



# U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Submit by E-mail

Proposed Action Title: Davis-Parker 230kV Transmission Line - Marker Ball(s) Replacement

Program or Field Office: Western Area Power Administration, Desert Southwest Regional Office

Location(s) (City/County/State): Lake Havasu City, Mohave County, Arizona

Proposed Action Description:

Western proposes to install up to ten marker balls on a number of existing line conductor along the Davis-Parker(DAD-PAD) 230kV transmission line located on Bureau of Land Management (BLM), State, and private lands at Lake Havasu City, Mohave County, AZ. The purpose of the project is to replace marker balls which have become damaged, lost, and worn due to age and weather. The preformed orange marker balls are 20 inches in diameter and will be bolted on to the conductors with the use of a bucket truck. Access will be via existing public and service roads. Road maintenance and pad work will be required in at least five locations. Equipment used on site may consist of bucket truck, pickup truck, and tracked dozer.

The scope of work includes the following;

1. Section 23, Township 14N, Range 20W:

Structure 48-1 - 48-2: Access via Chenoweth Drive and existing gravel road. Narrow portions of the access road will require earthwork.

In addition, temporary access will be required from the existing access road down a wash for about 150 feet. An equipment pad approximately 15 feet by 15 feet will be required in the wash below the marker ball in order to provide a level surface and staging area for the bucket truck.

2. Section 15, Township 14N, Range 20W:

Structure 47-3 - 47-4: Access via Victoria Farm Road and private property. No earthwork is required in this location.

See Continuation Sheet and Special Conditions.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

B1.3 - Routine maintenance

For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see Subpart D of [10 CFR Part 1021](#).

Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410(b): (See full text in regulation)

The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D.

To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1B), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA Compliance Officer: 

Date Determined: 12-17-13

Western Area Power Administration, Davis-Parker 230kV Transmission  
Line – Marker(s) Ball Replacement  
Continuation Sheet

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**Project Description (Continued)**

3. Section 15, Township 14N, Range 20W:  
Structure 47-2 - 47-3: Access via Whelan Drive to northeast of city landfill. Portions of the existing access will require repairs. An equipment pad approximately 15 feet by 20 feet will need to be bladed and leveled to provide access and staging for a bucket truck.
4. Section 15, Township 14N, Range 20W:  
Structure 47-1 - 47-2: Access via Whelan Drive to gravel road. No earthwork is required in this location.
5. Section 15, Township 14N, Range 20W:  
Structure 46-6 - 47-1: Access via Whelan Drive to gravel road near N. Havasu Substation. No earthwork is required in this location
6. Section 9, Township 14N, Range 20W:  
Structure 45-4 - 46-1: Access via N. Havasu Substation access road. No earthwork is required in this location.
7. Section 9, Township 14N, Range 20W:  
Structure 44-2 - 44-3: Access via Craig Wash Camping road. No earthwork is required in this location.

