



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Phoenix Area Office  
6150 West Thunderbird Road  
Glendale, AZ 85306-4001

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
PXA0-1500  
2.1.4.17

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Subject: Notice of Public Scoping for an Environmental Assessment on the Fria Grid Battery Energy Storage System Project in Maricopa County, Arizona (action by 30 days from the date of this memorandum)

Dear Interested Party:

The United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) as required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (Public Law 91-190) that would consider the impacts of Reclamation's approval of the interconnection of the Fria Grid Battery Energy Storage System Project (Project) to the Navajo Southern Transmission System (NSTS) at the Westwing substation operated by Arizona Public Service (APS).

Reclamation is part owner of the NSTS, and all interconnection requests for the NSTS that result in a Large Generator Interconnection Agreement must be approved by Reclamation's Lower Colorado Region, Regional Director. Reclamation is requesting public input to help identify issues and concerns associated with the proposed interconnection.

## **Project Location**

The proposed Project is located on private land approximately 0.75 mile south of the Happy Valley Road and 119th Avenue intersection in an unincorporated Maricopa County, Arizona (Figure 1).

## **Project Background**

The proposed Project is a renewable energy project consisting of a utility-scale battery energy storage system located on private land. The proposed Project would interconnect up to 300 megawatts of energy storage capacity to the NSTS, via a proposed 230-kilovolt generation interconnection line to the APS Westwing Substation.

## **Project Description**

The major components of the Project include the following:

- Generation interconnection line to APS Westwing substation
- Project battery energy storage system, collection lines, and step-up substation
- Internal access roads

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INTERIOR REGION 8 • LOWER COLORADO BASIN

ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA\*, NEVADA\*

\* PARTIAL

Reclamation has determined that an EA is the appropriate level of review under NEPA. The EA will evaluate the impacts of the proposed action on the human and natural environments. As part of this EA process, Reclamation is seeking your participation in identifying any potential issues or concerns with the proposed activity. This information will be used to analyze the environmental impacts of the Project and prepare the EA. To be most helpful, comments should be as specific as possible and related to the activities of the proposed project. Please be aware that by law, your name, address, and other personal identifying information may be made publicly available at any time. Individuals may request that their personal identifying information be withheld from public review by stating so prominently at the beginning of your comment. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so; however, we will honor your request to the extent allowable by law. All comments from organizations or businesses will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

Comments should be submitted via mail to Bureau of Reclamation, ATTN: Fria Grid Battery Storage System Project, 6150 West Thunderbird Road Glendale, AZ 85306-4001; via fax to (623) 773-6480; or via email to [friagridprojectea@swca.com](mailto:friagridprojectea@swca.com). Comments should be submitted no later than 30 days from the date of this notice. For additional information regarding this notice, please contact Jeremy Welch, Natural Resource Specialist, at (623) 773-6257 or via email at [jwelch@usbr.gov](mailto:jwelch@usbr.gov). Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunication relay services.

Sincerely,

Alexander B. Smith  
Area Manager

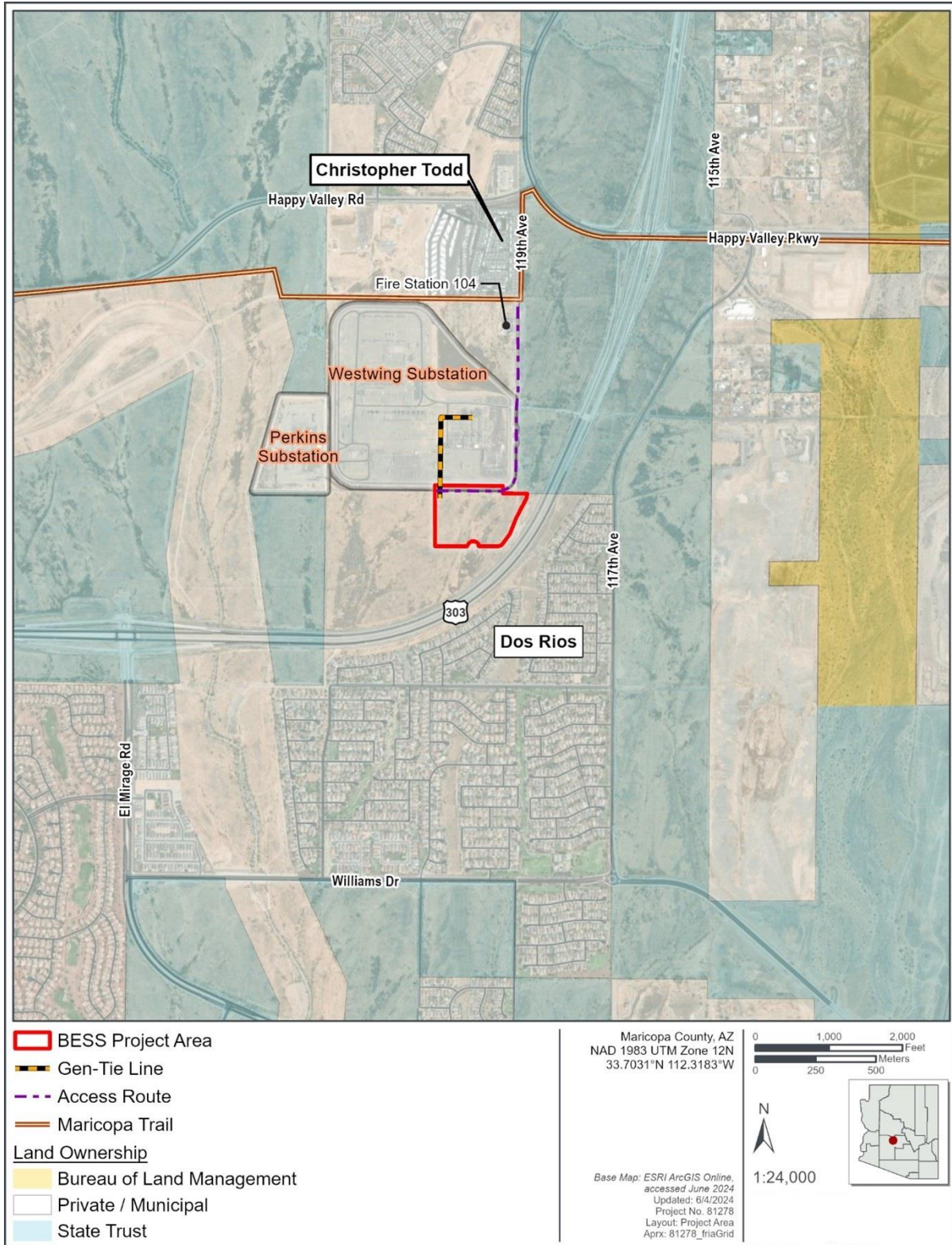


Figure 1. Fria Grid Battery Energy Storage System Project.