



FOUR CORNERS POWER PLANT AND NAVAJO MINE ENERGY PROJECT EIS

PROPOSED ACTIONS AND ALTERNATIVES

The purpose of the proposed actions is to facilitate ongoing operations at the Four Corners Power Plant and on BHP Billiton Navajo Coal Company's Navajo Mine Lease to provide for long-term, reliable, continuous, and uninterrupted base load electrical power to customers in the southwestern U.S. using a reliable and readily available fuel source.

Proposed Actions

Environmental impacts from the following proposed actions will be analyzed in the EIS:

- **Power Plant Lease Amendment** – Extend the Four Corners Power Plant lease to 2041
- **Energy Transmission Lines** – Renew rights-of-way for transmission lines directly connected to the power plant
- **Navajo Mine 2014 Permit Renewal** – Renew the Navajo Mine SMCRA permit, which is due for renewal in 2014
- **New Coal Mine Area** – Develop a new mine area, referred to as the Pinabete Permit area, within the existing Navajo Mine Lease to supply coal to the power plant for up to 25 years, beginning July 2016

Potential Alternatives

Project alternatives currently under consideration include:

- The proposed actions as described
- A no-action alternative, which would result in expiration of the Four Corners Power Plant lease and associated rights-of-way; expiration of the Navajo Mine SMCRA permit; and no new Pinabete permit
- Other reasonable alternatives that may be identified through the NEPA process, including public and agency comments

