

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Sandoval County Communications Tower and Shelter, Sandoval County, New Mexico

Homeland Security Grant Program
Project # 2012-SS-00097 (14436)

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BMP	Best Management Practices
CDCP	Center for Disease Control and Prevention
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
CZMP	State Coastal Zone Management Plans
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EJ	Environmental Justice
EO	Executive Order
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FPPA	Farmland Protection Policy Act
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
HSGP	Homeland Security Grant Program
ICIP	Infrastructure and Capital Improvement Plan
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NWI	National Wetland Inventory
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PM10	Particulate matter
RF	Radio Frequency
RME	Rocky Mountain Ecology LLC
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
THPO	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
UTM	Universal Transverse Mercator
USFWS	United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WOUS	Waters of the United States

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Sandoval County has been awarded \$116,394.50, under Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Grant Program (HSGP) funding application number 2012-SS-00097 (14436). The funding would support relocation of an existing 180-foot self-supporting lattice communications tower, construction of the necessary support foundation, excavation activities, connection to adjacent utilities, construction of a fence around the perimeter, and placement of a generator to the premises. The project site is located in the Village of Corrales, New Mexico (Figure 1). This communications tower will provide critical assistance to emergency personnel during natural disaster and national emergencies. The project will be referred to as Angel Tower for the remainder of this document.

The HSGP funding would be combined with approximately \$150,000 in New Mexico Infrastructure and Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) funds that the Village of Corrales received. The ICIP funding and in-kind funding from the Village of Corrales would also support location of two water tanks, drilling a well, and construction of a well building within the project area (Figure 4 – Site Sketch). These facilities will not be funded with monies from HSGP.

The project is a cooperative effort between the Village of Corrales, City of Rio Rancho, Sandoval County, Town of Bernalillo, and Bernalillo County. The Village of Corrales is providing the land, and the City of Rio Rancho is providing a 180-foot tower that was located at Rio Rancho Station 5. Moreover, these entities, including the Town of Bernalillo would move equipment that is currently installed elsewhere to this location. Sandoval County would abandon an existing communication site at Barbara Loop in Rio Rancho that is privately owned, and relocate that infrastructure to the proposed site in Corrales. The Town of Bernalillo will relocate equipment from a site at United States Highway 550 (US 550) and Paseo de Vulcan in Rio Rancho to the Angel Tower.

The project has been approved by the Corrales Planning and Zoning Department (Appendix F). Moreover, agency consultations have occurred, and letters have been mailed to local residents and businesses that could be impacted by the Proposed Action (Appendix F).

This site would improve communications and result in financial savings for all agencies involved. Moreover, in the case of a power outage, the generator would keep the site working to provide public safety response to citizens. In addition, part of the site capability will be to facilitate interoperability communications service for agencies located within the geographical area ranging from the Pueblo of Isleta to the Pueblo of Cochiti. The new communication site will enable radio communication (both operable and interoperable)

during geographically large incidents (i.e., wildfire, river rescue, winter weather, mass casualty incidents, terrorism, etc.)

The DHS-FEMA has specified that HSGP-funded projects must be used for projects that would improve communications in areas at high risk for natural disasters and in urban and metropolitan areas at high risk for threats of terrorism, and should include pre-positioning or securing of interoperable communications for immediate deployment during emergencies or major disasters.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that federal agencies evaluate the environmental consequences of proposed actions before deciding to fund an action. This Environmental Assessment (EA) provides the evidence and analysis to determine whether the proposed federal action will have a significant adverse effect on the human environment. An EA related to a FEMA program must be prepared according to the requirements of the Stafford Act and 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 10. This section of the Federal Code requires that FEMA take environmental considerations into account when authorizing funding or approving actions. FEMA will use the findings in this EA to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

2.0 PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of the project is to construct a communications site that will enhance interoperability and coverage for all agencies in the area. The project is needed because the existing locales lack coverage and are not on government owned land. The proposed tower location would eliminate at least two other sites and increase coverage. Equipment will be moved from the Barbara Loop site in Rio Rancho which houses repeaters for County Law Enforcement and Fire along with Corrales and Sandia Pueblo; and the US 550 site, which houses repeaters for the Town of Bernalillo. The coverage will support operability and interoperability communications for a wide geographic area, while reducing environmental impact with less sites.

3.0 ALTERNATIVES

3.1 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the No-Action Alternative, the proposed project would not be constructed. No adverse environmental impacts are anticipated with the No-Action Alternative. The project stakeholders would continue to rely on existing communication infrastructure which does not provide sufficient coverage throughout the region. This would leave emergency response unchanged and results in a lower level of overall public safety. The lack of adequate communication directly impacts command, control, rescue, event analysis, and

other critical operations. The No Action Alternative would not address the needs for Sandoval County, Bernalillo County, nor the Village of Corrales and City of Rio Rancho, New Mexico.

3.2 PROPOSED ACTION ALTERNATIVE

The Proposed Action consists of construction of a 180-foot self-supporting lattice communications tower and associated equipment compound. The funding would support relocation of a presently constructed 180-foot self-supporting lattice communications tower to the proposed site, construction of the necessary support foundation, excavation activities, connection to adjacent utilities, construction of a fence around the perimeter, and location of a generator to the premises. The project site is located in the Village of Corrales, New Mexico (Figures 1-3).

The HSGP funding would be combined with approximately \$150,000 in New Mexico ICIP funds that the Village of Corrales received. The ICIP funding and in-kind funding from the Village of Corrales will also support location of two water tanks, drilling a well, and construction of a well building within the project area (Figure 4 – Site Sketch). These facilities will not be funded with monies from HSGP.

The communications tower would be a 3-legged structure with a face width of approximately 14 feet. The Proposed Action would be sited at 002 Quiet Lane, Corrales, NM 87048 (35.254415,-106.631989). Existing driveway access is located on the property, thus temporary construction easements would not be needed. The utility trench would start at the southeast corner of the property and go west along the south boundary until it reaches the eastern edge of the water tank project, approximately 30 feet from the west boundary. It would then go north to furnish electricity to the water tank project and the communications site. No other utilities would be necessary.

A proposed fence would begin at the southwest corner of the property and go north past the water tank project along the west boundary of the property to include the communications site. It would be approximately 30 feet X 60 feet with the long axis oriented N-S. Fence posts would be on approximate 10-foot centers and holes would be about 2 ft. deep X 1 ft. in diameter.

The project is a cooperative effort between the Village of Corrales, City of Rio Rancho, Sandoval County and Bernalillo County. The Village of Corrales would provide the land, and the City of Rio Rancho is providing a 180-foot tower that was located at Rio Rancho Station 5. Moreover, these entities, including the Town of Bernalillo would move equipment that is currently installed elsewhere to this location. Sandoval County would abandon an existing communication site at Barbara Loop in Rio Rancho that is privately owned, and relocate that infrastructure to the proposed site in Corrales. The infrastructure would enable

installation and operation of wireless communications antennae to provide integrated emergency communications between federal, state and local agencies.

3.3 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT NOT CARRIED FORWARD

Alternatives to this tower location were considered and found to be either not available or not meeting the required radio frequency (RF) spectrum capabilities of this proposed facility.

Sandoval County explored other collocation opportunities within the required service area for this project. However, no other collocation opportunities meeting the technical requirements for the proposed project were identified. No acceptable alternative technologies have been identified capable of replacing this tower site and associated equipment and capabilities to include RF engineering considerations. These alternatives will not be discussed any further in this EA.

4.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS

The site is located within Southeastern Sandoval County in Township 12 North, Range 3 East of the New Mexico Prime Meridian. It is depicted on the United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute Topographic Quadrangle “Loma Machete, NM” (Figure 2). The project area would be located on property owned by the Village of Corrales. The site is located on a relatively flat locale atop a hill (Figures 2 - 3). The access would be via Quiet Lane (from Angel Road) – no new access road would need to be created. Proposed activities funded with HSGP monies include installation of a 180-foot self-supporting lattice communications tower, antennae, associated cable, trenching, a shelter and a generator. Site photographs are included in Appendix A, and a site sketch is included in Figure 4.

Table 1 - Summary of Disturbances

Action	Acreage of Disturbance	Duration of Disturbance
Construction of a 180-ft communication tower, shelter, installation of a generator and connection with existing utilities.	≤ 0.4	Short-term and long-term

4.1 PHYSICAL RESOURCES

4.1.1 Geology and Soils

The Proposed Action is located within the Albuquerque Basin Subregion of the Arizona/New Mexico Plateau Ecoregion (Griffith et al. 2006). Scattered block-faulted ranges separated by intermountain basins having internal drainage (bolsons) typify the region. The Rio Grande Basin is a broad valley bordered on the east by the Sandia Mountains (elevation - 10,682 ft.) and by West Mesa on the west (elevation - 6036 ft.). The Rio Grande Valley is a rift system filled with Quaternary age alluvial gravels. The basin is filled with thick sediments of mostly Quaternary and some Tertiary age, with a few areas of volcanic rocks and lava-capped mesas. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Web Soil Survey (<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>) was used to describe soils within the project area. Soils in the project area include Sheppard loamy fine sand and Grieta-Sheppard loamy fine sands (USDA-NRCS 2014). The soils within the proposed project area have largely been derived from alluvial and aeolian processes and consist mainly of sands and gravels (USDA-NRCS 2014). The soils in the project area formed mainly in recent alluvium, older unconsolidated alluvium, alluvium modified by wind, alluvial fan and piedmont sediments, or material weathered from granite, schist, basalt, limestone, sandstone, and shale.

