



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Las Cruces District Office
1800 Marquess Street
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005
www.blm.gov/nm



In Reply Refer To:
1793 (L0310)

JUL 18 2012

Mr. Richard Searle
Chairman, County Board of Supervisors
Cochise County
1415 Melody Lane
Building G
Bisbee, AZ 85603

Dear Mr. Searle:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Western Area Power Administration (Western) have received your request to participate as a Cooperating Agency in the preparation of the proposed Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and potential BLM land use plan amendments for the Southline Transmission Line Project. The BLM and Western are pleased to accept your request at this time.

As a Cooperating Agency your participation may include those activities included in 40 CFR 1501.6(b). An agreement between Cochise County, the BLM, and Western will need to be developed in order to identify the respective responsibilities of the parties in preparing the EIS for the project. The BLM and Western are currently in the process of drafting a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to encompass these responsibilities as well as other protocol items. As soon as the MOU has been drafted, you will receive a copy for your review and comment.

If you have any questions, please contact Tom Hurshman, National Project Manager, at (970) 240-5345, or email thurshma@blm.gov

Sincerely,

Bill Childress
District Manager