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# TransWest Express Transmission Project: Status Update and Technical Capabilities

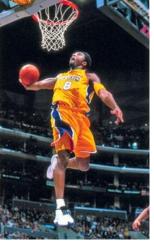


RETI 2.0-Transmission Technical Input Group Workshop Sacramento, CA January 22, 2016

#### **The Anschutz Corporation**





















#### **TWE Project: An Inter-Regional**

#### **Transmission Solution**

- 1,500 MW initial/3,000
   MW final, 600 kV HVDC
  - Wyoming planning areas:
     NTTG, WestConnect
  - Nevada planning areas: CAISO, WestConnect
  - Potential Utah planning areas: NTTG, WestConnect
- Bi-directional operation
- 730-mile route, 66% on federal land
- Potential use of 500 kV AC included in permitting



## Inverted Development Approach Maximizes Design Flexibility

**Development Timeframe** 



**Project Scope Narrows Based on Process** 

Commercial Model Remains Flexible

Permitting

3,000 MW or 1,500 MW AC Wyoming, Utah, Nevada terminals

Design

3,000 MW DC, bi-directional multiple phasing/sizing options Wyoming, Nevada terminals

Path Rating

1,500 MW DC (north to south) Wyoming, Nevada terminals

Commercial

100% unallocated capacity offers multiple options:

- Network expansion
- Inter-regional cost allocation
- Shipper model

# Western Area Power Administration

Joint development partner since 2011

Proposing to participate as a joint project owner

# Rapid Response Team for Transmission

TWE Project selected for special focus under new federal interagency program in 2011

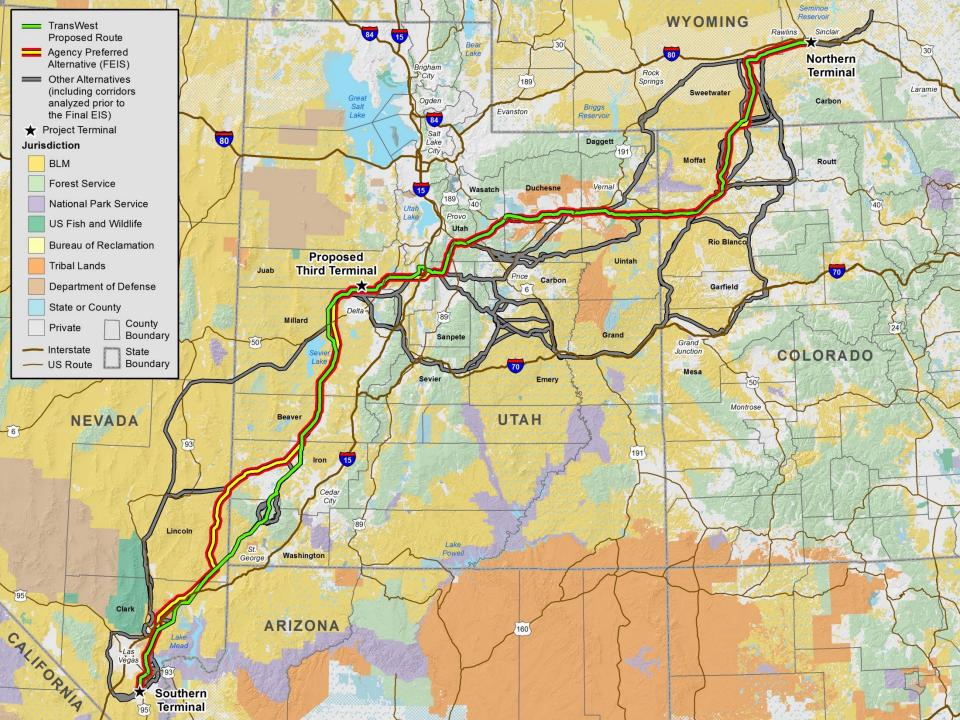
### Advanced Permitting Highlights Project Viability

**Environmental Impact Statement** prepared by BLM and Western as joint lead agencies

- Nov. 30, 2007: Original ROW application filed
- Jan. 4, 2011: Notice of Intent published
- July 3, 2013: Draft EIS published
- May 1, 2015: Final EIS published
- 2016: Records of Decision anticipated

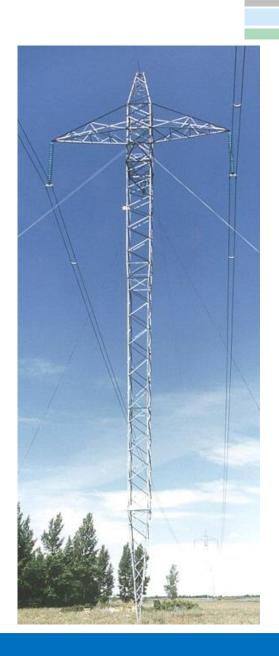
Comprehensive Plan of Development includes flexible Design Options