The intent of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) (P.L. 97-98, Sec. 1539-1549; 7 U.S.C. §4201, et seq.) is to minimize the impact federal programs have on unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses. The FPPA definition of farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. These definitions include land such as forest land, pasture land, or other land that is not in current production.

The proposed project site is not considered prime farmland, nor does the site harbor hydric soils. Hydric soils are those soils permanently or seasonally saturated by water, resulting in anaerobic conditions, as found in wetlands. The proposed action will not significantly impact soils or geology at the site. The minimal disturbance footprint is less than 0.4 acres. Moreover, construction activity would incorporate best management practices that minimize soil erosion such as minimization of area of disturbance, silt fencing and/or straw bales, and proper staging of equipment (See Table 4 - Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures Mitigation Measures/ Best Management Practices).

Geology and soils would not be impacted by the No Action Alternative, as no construction activities would occur.

4.1.2 Air Quality

Air quality is measured by the concentration of various pollutants in the atmosphere, usually expressed in units of parts per million or micrograms per cubic meter. This area of Sandoval County is not within a non-attainment area for the particulate matter (PM10) 24-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard according to the EPA Greenbook Non-Attainment Areas website (<http://www.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/index.html>).

This project would temporarily impact air quality as a result of fugitive dust and equipment exhaust emissions generated during construction and will impact air quality in the area. However, with the appropriate dust control measures in place, the increased levels should be minimal. With the appropriate control measures in place, this project is not anticipated to contribute to non-attainment of the New Mexico or National Ambient Air Quality Standards or contribute negatively to air quality on a long-term basis.

Best management practices would be used to minimize dust – these include spraying water to minimize dust, and limiting soil disturbance to only those areas absolutely necessary for construction (Table 4).

Air quality would not be impacted by the No Action Alternative as no construction activities would take place and no air emissions would occur.

4.2 WATER RESOURCES

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is responsible for permitting and enforcement functions dealing with building into or discharging dredge or fill material into Waters of the United States (WOUS). USACE regulations for building or working in navigable WOUS are authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. These regulations support Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), which establishes the USACE permit program for discharging dredged or fill material into WOUS.

4.2.1 Surface Water Quality

The CWA, as amended, is the primary federal law in the United States regulating water pollution (P.L. 92–500, 33 U.S.C. §1251). The CWA regulates water quality of all discharges into “waters of the United States.” The CWA also established the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program (Section 402) to regulate and enforce discharges into WOUS. The NPDES permit program focuses on point-source outfalls associated with industrial wastewater and municipal sewage discharges.

The watershed and hydrology in the area are affected by land and water use practices. The degree to which hydrologic processes are affected by land and water use depends on the location, extent, timing, and the type of activity. Factors that currently cause short-lived alterations to the hydrologic regime in the area include residential development, commercial development, and road construction. Surface water within the area is affected by geology, precipitation, and water erosion. Groundwater within the area is affected by geology and precipitation. Factors that can affect groundwater resources in the area include residential development, commercial development, and groundwater pumping. Most of the groundwater in the area is used for commercial or residential purposes.

The project area is located atop a high point. Drainage from the project area, if unimpeded, flows north into the Arroyo de Los Montoyas, and then eastward to the Rio Grande, approximately 1.5 miles east of the project area (Figure 3). The Rio Grande (and its tributaries, including the Arroyo de Los Montoyas) is considered a WOUS.

Potential impacts to surface or groundwater resources would be minimal, given the distance of the nearby water resources from the proposed site. Though the survey size was 1.32 acres, the actual footprint of disturbed area from the tower and associated infrastructure would be less than 0.4 acres. Ephemeral surface water from local rain events could wash down-slope through the project area. Localized decreases in vegetative surface cover could result in increased runoff volume, velocity, and sedimentation within areas with construction activity. Potential contaminant releases from heavy equipment malfunctions, such as fuel or hydraulic fluid leaks, could have adverse impacts to groundwater. However, groundwater quality is not expected to be directly impacted from the Proposed Action. Localized erosion from decreased surface vegetation could increase sedimentation within the project area. Moreover, erosion control measures will be taken by the proponent to prevent soil erosion from leaving the premises during construction. These measures include using silt fence or berms on the down-slope portion of the construction area, minimizing soil disturbance at the site (Table 4).

Water quality would not be impacted by the No Action Alternative as no construction activities would take place and no impacts to water quality would occur.

4.2.2 Wetlands

Under the CWA (40 CFR § 230.3), wetlands are defined as “those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. The site was evaluated for the presence of wetland indicators on 20 March 2014 (i.e., hydrophytic vegetation or wetland hydrology) by Rocky Mountain Ecology LLC (RME). However a formal, wetland delineation was not

conducted because the project area did not show any signs of wetland occurrence, which would warrant a more detailed assessment. The USACE was not contacted, because the project does not fall under their jurisdiction since it would not result in discharge of dredge or fill material into Waters of the U.S. Further, no wetlands exist within the project area based on the findings by RME from their field survey on 20 March 2014; therefore no impacts to wetlands are anticipated.

Information on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI) website was reviewed to determine if any wetlands were delineated on or near the site. No wetlands were depicted on or near the site. (Figure 6)

Wetlands would not be impacted by the No Action Alternative as no construction activities would take place and no impacts to wetlands would occur.

4.2.3 Floodplains

Floodplains provide numerous beneficial environmental functions including flood abatement, stream flow mediation, filtering, and water quality enhancement. Executive Order (EO) 11988, Floodplain Management, requires federal agencies to take action to minimize occupancy and modification of the floodplain.

The project area is located atop a high point. Drainage from the project area flows north into the Arroyo de Los Montoyas, and then eastward to the Rio Grande, approximately 1.5 miles east of the project area (Figure 3). The project area is depicted in Zone X on Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Number 3500941894D, March 18, 2008 (Figure 5). This zone includes “areas of 0.2% annual chance floods; areas of 1% annual chance floods with average depths of less than 1 ft. or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; and areas protected by levees from 1% annual chance floods” (FEMA 2008). No impacts to floodplains would be incurred from the Proposed Action, as the site is located well above the 100-year floodplain.

Under the No Action alternative, construction activities would not take place and there would be no potential impacts to floodplains.

4.3 COASTAL RESOURCES

The Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA) (16 U.S.C. §1451) enables states to determine if activities of governmental agencies are consistent with federally approved State Coastal Zone Management Plans (CZMP). The intent of the CZMA is to prevent any additional loss of living marine resources, wildlife, and nutrient-enriched areas; alterations in ecological systems; and decreases in undeveloped areas available for public use.

The Proposed Action site is located hundreds of miles from any coastal zone. No impacts to coastal resources would be incurred from the Proposed Action.

Under the No Action alternative, construction activities would not take place and there would be no potential impacts to coastal management zones.

4.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

4.4.1 Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habitat

Under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, federal agencies must review proposed actions to ensure they are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or destroy or adversely modify its critical habitat. As defined by the USFWS, “An “endangered” species is one that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. A “threatened” species is one that is likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service Information Planning and Conservation website (ecos.fws.gov/ipac/) (USFWS 2014) was queried for information on federal threatened and/or endangered species (Appendix B. Master Species Lists). A general biological survey and review of the federally listed species on the master species lists for the project area, was conducted by RME on 20 March 2014 (Table 2). The master species lists included federal candidates, proposed, threatened and endangered species, and state threatened or endangered species (Appendix B). Under Section 7 of the ESA of 1973 (as amended), consultation with the USFWS is required on any Proposed Action which may affect federal listed threatened or endangered species or species proposed for listing. An Effects Determination for these species is also presented in Table 2, below. All determinations were of “no effect.”

The USFWS letter response/ species list is included as part of the master species lists (Appendix B).

No potential habitat exists within the project vicinity based on the biological survey and master species lists (Appendix B) for any federally threatened or endangered species. Results from the biological survey indicate a “no effect” determination for all species. Based on the current land use, existing habitat as identified by RME, and the proposed scope of work, FEMA has determined that the proposed project will have “No Effect” on threatened and endangered species. No further consultation with the USFWS is required.