**Special Conditions**

*Biological Resources*

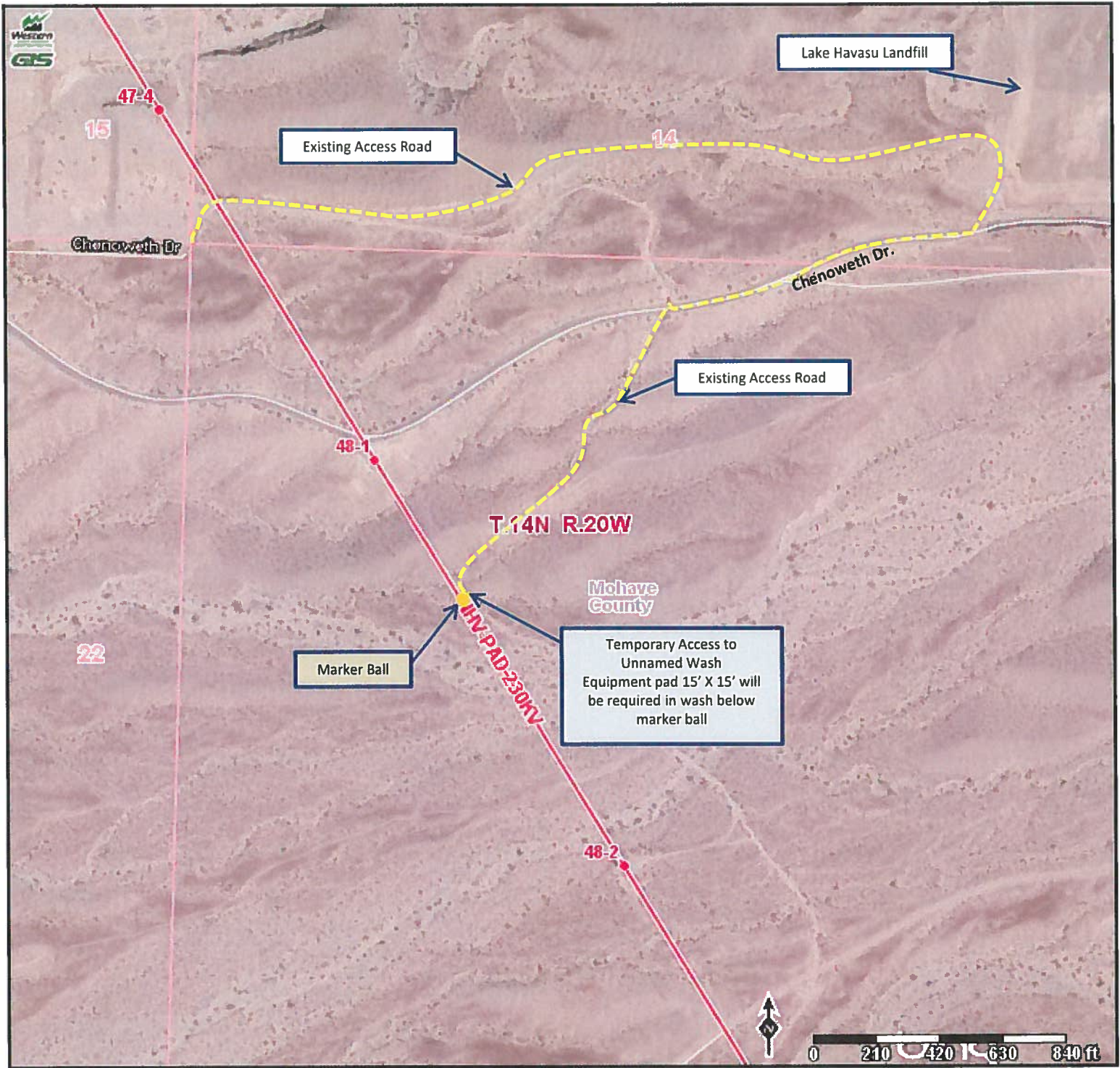
1. No project activities will take place in the vicinity of a desert tortoise. All workers shall regularly check the project area, including beneath vehicles and equipment, for desert tortoise. At any time a desert tortoise is seen within or near any work area (including access roads, turnouts, staging areas, etc.), the project supervisor will be immediately notified and the tortoise allowed to leave the work area on its own. If a tortoise is located in imminent harm's way, Western Environmental Group (602-605-2640) will be contacted immediately. Desert tortoises may only be handled or moved by personnel as approved by Western Environmental Group, per the AGFD Guidelines for Handling Desert Tortoises (2007).
2. Project activities will be scheduled between August 1 and February 15, as feasible. Project activities involving vegetation disturbance or removal occurring during the breeding bird season (February 16-July 31) will be subject to pre-construction surveys by a qualified biologist. Project activities may not disturb an active bird nest. If an active bird nest is located on or adjacent to the project area, the biologist will designate and flag an appropriate buffer area around the nest where activities will not be permitted.
3. If bighorn sheep are observed in the project area, they will not be approached. Bighorn sheep will be allowed to leave the area on their own.

