAL** of the foregoing e-filed  
filed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025with:

**Utilities Division - Docket Control  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007**

**COPIES** of the above e-mailed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025to:

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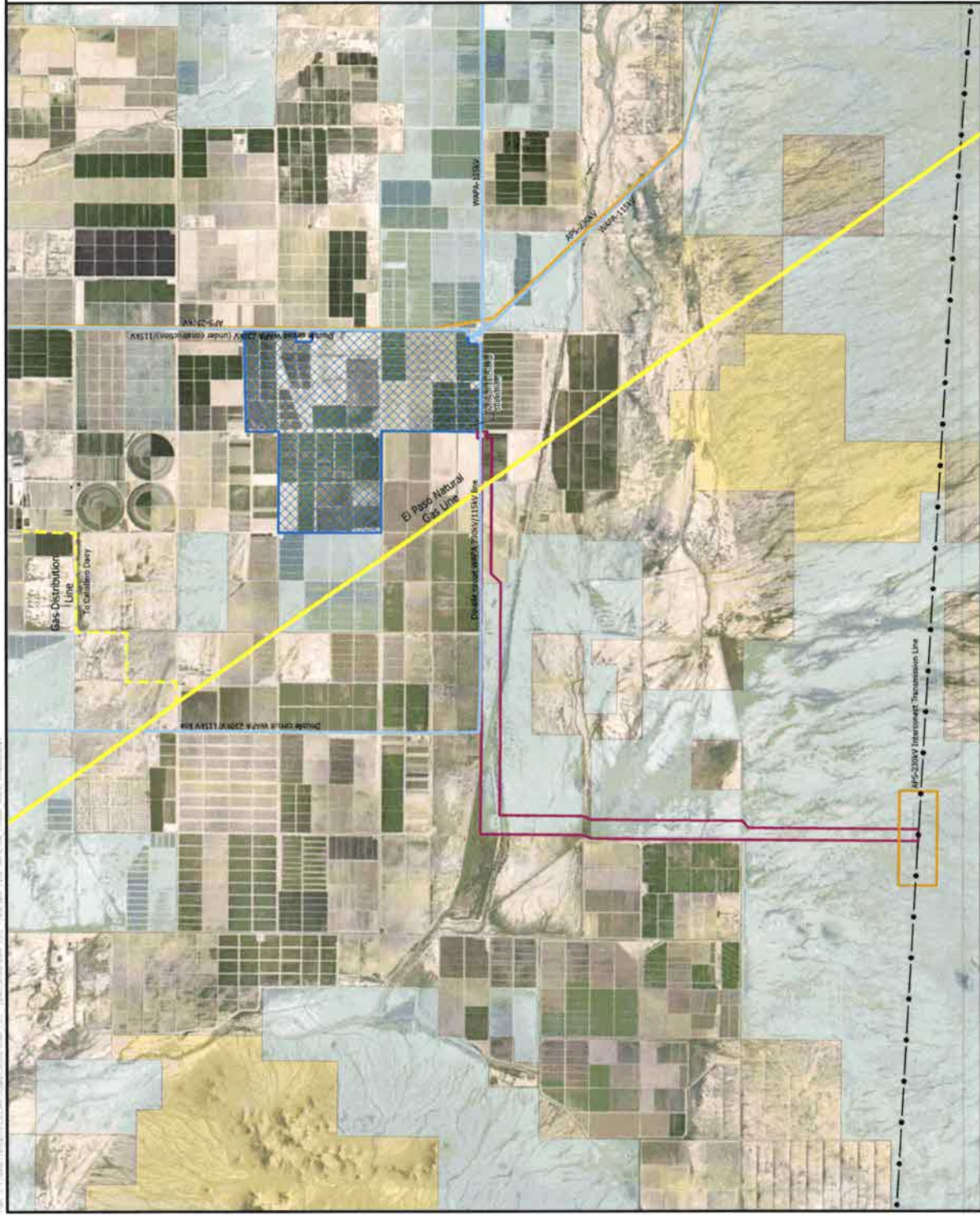
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          T. Brewer            
T. Brewer/ CEC 254

**EXHIBIT A**

T19S, RTE, Portions of Sections 13 and 23-36,  
 T10S, RTE, Portions of Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 16, 17, 20, and 21,  
 Pinal County, Arizona  
 Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N  
 Utility Source: ESRI (electric power transmission lines in the  
 United States) & Cypress Creek Renewables, LLC  
 Surface Management: BLM SMA ArcGIS service accessed 08/12/2025  
 NLCS: BLM  
 Image Source: Maxar 03/10/2022

- Legend**
- APS 230KV Interconnect Transmission Line
  - APS Powerline
  - WAPA Powerline
  - El Paso Natural Gas Line
  - Gas Distribution Line
  - Proposed Cactus Flower Solar Facility
  - Transmission Corridor
  - Switchyard Siting Area
  - Surface Management**
  - Bureau of Land Management
  - Private (No Color)
  - State



Cactus Flower Solar Generation Tie Line Project  
 Exhibits for the  
 Certificate of Environmental Compatibility  
 TRANSMISSION CORRIDOR  
 WITH NEARBY INFRASTRUCTURE  
 Exhibit A