Table 2 USFWS Proposed, Threatened and Endangered Species Evaluated, and Effects Determinations

Species Category	Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Rationale for Elimination for Further Consideration	Status	Effect Determination
BIRD	Southwestern willow flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	Riparian areas with multiple canopy tree structure.	No trees or riparian areas are present within or near the project area.	USFWS Endangered	No effect
CRITICAL HABITAT	Southwestern willow flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	Final – designated	The closest Critical Habitat is more than 20 miles north of the project area within the Rio Grande.	USFWS Endangered	No effect
BIRD	Mexican spotted owl	<i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i>	Old-growth, uneven-aged ponderosa pine or mixed coniferous forests.	The forest types and structure are absent from the project area.	Threatened	No effect
CRITICAL HABITAT	Mexican spotted owl	<i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i>	Final – designated	The closest Critical Habitat is more than 20 miles north of the project in Bandelier National Monument.	USFWS Threatened	No effect
BIRD	Yellow-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Western cuckoos breed in large blocks of riparian habitats, particularly woodlands with cottonwoods (<i>Populus fremontii</i>) and willows (<i>Salix</i> sp.). Dense understory foliage appears to be an important factor in nest site selection.	The project area lacks riparian habitats.	USFWS Proposed Threatened	No effect
MAMMAL	New Mexican meadow jumping mouse	<i>Zapus hudsonius luteus</i>	Riparian areas with a dense grass component.	No riparian areas exist within or adjacent to the project area.	USFWS Proposed Endangered	No effect

Species Category	Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Rationale for Elimination for Further Consideration	Status	Effect Determination
AMPHIBIAN	Jemez mountain salamander	<i>Plethodon neomexicanus</i>	The species is known from various localities in the Jemez Mts. in Sandoval, Los Alamos, and Rio Arriba counties. Specifically, it is found in mixed conifer and spruce-fir forests above 7,200 feet in specific microhabitat conditions. Preferred microhabitat is generally characterized by relatively high humidity and soils with specific rock structure, although populations have been found outside these parameters (BISON-M 2014).	No mixed conifer forests occur within or near the project area.	USFWS Endangered	No effect
FISH	Rio Grande silvery minnow	<i>Hybognathus amarus</i>	Rio Grande and associated tributaries.	No perennial water occurs within the project area.	USFWS Endangered	No effect
CRITICAL HABITAT	Rio Grande silvery minnow	<i>Hybognathus amarus</i>	Final - designated	The closest Critical Habitat is within the Rio Grande, over 3 miles southeast of the project area within the main stem of the Rio Grande.	USFWS Endangered	No effect

4.4.2 Special Status Species

Certain sensitive species not federally listed as threatened or endangered are managed in order to prevent or reduce the need to list them as threatened or endangered in the future. Included in this category are state listed threatened and endangered species, and federal candidate species. A general biological survey and review of special status species on the master species lists for the project area, were conducted by RME on 20 March 2014.

Habitat suitability for special status species with potential to occur within the project areas was evaluated using the New Mexico BISON-M database (BISON-M 2014) and the New Mexico Rare Plant Technical Council website (NMRPTC 1999).

No special status species or their breeding habitats are known to occur within the project area, due to the completely developed nature of the site. Minimal, potential impacts to foraging habitats only, could occur, and are described above in Table 3.

Table 3 Special Status Species: NMDGF State Threatened, Endangered, and USFWS Candidate Species Evaluated

Species Category	Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Rationale for Elimination for Further Consideration	Status	Determination
BIRD	Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus alascanus (NM)</i>	Impoundments, dam spillways, and lakes among other types. Nest in forested areas.	Few trees exist within the project area. No perennial water occurs. The greater project area is dominated by structures and residences and contains no suitable habitat.	State NM: Threatened	No impact
BIRD	Common black hawk	<i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i>	Desert Riparian Deciduous Woodland, Marsh. Woodlands, especially of cottonwoods, that occur where desert streams provide sufficient moisture for a narrow band of trees and shrubs along the margins (BISON-M 2014). Breeding common black-hawks require mature, well-developed riparian forest stands (e.g., cottonwood bosques) that are located near permanent streams where principal prey species are available (BISON-M 2014).	No trees or well-developed riparian forests exist within or near the project area. The project area is dominated by structures and residences and contains no suitable habitat.	State NM: Threatened	No impact
BIRD	Southwestern willow flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	See above	See above	State NM: Endangered	See Table 2, above

Species Category	Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Rationale for Elimination for Further Consideration	Status	Determination
BIRD	Baird's sparrow	<i>Ammodramus bairdii</i>	Desert grasslands, short-grass prairies. This grassland species winters in New Mexico and further south. It is considered rare to uncommon in New Mexico. The species has not been documented breeding in New Mexico.	The species is very rare in NM, and the project area is unlikely to support this species based on the lack of desert grasslands, and short-grass prairie habitat.	State NM: Threatened	No impact
BIRD	Peregrine falcon/ Arctic peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum/ tundrius</i>	Steep, sheer cliffs overlooking woodlands, riparian areas or other habitats supporting avian prey species in abundance. Nearest cliffs are more than 3 miles north.	No steep, or sheer cliffs overlooking woodlands occur within or near the project area. The surrounding area could provide foraging habitat, though no nesting habitat exists. No impacts to populations or the species are anticipated.	State NM: Threatened	No impact
MAMMAL	Marten, American	<i>Martes americana origenes (NM)</i>	Spruce-fir forests and some alpine habitat in the San Juan and Sangre de Cristo mountains. This species prefers mesic coniferous forests in late-successional stages.	No trees exist within the project area. No spruce-fir or alpine habitat exists within or near the project area.	State NM: Threatened	No impact

Species Category	Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Rationale for Elimination for Further Consideration	Status	Determination
MAMMAL	Spotted bat	<i>Euderma maculatum</i>	This species occupies a wide range of habitats including pinyon-juniper and ponderosa pine-dominated systems and are generally within a mile of cliffs or caves. These bats are cliff dwellers and generally use diurnal roosts within cracks and crevices of cliffs.	None of the preferred habitats occur within or near the project area. No cliffs or caves are near the project area.	State NM: Threatened	No impact
FISH	Rio Grande cutthroat trout	<i>Oncorhynchus clarki virginalis</i>	Cold-water rivers and streams in New Mexico and Colorado.	Perennial streams do not occur within or adjacent to the project area.	USFWS Candidate	No impact

4.4.3 Migratory Birds

The USFWS has developed voluntary recommendations regarding communications tower siting, construction, operation, and decommissioning. A copy of the USFWS communications tower siting, construction, operation, and decommissioning recommendations are included in Appendix E. Moreover, recommendations in the USFWS letter response (Appendix B) indicate that “we recommend construction activities occur outside the general bird nesting season from March through August, or that areas proposed for construction during the nesting season be surveyed, and when occupied, avoided until the young have fledged.”

Migratory birds and occupied nests are protected by the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. Removal of active nests would require a permit from the USFWS. Common migratory birds, which may use the area as habitat, include various species of song birds, owls, ravens, hawks, finches, doves, thrashers, and meadowlarks.

The Proposed Action could have the following direct and indirect impacts to migratory birds in the project area. No direct impacts of site development on raptors such as hawks are expected; they would probably forage within less developed habitat west of the City. No raptor nests were observed during field surveys, and no loss of raptor nesting habitat is expected. No nesting strata for raptors exists within or near the project area. The habitat quality of the project area is poor and minimal suitable nesting habitat exists within the project area, based on the general biological survey conducted by Shawn C. Knox of Rocky Mountain Ecology on 20 March 2014.

Construction of the proposed tower will enable two existing tower sites in the greater area to be abandoned, thus decreasing the total number of obstacles for migratory birds. Moreover, the tower height of less than 199 ft. is a design feature specifically chosen to further reduce impacts to migratory birds.

Under the No Action alternative, construction activities would not take place and there would be no potential impacts to migratory birds.

4.4.4 Vegetation and Noxious Weeds

A general biological survey of the project area was conducted by RME on 20 March 2014. The project area is located within a zone that harbors plant species indicative of two vegetative communities, Chihuahuan Desert Scrub and Plains-Mesa Sand Scrub (Dick-Peddie 1993). Dominant species throughout the project area consist of sand sage (*Artemisia filifolia*), fourwing saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*), desert joint fir (*Ephedra trifurca*), Indian ricegrass (*Achnatherum hymenoides*), and sand dropseed (*Sporobolus*

cryptandrum). In disturbed areas, tansy mustard (*Descuriana pinnata*), globemallow (*Sphaeralcea* spp.), and silverleaf nightshade (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*) are common. Other species less common, but distributed throughout the project area include ring muhly (*Muhlenbergia torreyi*), fluffgrass (*Dasyochloa pulchella*), prairie prickley pear (*Opuntia polykantha*), and redstem filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*).

Direct impacts to the vegetation present on the project sites include the removal of less than 0.4 acres. Much of the site has been previously disturbed and does not harbor an intact, diverse plant community. Re-establishment of grasses, forbs and shrubs could take several years after reclamation. An indirect impact of removing the vegetative cover is the increased potential for colonization of the sites by aggressive, non-native species. However, no noxious weeds as defined by the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) on their Noxious Weed List (NMDA 2009) were located on the site.