Checklist for Categorical Exclusion Determination, revised Nov. 2011

<b>Application of Categorical Exclusions (1021.410)</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
(b)(1) The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in appendix A or B to subpart D.		X	
(b)(2) There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal, including, but not limited to, scientific controversy about the environmental effects of the proposal; uncertain effects or effects involving unique or unknown risks; and unresolved conflicts concerning alternate uses of available resources		X	
(b)(3) The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. Segmentation can occur when a proposal is broken down into small parts in order to avoid the appearance of significance of the total action. The scope of a proposal must include the consideration of connected and cumulative actions, that is, the proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or § 1021.211 of this part concerning limitations on actions during EIS preparation.		X	
<b>B. Conditions that are Integral Elements of the Classes of Actions in Appendix B. :</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>UNKNOWN</b>
(1) Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders.	X		
(2) Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities;	X		
(3) Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases;	X		
(4) Have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources. An environmentally sensitive resource is typically a resource that has been identified as needing protection through Executive Order, statute, or regulation by Federal, state, or local government, or a federally recognized Indian tribe. An action may be categorically excluded if, although sensitive resources are present, the action would not have the potential to cause significant impacts on those resources (such as construction of a building with its foundation well above a sole-source aquifer or upland surface soil removal on a site that has wetlands). Environmentally sensitive	X		

	resources include, but are not limited to:			
(i)	Property (such as sites, buildings, structures, and objects) of historic, archaeological, or architectural significance designated by a Federal, state, or local government, or property determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places;	X		
(ii)	Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or their habitat (including critical habitat) or Federally- proposed or candidate species or their habitat (Endangered Species Act); state-listed or state-proposed endangered or threatened species or their habitat; Federally-protected marine mammals and Essential Fish Habitat (Marine Mammal Protection Act; Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act); and otherwise Federally-protected species (such as under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act or the Migratory Bird Treaty Act);	X		
(iii)	Floodplains and wetlands (as defined in 10 CFR 1022.4, —Compliance with Floodplain and Wetland Environmental Review Requirements: “Definitions,” or its successor);	X		
(iv)	Areas having a special designation such as Federally- and state-designated wilderness areas, national parks, national monuments, national natural landmarks, wild and scenic rivers, state and Federal wildlife refuges, scenic areas (such as National Scenic and Historic Trails or National Scenic Areas), and marine sanctuaries;	X		
(v)	Prime or unique farmland, or other farmland of statewide or local importance, as defined at 7 CFR 658.2(a), —Farmland Protection Policy Act: Definitions,   or its successor;	X		
(vi)	Special sources of water (such as sole-source aquifers, wellhead protection areas, and other water sources that are vital in a region); and	X		
(vii)	Tundra, coral reefs, or rain forests.; or	X		
(5)	Involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those of the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institutes of Health.	X		