- Build 600 kV DC or 500 kV AC
- Build mid-terminal in Utah



### TWE Project Design Development Progress

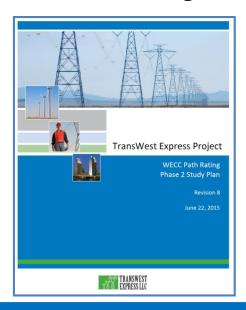
- Design criteria, 3,000 MW bi-directional DC
  - Conductor sizing
  - Structure types
  - Ground electrode
  - Northern terminal system strength
  - Terminal and line siting
  - Interconnections
- Multiple phasing approaches
  - Monopole Bi-pole phasing (1,500/3,000 MW)
  - Bi-pole Bi-pole phasing (1,500-2,500/3,000 MW)
- Technical specifications
- Operations and maintenance plans



### WECC Path Rating and Transmission Interconnection Studies

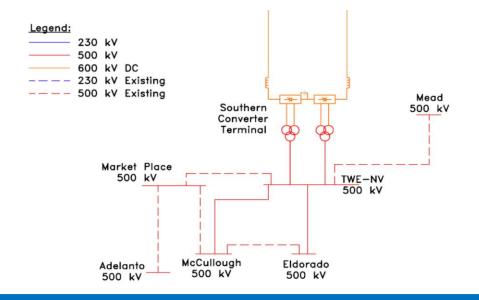
#### Phase 2 Path Rating Process

- Kick-off in 2010, revised Study Plan in 2015
- Seeking initial 1,500 MW north to south Path Rating



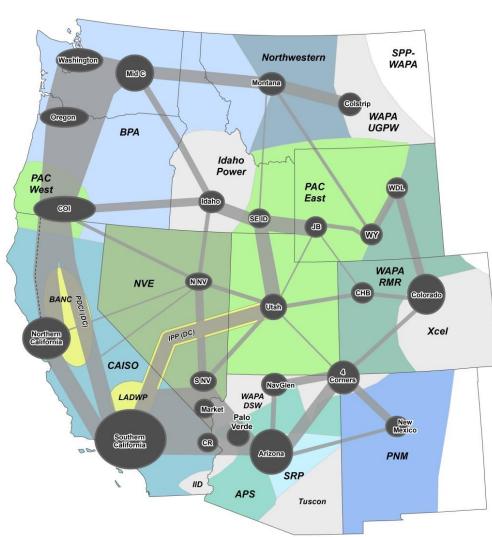
#### **System Impact Studies**

- PacifiCorp = for northern interconnection
- TransWest = for southern interconnections



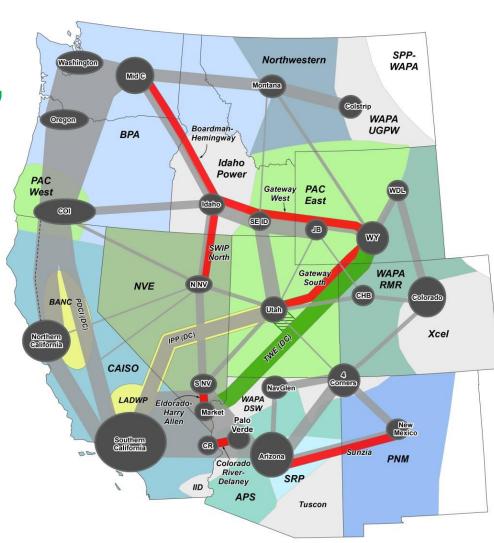
RETI Benefits From Simplified Regional Transmission Capacity Information

- "Pipe diagram" shows bulk of existing transmission capacity built along coast in a "C"
- Limited capacity (<1,000 MW)
   exists between the
   California/Desert Southwest
   and Inter-Mountain regions</li>
- Limited capacity limits regional access to diverse renewable resources <u>and</u> to diverse load areas



### TWE Project Provides A Critical Regional Link

- 3,000 MW TWE Project
   <u>quadruples</u> transmission capacity
   between California-Rocky
   Mountains
- Other 500 kV AC projects complement TWE Project
- Multiple regional expansion alternatives with advanced permitting
- RETI 2.0 may wish to focus on:
  - Maximizing existing regional capacity
  - Maximizing new capacity on permitted ROWs
  - Sequencing expansion between remote resource/load areas and California



### TWE Project Offers a Flexible, Viable, Regional Solution

- TWE Project developed as a Inter-Regional Transmission Project to provide critical capacity between California and Rocky Mountain regions
- Anschutz (dba TransWest) and development partner Western Area
   Power Administration have made significant progress in TWE Project
   permitting, design and power system analysis
- Inverted Development approach has maximized the design flexibility: a 3,000 MW bi-directional DC link between regions, and/or a 1,500 MW AC network addition
- RETI 2.0 benefits from simplified transmission capacity information to consider potential regional transmission/resource combinations