The construction site would be accessed utilizing existing roads, and no new roads would be created. To accelerate the reestablishment of native vegetation immediately after construction is complete, the area would be reseeded with a native seed mix. This mitigation measure has been incorporated into Table 4.

4.4.5 Wildlife & Fish

Wildlife in the vicinity of the project area includes various small mammals, diverse avifauna, reptiles, amphibians, and big game species (Brown and Lowe 1980). Wildlife typical of the general area include coyotes (*Canis latrans*), desert cottontails (*Sylvilagus audubonii*), kangaroo rats (*Dipodomys* spp.), common ravens (*Corvus corax*), turkey vultures (*Cathartes aura*), swallows (*Hirundo* spp.), mourning doves (*Zenaida macroura*), western kingbirds (*Tyrannus verticalis*), red-tailed hawks (*Buteo jamaicensis*), bull snakes (*Pituophis catenifer sayi*), and whiptail lizards (*Cnemidophorus* spp.). Avifauna observed during the site visit include a Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsonii*), turkey vultures, common ravens, western kingbirds, mockingbirds (*Mimus polyglottos*), scaled quail (*Callipepla squamata*), mourning doves (*Zenaida macroura*), meadowlarks (*Sturnella neglecta*), and horned larks (*Eremophila alpestris*). Other wildlife observed include black-tailed jackrabbits (*Lepus californicus*), desert cottontails and whiptail lizards.

No bird nests were observed during the field survey. Wildlife species are expected to avoid the project area during construction, although some incidental mortality of animals could occur. Effects on wildlife are expected to be minor and temporary.

The Proposed Action could have the following direct and indirect impacts to wildlife in the project area. Minimal loss of wildlife habitat could occur through destruction of mammal, reptile, and amphibian burrows during site preparation grading activities. However, direct

mortality of the ground dwelling mammals, reptiles, and amphibians would likely be minimal. No large mammals utilize the project area due to its developed nature and thus no impacts to those species are anticipated. No direct impacts of site development on raptors such as hawks are expected; they would probably forage within less developed habitat west of the City. No raptor nests were observed during field surveys, and no loss of raptor nesting habitat is expected. No migratory bird survey is recommended as the habitat quality of the project area is poor and minimal suitable nesting habitat exists within the project area. Finally, construction of the proposed tower will enable two existing tower sites in the greater area to be abandoned, thus decreasing the total number of obstacles for special status migratory birds.

4.5 CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

4.5.1 Historic Properties

A consultation letter, dated May 5, 2014, was submitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Also, on March 11, 2014, Hammerstone Archaeological Services conducted a Class III cultural resource survey of the site for the proposed communications site. During the course of the survey, no cultural resource sites or isolated occurrences were encountered. No further archaeological investigations were recommended.

As there are no identified archaeological resources located within the project area, FEMA has made a determination of “No Historic Properties Affected” for the proposed undertaking. SHPO concurrence with this determination was received, dated June 6, 2014 (Appendix C). Cultural Resource mitigation measures are included in Table 4. In the event that archeological deposits, including any Native American pottery, stone tools, bones, or human remains, are uncovered, the project shall be halted and the applicant shall stop all work immediately in the vicinity of the discovery and take reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. All archeological findings will be secured and access to the sensitive area restricted. The applicant will inform FEMA immediately and FEMA will consult with the SHPO or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) and Tribes and work in sensitive areas cannot resume until consultation is completed and appropriate measures have been taken to ensure that the project is in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

Under the No Action alternative, construction activities would not take place and there would be no potential impacts to cultural and historic resources.

4.6 SOCIOECONOMIC RESOURCES

Impacts to minority and low-income communities are given special consideration under Executive Order 12898, Environmental Justice (EJ), and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. These seek to avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects on minority populations and low-income populations, and ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the decision-making process.

At the time of the last official U.S. census, the project area (including a 4 square mile radius) had a population of approximately 64,520, people (U.S. Census Bureau 2010, 2012).

The social demographics of the project area include a population in which 24 percent of the population over 25 years of age has achieved earning a high school diploma, and 35 percent has earned a bachelor's degree. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, approximately 5.9 percent of families within the Village of Corrales live below the poverty level, which is less than the state average at 23.5 percent (<http://www.city-data.com/city/Corrales-New-Mexico.html>) (City-data 2014).

Improvements under the Proposed Action will not negatively affect socioeconomic conditions. Installation of the proposed communication tower would improve conditions for the Village and surrounding areas. The proposed work would improve safety throughout, via more reliable emergency communications. The Proposed Action would not result future growth. Finally, no residents or businesses would be relocated as a result of the Proposed Action.

Under the No Action alternative, no improvements to emergency communication levels would occur within the project area.

4.6.1 Environmental Justice

Impacts to minority and low-income communities are given special consideration under Executive Order 12898, EJ and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. These seek to avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects on minority populations and low-income populations, and ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the decision-making process.

A review of the above-referenced project, focusing specifically on environmental justice issues within proximity of the proposed project, was conducted (Appendix D). The web tool

used for this analysis, was EJView, found at: <http://epamap14.epa.gov/ejmap/entry.html> (EPA 2014).

Approximately 43 percent of the population within the 4.0 mile radius of the proposed project is a minority (Appendix D), with most of that Hispanic in origin. The project vicinity is predominately of white ethnicity. The primary beneficiaries of the proposed communication site would be white and Hispanic residents that live and work in the area. The project would benefit both white and minority residents within the greater project area. Moreover, the project would not result in disproportionate, negative impacts to minorities in the project area.

Under the No Action Alternative, Sandoval County would continue to rely on existing communication infrastructure, which does not provide sufficient coverage throughout the area. Lack of adequate communication directly impacts command, control, rescue, event analysis, and other critical operations.

4.6.2 Noise

The project site is located within 1,500 ft. of New Mexico State Highway 528 (NM 528), with vehicular traffic, the predominant noise. According to the League for the Hard of Hearing (LHH 2004), a normal, quiet residential area has a noise level of approximately 40 decibels. A residential area near heavy traffic has a noise level of 85 decibels. The noise level of heavy machinery is approximately 120 decibels. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP), "Noise-induced hearing loss can result from a one-time exposure to a very loud sound (at or above 120 decibels), blast, impulse, or by listening to loud sounds (at or above 85 decibels) over an extended period" (<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/noise/signs.htm>) (CDCP 2013).

The anticipated work force for the Proposed Action would range from 5 – 10 personnel, and supervisors throughout the duration of the project. The proposed construction activities would involve standard construction equipment including, but not limited to backhoes, excavators, front end loaders, bulldozers, dump trucks, compaction equipment, and water trucks.

Local residents in the vicinity of the proposed site may be affected by noise from heavy equipment during the construction process, an adverse, direct impact. The increase in noise during construction activities would be low, and temporary, and end when construction is complete. No long-term noise impacts would be incurred by the Proposed Action. However, construction activities would be limited between 7am and 5pm every day, to minimize noise effects upon local residents.

Under the No Action alternative, construction activities would not take place and there would be no potential impacts to noise.

4.6.3 Traffic/Transportation Network

Construction-related activities, heavy equipment and materials that may be needed for site access and site preparation would not pose a significant impact to the transportation network or cause a significant increase in traffic for the area. The project site, located at the end of Angel Road on a side street (i.e., Quiet Lane), is within a relatively low-traffic area. Construction of the Proposed Action would require numerous truck trips to haul materials to the project site. The number of construction-related trips would range from 10-20 large trucks. The proposed tower site is a 180-foot self-support tower, with a surface impact less than 0.40 acres in size; therefore the traffic impact is expected to be very low.

Potential impacts to transportation and traffic are expected to be low, provided appropriate planning and implementation actions are taken. Existing roads would be used to transport all materials to the site. There would be no significant impact to transportation networks or traffic from construction-related activities. After construction is complete, only 1 to 2 vehicles or light trucks will access the facility per day. This is not expected to have an adverse impact on transportation and traffic in the vicinity of the site.

Under the No Action alternative, construction activities would not take place and there would be no potential impacts to traffic or transportation networks.

4.6.4 Utilities

The Sandoval County Communications Tower project activities would require additional short-term electric and communication services from available utility networks. However, construction-related impacts would not lead to supply shortages. Impacts to utilities would not be significant.

Coordination with potentially affected local and regional utility service providers would occur to avoid unnecessary damage or interruption of utility services. No significant impact to utility services would be incurred from construction-related activities from the Proposed Action. Demands from the operational tower, once in place, would be limited to electricity, and are not suspected to affect existing service.

Under the No Action alternative, construction activities would not take place and there would be no potential impacts to utilities.

4.6.5 Public Health and Safety

The primary people that could be affected by this project from a public health and safety standpoint, include construction workers involved in the project, and vehicular traffic in the vicinity of the project area during construction. Between 1 and 8 deliveries of tower sections and associated infrastructure would occur during construction. Construction crews would range from 5 - 10 personnel on site at any given time.