# DADPAD 230kV Transmission Line Structure 48-1 - 48-2



## Legend

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## Map Parameters

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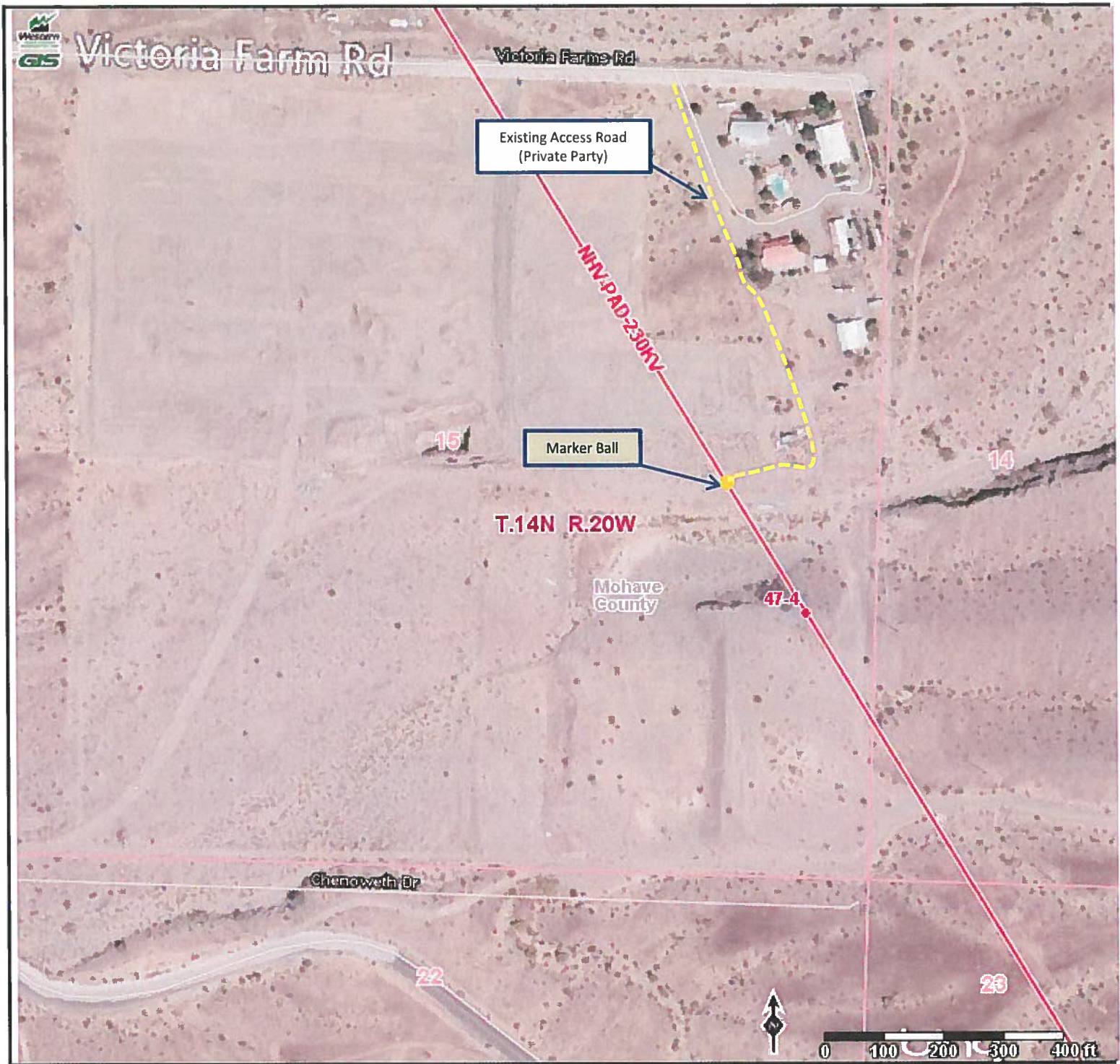
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# DADPAD 230kV Transmission Line Structure 47-3 - 47-4



## Legend

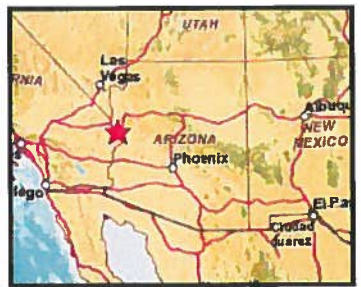
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## Map Parameters

