

1 Introduction

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM), Western Region, Denver, CO, held nine open house scoping meetings from 9 August 2012 to 18 August 2012, for the Four Corners Power Plant and Navajo Mine Energy Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The purpose of the scoping meetings was to provide an opportunity for the public and other agencies to learn about and comment on the proposed actions and environmental resources to be analyzed in the Draft EIS. Efforts to notify the public, media, government agencies, and elected officials about the open house scoping meetings were conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Public Involvement Plan developed for the Four Corners Power Plant and Navajo Mine Energy Project EIS. This scoping also served to satisfy the public involvement and noticing requirement for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Additionally, two of the meetings also served as informal conferences for the Pinabete Mine Plan Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit application. Interested parties were provided an opportunity to provide written or oral comments related to this new permit.

This scoping summary report includes detailed information about public involvement and outreach activities conducted by OSM during the scoping period from 18 July 2012 to 1 November 2012.

2 Summary of Activities Conducted During Scoping Period

2.1 Notification Activities

The following notifications were prepared and distributed to inform the public of the project and the open house scoping meetings:

Federal Register Notice

On 18 July 2012, OSM published a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register (Exhibit A), which announced the intent to prepare an EIS for the Four Corners Power Plant and Navajo Mine Energy Project, described the proposed actions, and provided the locations, dates, and times of the open house scoping meetings. This NOI initiated a 60-day scoping period, which was scheduled to end on 17 September 2012.

Display Advertisement

Display advertisements (Exhibit B) were placed in the following 13 newspapers: *Arizona Daily Sun*, *Navajo-Hopi Observer*, *Hopi Tutuveni*, *Cortez Journal*, *Four Corners Free Press*, *Farmington Daily Times*, *San Juan Sun*, *Navajo Times*, *The Durango Herald*, *The Durango Telegraph*, *Gallup Independent*, *The Tribune News*, and *Albuquerque Journal*. As listed in Table 2-1, the first series of display advertisements occurred within three days of the Federal Register notice and at least 15 days prior to the local scoping meeting. The second and third publication dates occurred consecutively the day of and day prior to the local scoping meeting (assuming the local newspaper was published daily).

Table 2-1 Newspaper Advertisements for Scoping Meetings

NEWSPAPER	MEETING LOCATIONS THE AD COVERED	DATES OF ADVERTISEMENT
Arizona Daily Sun (daily)	Hotevilla, AZ	24 July 2012 8 August 2012 9 August 2012
Navajo-Hopi Observer (Wednesdays)	Hotevilla, AZ Tiis Tsoh Sikaad (Burnham,) Chapter House, NM Nenahnezad, NM Shiprock, NM Window Rock, AZ	25 July 2012 1 August 2012 8 August 2012 15 August 2012
Hopi Tutuveni (1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month)	Hotevilla, AZ	7 August 2012
Cortez Journal (Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays)	Cortez, CO	24 July 2012 7 August 2012 9 August 2012
Four Corners Free Press (monthly)	Cortez, CO	2 August 2012
Farmington Daily Times (daily)	Tiis Tsoh Sikaad (Burnham) Chapter House, NM Nenahnezad, NM Farmington, NM Shiprock, NM	24 July 2012 10 August 2012 11 August 2012 12 August 2012 13 August 2012 14 August 2012 15 August 2012
San Juan Sun (Wednesdays)	Tiis Tsoh Sikaad (Burnham) Chapter House, NM Nenahnezad, NM Farmington, NM Shiprock, NM	25 July 2012 1 August 2012 8 August 2012 15 August 2012
Navajo Times (Thursdays)	Tiis Tsoh Sikaad (Burnham) Chapter House, NM Nenahnezad, NM Shiprock, NM Window Rock, AZ	26 July 2012 9 August 2012 16 August 2012
The Durango Herald (daily)	Durango, CO	24 July 2012 15 August 2012 16 August 2012
The Durango Telegraph (Thursdays)	Durango, CO	26 July 2012 9 August 2012 16 August 2012
Gallup Independent (daily)	Window Rock, AZ	24 July 2012 17 August 2012
The Tribune-News (Wednesdays and Fridays)	Window Rock, AZ	25 July 2012 15 August 2012 17 August 2012
Albuquerque Journal (daily)	Albuquerque, NM	24 July 2012 17 August 2012 18 August 2012

Postcard Mailer

A postcard mailer (Exhibit C) was sent to 453 individuals on the project mailing list on 26 July 2012. The postcard announced the preparation of the Draft EIS, described the proposed actions, and provided information on comment submittal, the project website, and the open house scoping meeting locations, dates, and times.

Stakeholder Notification Letter

A notification letter (Exhibit D), signed by Mr. Marcelo Calle, OSM EIS Coordinator, was mailed to 440 federal, state, and local government agencies and elected officials on 27 July 2012. The letter provided detailed information about the proposed actions, scoping process, and comment submittal, and announced the locations, dates, and times of the open house scoping meetings.

Public Service Announcement

A public service announcement (PSA) (Exhibit E) providing the dates and times of the local open house scoping meetings was distributed to 31 local radio stations (Exhibit F). The PSA was translated and recorded in Navajo and Hopi. The English release and the Navajo and Hopi audio files were disseminated to radio stations based on the language of the radio station.

Notification Flier

A member of the public outreach team physically placed notification fliers (Exhibit G) at appropriate community centers, post offices, libraries, grocery stores, gas stations, trading posts, town halls, and other gathering places (Exhibit H) throughout the Four Corners region to further reach tribal community members and remote locations where interested stakeholders potentially resided. The flier provided the open house scoping meeting locations, dates, and times, and provided information on how to submit comments.

Information Repositories

Public information repositories were established at 29 locations (Exhibit I) in the Four Corners region, including chapter houses, libraries, OSM offices, and Bureau of Indian Affairs offices. A binder containing the display advertisement and materials provided at the open house scoping meetings, including a copy of the posters, the poster station overview, the fact sheet booklet and the comment form, was sent to each of the information repositories with a letter requesting the binder be put on display and made available for public viewing. Additional copies of the fact sheet booklet were mailed to the information repositories after the completion of the open house scoping meetings.

3 Open House Scoping Meetings

Nine open house scoping meetings were held at the following locations, dates, and times shown in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1 Public Scoping Open House Schedule

MEETING LOCATION	VENUE	DATE	TIME
Hotevilla, AZ	Hotevilla Village	9 August 2012	3 to 7 p.m.
Cortez, CO	Montezuma-Cortez High School	10 August 2012	5 to 9 p.m.
Burnham, NM	Tiis Tsoh Sikaad (Burnham) Chapter House**	11 August 2012	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Nenahnezad, NM	Nenahnezad Chapter House**	13 August 2012	5 to 9 p.m.
Farmington, NM	Farmington Civic Center	14 August 2012	5 to 9 p.m.