No significant elevations in traffic are expected from the Proposed Action. Minimal grading and digging with the use of a bulldozer, and use of a pier drill rig for the tower foundation and equipment building footings, would occur. Moreover, a mobile crane would be used for erecting the tower. Work areas surrounding construction activities would be fenced, access would be restricted to authorized personnel and appropriate signs would be posted to further minimize safety risks. In addition, implementation of worker safety rules, derived from Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) safety and health standards, will establish a uniform set of safety practices and procedures to protect workers. Construction-related impacts to human health and safety impacts would not be significant. No public access would be provided to the facility once operational and only authorized personnel, with proper equipment and proper safety training will be allowed onto the facility for the day-to-day operations and maintenance. Implementation of the Proposed Action would eventually result in an increase in public safety as a result of increased access to emergency services and improved response times and response coordination among the various emergency services in Sandoval County and the surrounding counties.

Under the No Action alternative, construction activities would not take place and there would be no potential impacts to public health and safety.

4.6.6 Visual Quality

The proposed project is located approximately 1,500 ft. southeast of NM 528, a high-traffic area. The project locale is located above most residences in the area. The viewshed in all directions is dominated by commercial buildings, homes, roads, and the Sandia Mountains to the East. The proposed tower would be 180 ft. tall and would not contain any lighting.

The proposed location for the new communication tower, on the highest point in the area, is located well above the dominant viewshed of the majority of people that live and work in the vicinity. Public meetings were held during 17 September and 26 October that considered the visual impacts of the Proposed Action (Appendix F. Public Meeting Documents). Comments were received in favor and opposed to the siting of the tower and water tanks on the proposed site. Two opposing comments suggested that the tower and water tanks would decrease visual quality to residents in the immediate area. The Proposed Action was

approved by the Village of Corrales Planning and Zoning Commission. Short-term visual impacts to the project area would occur during the construction period due to the presence of construction equipment. However, these would be months in duration only. The proposed tower would be visible from homes and businesses within miles of the project site, though it would be narrow in stature and, thus not a dominant feature. Moreover, location of the tower at the proposed site, would result in dismantling two other tower locales in the area; thus the total visual impact would be reduced. Long-term changes to the visual quality of the area from location of the 180-ft tower, would result from the Proposed Action.

4.7 SUMMARY TABLE

Table 4. Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures/Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Affected Environment/ Resource Area	Impacts	Mitigation/BMPs
Geology and Soils	No impacts to the geology of the site are anticipated. ≤ 0.4 acres of soils will be disturbed by site leveling and proposed tower construction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion control structures such as silt fences and/or berms would be installed where appropriate to prevent sedimentation. • Soil disturbance would be minimized and native vegetation and topsoil would be retained where possible. • Equipment would be staged in one locale to prevent soil impacts
Air Quality	Air quality impacts during construction would include emission of construction vehicles, equipment. Fugitive dust could be stirred up during ground disturbing activities. Both would be short-term, temporary and of limited duration. No long-term impacts are anticipated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water trucks would be used, if necessary, to minimize fugitive dust. • Soil disturbance would be minimized and native vegetation and topsoil would be retained where possible. • Equipment would be staged in one locale to prevent soil impacts. • The total number and speed of vehicles on the site would be limited to minimize emissions. • Haul trucks would be covered.
Surface Water Quality	No significant impacts to surface water and groundwater are anticipated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion control structures such as silt fences and/or berms would be installed where appropriate to prevent sedimentation. • Soil disturbance would be minimized and native vegetation and topsoil would be retained where possible.
Wetlands	No impacts to wetlands are anticipated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
Floodplains	No impacts to the floodplain are anticipated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
Coastal Resources	No impacts to coastal management zones are anticipated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None

Affected Environment/ Resource Area	Impacts	Mitigation/BMPs
Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habitat and	No impacts to federal protected species are anticipated. No effects to federal endangered species would be incurred.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
Special Status Species	No significant impacts to special status species are anticipated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
Migratory Birds	No direct impacts of site development on migratory birds are expected; the proposed tower locale has already been disturbed and supports poor habitat. No impacts on breeding or nesting habitat are expected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The habitat quality of the project area is poor and minimal suitable nesting habitat exists within the project area.
Vegetation and Noxious Weeds	An indirect impact of removing the vegetative cover is the increased potential for colonization of the sites by aggressive, non-native species. However, no NMDA noxious weeds were located on the site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil disturbance would be minimized and native vegetation and topsoil would be retained where possible.
Wildlife and Fish	Minimal loss of wildlife habitat could occur through destruction of mammal, reptile, and amphibian burrows during site preparation grading activities. No large mammals utilize the project area due to its developed nature and thus no impacts to those species are anticipated. No perennial water occurs on the site; thus no impacts to fish would be incurred.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of the proposed tower will enable two existing tower sites in the greater area to be abandoned, thus decreasing the total number of obstacles for special status migratory birds.
Historic Properties	No impacts to historic properties are anticipated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None

Affected Environment/ Resource Area	Impacts	Mitigation/BMPs
Socioeconomic Resources: Environmental Justice	Beneficial impact to all populations in the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
Noise	Temporary, short-term construction-related noise.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce noise levels during construction, construction activities would be limited between 7am and 5pm every day, to minimize noise effects upon local residents.
Traffic/Transportation Network	No significant impacts are anticipated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
Utilities	No impacts are anticipated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precautions would be taken to avoid damage to existing utility lines during installation. • Potentially affected regional and local utility service providers would be contacted before work begins to avoid damage to existing utility infrastructure.
Public Health and Safety	Construction activities during the construction phase of the proposed site could present safety risks to those performing the activities. No long-term negative safety impacts are anticipated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work areas surrounding construction activities would be fenced, and access would be restricted to authorized personnel and appropriate signs would be posted. • Qualified construction personnel trained in the proper use of the appropriate equipment and safety precautions will be performing construction activities. • Activities will be conducted in a safe manner and in accordance with standards specified in OSHA regulations.
Visual Quality	Short-term visual impacts to the project area would occur during the construction period due to the presence of construction equipment. Long-term changes to the visual quality of the area from location of the 180-ft tower, which would be visible from miles away.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of the proposed tower will enable two existing tower sites in the greater area to be abandoned, thus decreasing the total visual impact. • No lights would be located on the tower to reduce the visual impact.

5.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

The cumulative impact as defined by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1508.7) is the impact on the environment, which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what

agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions. No significant, adverse cumulative impacts are expected from the Proposed Action.

The primary cumulative impacts from the Proposed Action, when considered with past and future impacts of other local actions (i.e., including other towers in the area, installation of two associated water tanks, well and well building – see Figure 4), are improved public health and safety in the long-term. Specifically, these include improved communications and cost reductions for the City of Rio Rancho, Village of Corrales, Town of Bernalillo, Sandoval and Bernalillo Counties. Moreover, in the case of a power outage, a generator will keep the site working to provide public safety response to citizens.

The proposed improvements greatly enhance the Sandoval and Bernalillo Counties, Rio Rancho and the Village to coordinate emergency response measures. The upgrades would better accommodate future growth in the project area.

The project area is already highly developed; therefore no cumulative impacts to biological or cultural resources are expected from the Proposed Action. The project would not add cumulative noise impacts, as the area is currently relatively noisy due to vehicular traffic. The mitigation measures described above would ensure minimal cumulative impacts over time.

6.0 AGENCY COORDINATION & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The project was presented, discussed and approved at two regularly scheduled public meetings (3rd Monday of each month) by the Village of Corrales Planning and Zoning Department, on 17 September and October 2012 (Appendix F). Moreover, letters were mailed to homeowners and businesses that could be affected by the Proposed Action (Appendix F). No letter comments were received, though confirmation of receipt was obtained (Appendix F). Comments at the public meetings were received in favor and opposed to the siting of the tower and water tanks on the proposed site. Two opposing comments suggested that the tower and water tanks would decrease visual quality to residents in the immediate area. Comments in favor indicated that the Proposed Action would increase public safety in the area. The Proposed Action was approved by the Village of Corrales Planning and Zoning Commission.

The availability of this EA will be advertised by public notice published in the Albuquerque Journal newspaper on September 10, 2014. Copies of the EA will be available locally at the Corrales Village Hall located at 4324 Corrales Road, Corrales, NM and the Corrales Library located at 84 W. La Entrada, Corrales, NM. The public comment period will extend for a period of fifteen (15) days. The EA can also be viewed and downloaded from Sandoval County website at www.sandovalcounty.com and at the Village of Corrales website www.corrales-nm.org. If no substantive comments are received, the EA will become final and the initial public notice will also serve as the final public notice.

