

Power Plant & Transmission Siting

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Power Plant & Transmission Line Siting Committee

- Membership & Role

- Directors of ADEQ, ADWR, Energy Office
- Representative of Chairman of ACC
- 6 members appointed by ACC; cities, counties, agriculture 3 at large members
- Designee of Attorney General is Chairman
- Holds hearings on applications, creates a record for the ACC, issues or denies a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility.

Statutory Jurisdiction

- “Plant” = each separate thermal, electric, nuclear or hydroelectric generating unit with a nameplate rating of 100 MW or more.
- “Transmission Line” = Series of new structures erected above ground, supporting one or more conductors at voltages of 115 KV or higher.

Criteria used to evaluate projects

- Existing Plans at or near project
- Fish, wildlife, plant life
- Noise emission, communication interference
- Accessibility for public recreation
- Scenic, historic, cultural, archaeological sites
- Total environment of the area
- Technical practicability of achieving objectives
- Estimated costs proposed, costs as recommended by Committee
- Special Consideration for areas of biological wealth or habitat of rare endangered species
- Any Additional factors required by Federal or State

Siting Process

- 90 days before filing application for a plant, must file a plan with ACC with required information. Transmission line must file a 10 year plan by Jan 31 each year.
- Application must be prepared in accordance with Rules, which prescribes contents, and order in which information is provided.
- Formal process, in statutes and rules.
- Informal process*, for efficiency.

Role of ACC

- Reviews record created by Siting Committee.
- Balances, in the broad public interest the need for an **adequate, economical & reliable** supply of electric power with desire to minimize the effects on the environment and ecology of the state. Approves/disapproves Certificate.
- Recent areas of special interest by ACC; water use, (dry cooling) air quality impacts, natural gas supply, impact to existing residential developments, notice to potential developers, future residents, two lines,
- no RAS

Practical Tips

- This is a “political” process.

Local jurisdictions, community leaders, support from others in industry.

Keep staff and ACC informed.

Articulate **benefits to ARIZONA.**

Use consultants, attorneys with **AZ experience.**

- Research recent decisions by Committee/Commission.
- Coordinate federal actions with state process.
- Clearly articulate the “need” for the project.
- Have some “voluntary conditions” to propose in CEC.

Useful Citations

- Statutes : AARS 40-360 - 360.13
<http://www.azleg.gov/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp?Title=40>
- Rules A. A. C.R14-3-201 – 220
http://www.azsos.gov/public_services/rules.htm
- http://www.cc.state.az.us/AZ_Power_Plant/