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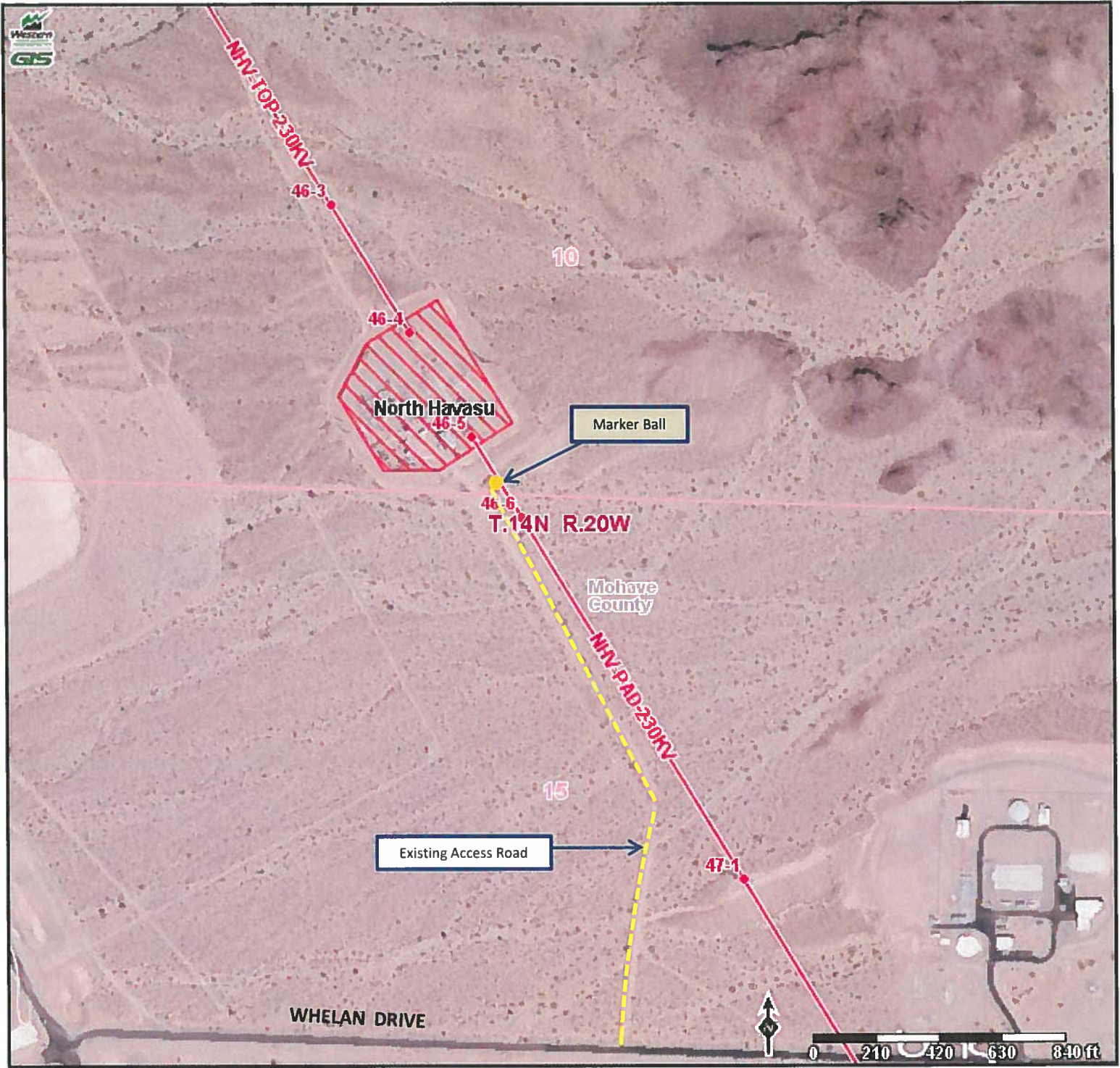
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# DADPAD 230kV Transmission Line Structure 46-6 - 47-1



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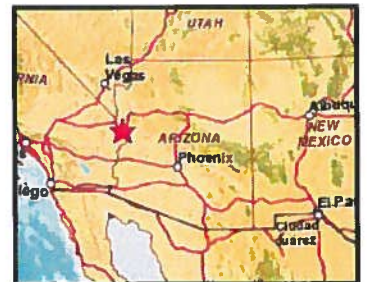
## Map Parameters

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# DADPAD 230kV Transmission Line Structure 45-4 - 46-1



## Legend

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## Map Parameters

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