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8.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

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9.0 FIGURES

Sandoval County Communications Tower and Shelter, Sandoval County, New Mexico

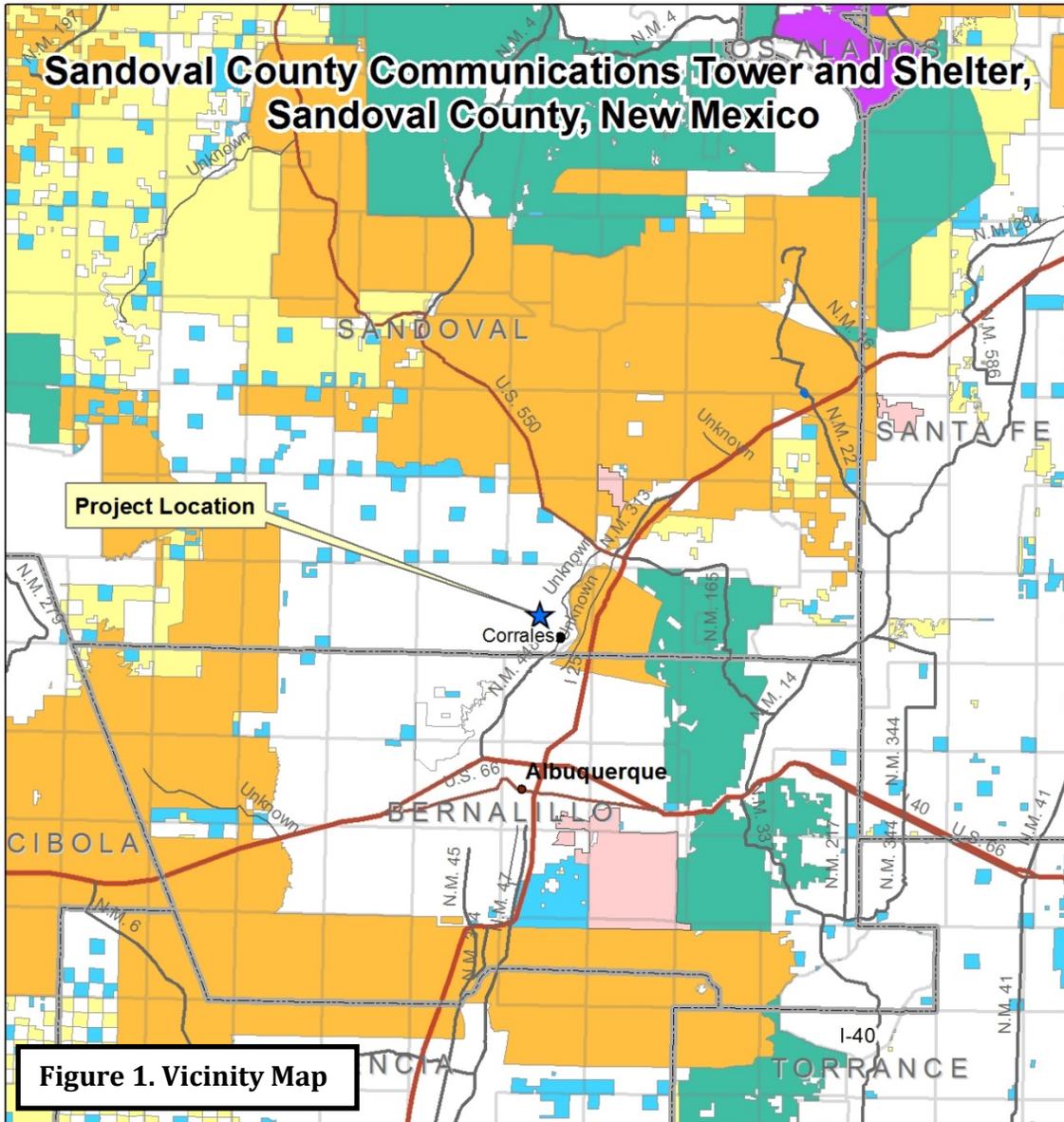
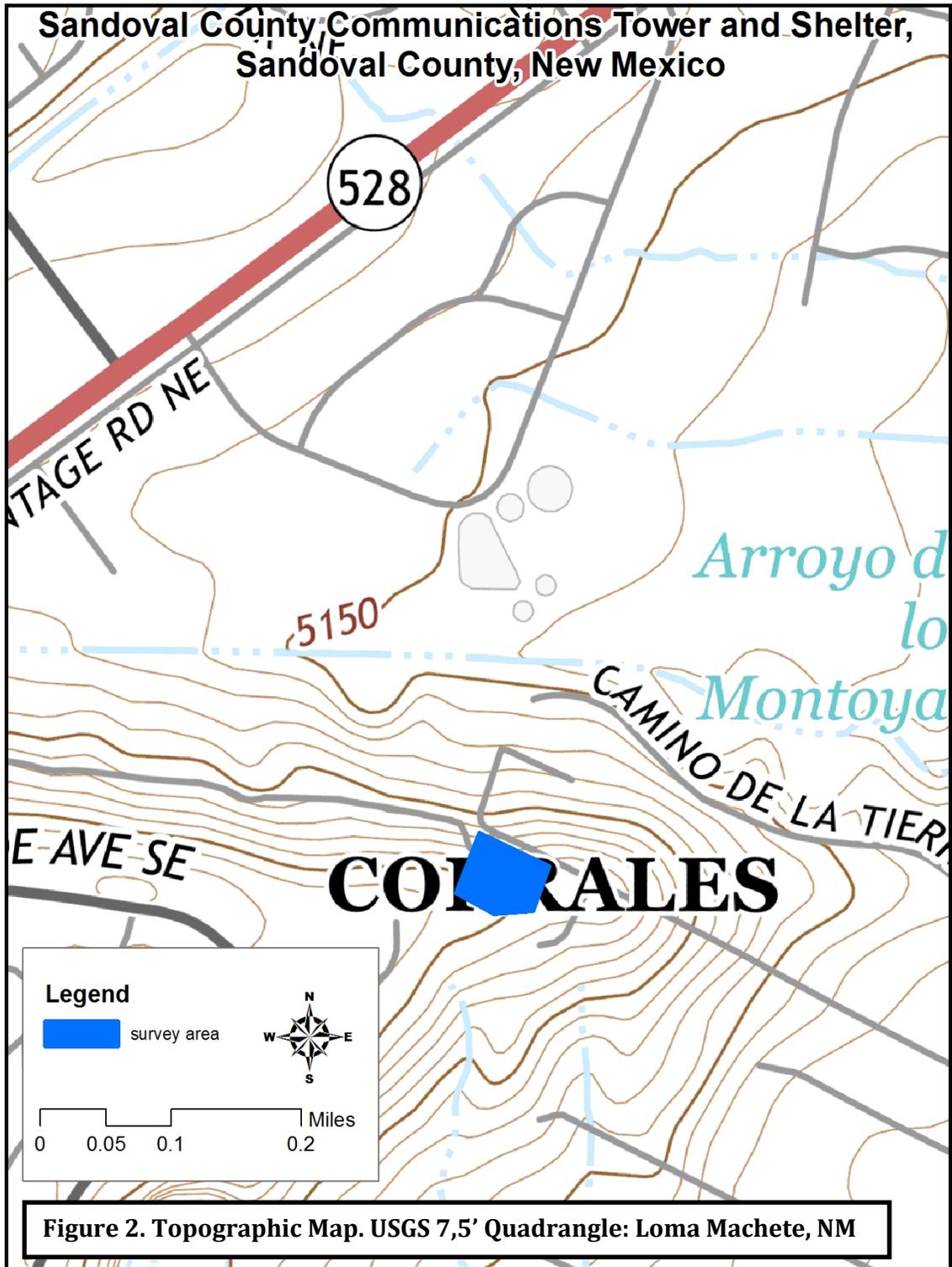


Figure 1. Vicinity Map

Legend	
	Counties
	BLM
	DOD
	DOE
	FS
	FWS
	Indian
	Private
	State

Project Location

Map created by Rocky Mountain Ecology LLC, 3/2014



Sandoval County Communications Tower and Shelter, Sandoval County, New Mexico

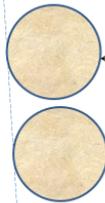


Figure 3. Aerial Photograph



PROPERTY LINE

15' SETBACK LINE



PROPOSED WATER TANKS



PROPOSED COMMUNICATION/WELL BUILDING



PROPOSED 180' COMMUNICATION ANTENNA



NEW WELL

NO SCALE



GENERAL NOTES

1. THESE DRAWINGS ARE NOT TO SCALE.
2. ENGINEERED DRAWINGS WILL BE SUBMITTED UPON FUNDING IS SECURED.
3. ALL DISTURBED SOILS WILL NOT EXCEED 1000SQFT, THEREFORE NO GRADING AND DRAINAGE PLAN IS NOT REQUIRED.
4. ALL UNDISTURBED AREAS WILL REMAIN IN THEIR NATURAL STATE.
5. SERVICE ACCESS TO ACTUAL LOCATION WILL BE OFF OF ANGEL ROAD THEREFORE NO PARKING IS REQUIRED.
6. ALL DISTURBED SOILS WILL NOT EXCEED 3:1.
7. ALL CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS WILL BE SUBMITTED AT PERMIT PROCESS, TO BE ENGINEERED.
8. ALL LIGHTING WILL BE NIGHT SKY APPROVED.
9. ANY WATER FLOWS WILL BE DESIGNED TO FLOW INTO RETENTION AREAS AS DESIGNED PER THE STORM WATER MANGEMENT ORDINACE.

VILLAGE OF CORRALES
 PROPOSED FIRE
 SUPPRESSION WATER TANKS
 AND COMMUNICATION TOWER
 3100 ANGEL RD

Figure 4. Site Sketch



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

National Wetlands Inventory

Sandoval County
Communications
Site

May 27, 2014



Wetlands

- Freshwater Emergent
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub
- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Riverine
- Other

Project Area

Figure 6. National Wetland Inventory

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A. PHOTOS

Photo 1. View northward from near the southwest corner of the site.



Photo 2. View southwest from the western boundary.



Photo 3. View west from the northern portion of the site.



Photo 4. View northward with existing access road.



APPENDIX B. SPECIES LISTS



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office
2105 OSUNA ROAD NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87113
PHONE: (505)346-2525 FAX: (505)346-2542
URL: www.fws.gov/southwest/es/NewMexico/

Consultation Tracking Number: 02ENNM00-2014-SLI-0210

April 04, 2014

Project Name: Sandoval County Communications Tower

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project.

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for your recent request for information on federally listed species and important wildlife habitats that may occur in your project area. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has responsibility for certain species of New Mexico wildlife under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 as amended (16 USC 1531 et seq.), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) as amended (16 USC 701-715), and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) as amended (16 USC 668-668c). We are providing the following guidance to assist you in determining which federally imperiled species may or may not occur within your project area and to recommend some conservation measures that can be included in your project design.

FEDERALLY-LISTED SPECIES AND DESIGNATED CRITICAL HABITAT

Attached is a list of endangered, threatened, and proposed species that may occur in your project area. Your project area may not necessarily include all or any of these species. Under the ESA, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or its designated representative to determine if a proposed action "may affect" endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or designated critical habitat, and if so, to consult with the Service further. Similarly, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or project proponent, not the Service, to make "no effect" determinations. If you determine that your proposed action will have "no effect" on threatened or endangered species or their respective critical habitat, you do not need to seek concurrence with the Service. Nevertheless, it is a violation of Federal law to harm or harass any federally-listed threatened or endangered fish or wildlife species without the appropriate permit.

If you determine that your proposed action may affect federally-listed species, consultation with the Service will be necessary. Through the consultation process, we will analyze information contained in a biological assessment that you provide. If your proposed action is associated with Federal funding or permitting, consultation will occur with the Federal agency under section

7(a)(2) of the ESA. Otherwise, an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA (also known as a habitat conservation plan) is necessary to harm or harass federally listed threatened or endangered fish or wildlife species. In either case, there is no mechanism for authorizing incidental take "after-the-fact." For more information regarding formal consultation and HCPs, please see the Service's Consultation Handbook and Habitat Conservation Plans at www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/index.html#consultations.

The scope of federally listed species compliance not only includes direct effects, but also any interrelated or interdependent project activities (e.g., equipment staging areas, offsite borrow material areas, or utility relocations) and any indirect or cumulative effects that may occur in the action area. The action area includes all areas to be affected, not merely the immediate area involved in the action. Large projects may have effects outside the immediate area to species not listed here that should be addressed. If your action area has suitable habitat for any of the attached species, we recommend that species-specific surveys be conducted during the flowering season for plants and at the appropriate time for wildlife to evaluate any possible project-related impacts.

Candidate Species and Other Sensitive Species

A list of candidate and other sensitive species in your area is also attached. Candidate species and other sensitive species are species that have no legal protection under the ESA, although we recommend that candidate and other sensitive species be included in your surveys and considered for planning purposes. The Service monitors the status of these species. If significant declines occur, these species could potentially be listed. Therefore, actions that may contribute to their decline should be avoided.

Lists of sensitive species including State-listed endangered and threatened species are compiled by New Mexico state agencies. These lists, along with species information, can be found at the following websites:

Biota Information System of New Mexico (BISON-M): www.bison-m.org

New Mexico State Forestry. The New Mexico Endangered Plant Program:
www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/ForestMgt/Endangered.html

New Mexico Rare Plant Technical Council, New Mexico Rare Plants: nmrareplants.unm.edu

Natural Heritage New Mexico, online species database: nhnm.unm.edu

WETLANDS AND FLOODPLAINS

Under Executive Orders 11988 and 11990, Federal agencies are required to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands and floodplains, and preserve and enhance their natural and beneficial values. These habitats should be conserved through avoidance, or mitigated to ensure that there would be no net loss of wetlands function and value.

We encourage you to use the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps in conjunction with ground-truthing to identify wetlands occurring in your project area. The Service's NWI program

website, www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html integrates digital map data with other resource information. We also recommend you contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for permitting requirements under section 404 of the Clean Water Act if your proposed action could impact floodplains or wetlands.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

The MBTA prohibits the taking of migratory birds, nests, and eggs, except as permitted by the Service's Migratory Bird Office. To minimize the likelihood of adverse impacts to migratory birds, we recommend construction activities occur outside the general bird nesting season from March through August, or that areas proposed for construction during the nesting season be surveyed, and when occupied, avoided until the young have fledged.

We recommend review of Birds of Conservation Concern at website www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Management/BCC.html to fully evaluate the effects to the birds at your site. This list identifies birds that are potentially threatened by disturbance and construction.

BALD AND GOLDEN EAGLES

The bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) was delisted under the ESA on August 9, 2007. Both the bald eagle and golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) are still protected under the MBTA and BGEPA. The BGEPA affords both eagles protection in addition to that provided by the MBTA, in particular, by making it unlawful to "disturb" eagles. Under the BGEPA, the Service may issue limited permits to incidentally "take" eagles (e.g., injury, interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior nest abandonment). For information on bald and golden eagle management guidelines, we recommend you review information provided at www.fws.gov/midwest/eagle/guidelines/bgepa.html.

On our web site www.fws.gov/southwest/es/NewMexico/SBC_intro.cfm, we have included conservation measures that can minimize impacts to federally listed and other sensitive species. These include measures for communication towers, power line safety for raptors, road and highway improvements, spring developments and livestock watering facilities, wastewater facilities, and trenching operations.

We also suggest you contact the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, and the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department, Forestry Division for information regarding State fish, wildlife, and plants.

Thank you for your concern for endangered and threatened species and New Mexico's wildlife habitats. We appreciate your efforts to identify and avoid impacts to listed and sensitive species in your project area. For further consultation on your proposed activity, please call 505-346-2525 or email nmesfo@fws.gov and reference your Service Consultation Tracking Number.

Attachment



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Sandoval County Communications Tower

Official Species List

Provided by:

New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office
2105 OSUNA ROAD NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87113
(505) 346-2525
<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/NewMexico/>

Consultation Tracking Number: 02ENNM00-2014-SLI-0210

Project Type: Communications Tower

Project Description: Sandoval County has been awarded \$116,394.50, through FEMA to support location of a presently constructed 180-foot self-supporting lattice communications tower, construction of the necessary support foundation, excavation activities, connection to adjacent utilities, construction of a fence around the perimeter, and location of a generator to the premises.



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Sandoval County Communications Tower

Project Counties: Sandoval, NM



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Sandoval County Communications Tower

Endangered Species Act Species List

There are a total of 7 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on your species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Critical habitats listed on the **Has Critical Habitat** lines may or may not lie within your project area. See the **Critical habitats within your project area** section further below for critical habitat that lies within your project. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

Jemez Mountains salamander (*Plethodon neomexicanus*)

Listing Status: Endangered

Mexican Spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis lucida*)

Population: Entire

Listing Status: Threatened

Has Critical Habitat: Final designated

New Mexico meadow jumping mouse (*Zapus hudsonius luteus*)

Listing Status: Proposed Endangered

Rio Grande Cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii virginalis*)

Listing Status: Candidate

Rio Grande Silvery minnow (*Hybognathus amarus*)

Population: Entire, except where listed as an experimental population

Listing Status: Endangered

Has Critical Habitat: Final designated

Southwestern Willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*)

Population: Entire

Listing Status: Endangered

Has Critical Habitat: Final designated



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Sandoval County Communications Tower

Yellow-Billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*)

Population: Western U.S. DPS

Listing Status: Proposed Threatened



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Sandoval County Communications Tower

Critical habitats that lie within your project area

The following critical habitats lie fully or partially within your project area.

Species	Critical Habitat Type
Mexican Spotted owl (<i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i>) Population: Entire	Final designated
Rio Grande Silvery minnow (<i>Hybognathus amarus</i>) Population: Entire, except where listed as an experimental population	Final designated

NMDGF State-Listed Species from Sandoval County, NM in Scrub Habitat

Common Name	Scientific Name	County	Status	GapVeg
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Sandoval	State NM: Threatened	SCRUB
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	Sandoval	State NM: Threatened	SCRUB
Arctic Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus tundrius</i>	Sandoval	State NM: Threatened	SCRUB
Gray Vireo	<i>Vireo vicinior</i>	Sandoval	State NM: Threatened	SCRUB
Spotted Bat	<i>Euderma maculatum</i>	Sandoval	State NM: Threatened	SCRUB
American Marten	<i>Martes americana</i>	Sandoval	State NM: Threatened	SCRUB

APPENDIX C. CULTURAL RESOURCE DOCUMENTS

NMCRIIS INVESTIGATION ABSTRACT FORM (NIAF)

1. NMCRIIS Activity No.: 129985	2a. Lead (Sponsoring) Agency: Sandoval County	2b. Other Permitting Agency(ies):	3. Lead Agency Report No.:
4. Title of Report: <i>Cultural Resource Survey Of 1.32 Acres for a Proposed Communications Site for the Sandoval County Fire Department in Corrales, Sandoval County, New Mexico</i> Author(s) Richard Burleson			5. Type of Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Positive
6. Investigation Type <input type="checkbox"/> Research Design <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey/Inventory <input type="checkbox"/> Test Excavation <input type="checkbox"/> Excavation <input type="checkbox"/> Collections/Non-Field Study <input type="checkbox"/> Overview/Lit Review <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Ethnographic study <input type="checkbox"/> Site specific visit <input type="checkbox"/> Other			
7. Description of Undertaking (what does the project entail?): On March 11, 2014, Hammerstone Archaeological Services conducted a Class III cultural resource survey of 1.32 acres for a proposed communications site for the Sandoval County Fire Department in Corrales, Sandoval County, New Mexico. The Class III inventory is being conducted in order to identify cultural resource properties that might be affected by the proposed undertaking in an effort to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The undertaking will involve the construction of a 180 ft high communications tower, shelter, and water tanks in the event of a fire. The footprint for the tower and shelter that will house a generator will be 30 ft x 30 ft. The purpose of the project is to construct a communications site that will enhance interoperability and coverage for all agencies in the area. Sites where existing equipment currently resides lack coverage and are not on government owned land. Angel tower will eliminate at least two other sites and increase coverage. The Angel Road communications site is a cooperative effort between Corrales, Rio Rancho, Sandoval County and Bernalillo County. Corrales is providing the property and Rio Rancho is providing a 180 tower that will be moved from another location. There are also plans to locate water tanks at the same location for fire protection and in the case of a power outage, a generator will keep the site working to provide public safety response to citizens. There is an existing driveway access on the property. A utility trench will start at the SE corner of the property and go west up the south boundary until it reaches the eastern edge of the water tank project, about 30 from the west boundary. It will then go north to furnish electricity to the water tank project and the communications site. A fence will be constructed around the property. The proposed fence will begin at the southwest corner of the property and go north past the water tank project along the west boundary of the property to include the communications site. It will be approximately 30 X 60 with the long axis oriented N-S. Fence posts will be on approximate 10 foot centers and holes should be about 2 deep X 1 diameter.		8. Dates of Investigation: (from:3/11/14) 9. Report Date: 3/11/14	
10. Performing Agency/Consultant: Hammerstone Archaeological Services Principal Investigator: Richard Burleson Field Supervisor: Robert Phippen Field Personnel Names: Robert Phippen		11. Performing Agency/Consultant Report No.: 360 12. Applicable Cultural Resource Permit No(s): NM-14-205-S	
13. Client/Customer (project proponent): Sandoval Co. Fire Department Contact: David A. Bervin Address: P.O. Box 40, Bernalillo, NM 87004 Phone: (505) 867-0245		14. Client/Customer Project No.: 2012-SS-00097 (14436).	

15. Land Ownership Status (Must be indicated on project map):

Land Owner	Acres Surveyed	Acres in APE
Private	1.32	1.32
TOTALS	1.32	1.32

16 Records Search(es):

Date(s) of ARMS File Review 3/11/13	Name of Reviewer(s) Richard Burleson	
Date(s) of NR/SR File Review 3/11/13	Name of Reviewer(s) Richard Burleson	
Date(s) of Other Agency File Review	Name of Reviewer(s)	Agency

17. Survey Data:

- a. Source Graphics NAD 27 NAD 83
 USGS 7.5' (1:24,000) topo map Other topo map, Scale:
 GPS Unit Accuracy <1.0m 1-10m 10-100m >100m

b. USGS 7.5' Topographic Map Name USGS Quad Code

Loma Machete, NM	35106C6

c. County(ies): Sandoval

17. Survey Data (continued):

d. Nearest City or Town: Corrales, Rio Rancho

e. Legal Description:

Township (N/S)	Range (E/W)	Section	1/4	1/4	1/4

Projected legal description? Yes , No Unplatted

f. Other Description (e.g. well pad footages, mile markers, plats, land grant name, etc.): Corrales Corporate Boundary within the Alameda Land Grant

18. Survey Field Methods:

Intensity: 100% coverage <100% coverage

Configuration: block survey units linear survey units (l x w): other survey units specify):

Scope: non-selective (all sites recorded) selective/thematic (selected sites recorded)

Coverage Method: systematic pedestrian coverage other method (describe)

Survey Interval (m): 15 m Crew Size: 1 Fieldwork Dates: 3/11/14

Survey Person Hours: 1.25 Recording Person Hours: 0 Total Hours: 1.25

Additional Narrative:

19. Environmental Setting (NRCS soil designation; vegetative community; elevation; etc.): The project area occurs within the Rio Grande Floodplain Subregion of the Arizona/ New Mexico Plateau Ecoregion (Griffith, G.E. et. al 2006). It is located within the Rio Grande Albuquerque Sub-basin of the Rio Grande Watershed (NM Water Resources Research Institute 2009). Specifically, the project area occurs within a highly developed area of Corrales, immediately adjacent to the corporate boundary of Rio Rancho. The project area is bound on the south and west sides by Quite Lane and on the north side by Angel Road. Scattered block-faulted ranges separated by intermountain basins having internal drainage (bolsons) typify the region. The Rio Grande Basin is a broad valley bordered on the east by the Sandia Mountains (elevation 3,247 m [10,682 ft]) and by West Mesa on the west (elevation 1,835 m [6036 ft]). The Rio Grande Valley is a rift system filled with Quaternary age alluvial gravels. As a result of incision by the Rio Grande River, these gravel bar deposits are now expressed as several terraces east and west of the river bottom. The soils within the proposed project area have largely been derived from alluvial and aeolian processes and consist mainly of sands and gravels (New Mexico Geological Society 1996). Before the Rio Grande was confined between levees in the Albuquerque area, the river was characterized by both natural levees and a flood basin, as well as braided ephemeral channels and channel islands that were confined between sloped valley walls. The river today exhibits ephemeral channels and channel islands that are confined between the levees. The Rio Grande floodplain has been increasingly used for agriculture since the late 1800s and a number of irrigation features (e.g. drains, canals, and lateral) have been constructed. Most of the floodplain has been cleared of trees and leveled to facilitate irrigation and urban development. Numerous drainages flow westward from the foothills of the Sandia Mountains and ultimately drain into the Rio Grande. The soils in the project area formed mainly in recent alluvium, older unconsolidated alluvium, alluvium modified by wind, alluvial fan and piedmont sediments, or material weathered from granite, schist, basalt, limestone, sandstone, and shale. Recent alluvium is on the Rio Grande floodplain and has been deposited when the river overflows its channel. The Rio Grande River has changed its course many times and the pattern of sediments and soils is complex. Levees have protected the floodplain from major flooding since about 1927, however, the irrigated cropland continues to receive annual small quantities of sediment from silty irrigation water that is diverted from the Rio Grande River (Hacker 1977:88). Old unconsolidated alluvium is found mostly from the ancestral Rio Grande River and its tributaries. These deposits are on the sides of the Rio Grande and Rio Puerco Valleys, the piedmonts, and mesas. The USDA Web Soil Survey (<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>) was used to describe soils within the project area. Soils in the project area include Sheppard loamy fine sand and Grieta-Sheppard loamy fine sands. The project area is located within the transition zone between two vegetative communities, Plains-Mesa Grassland the Desert Grassland as defined by Dick-Peddie (1993). However, small areas with deeper sands tend to exhibit characteristics of the Plains-Mesa Sand Scrub. The higher elevation areas within the eastern portion of the project area are dominated by a New Mexico feathergrass (*Stipa neomexicana*) black grama (*Bouteloua eriopoda*) soapweed yucca (*Yucca glauca*) bottlebrush squirreltail (*Elymus elymoides*) galleta (*Hilaria jamesii*) fluffgrass (*Dasyochloa pulchella*) prairie prickley pear (*Opuntia polycantha*) - tree cholla (*Opuntia imbricata*) association. Moving west and downslope, the project area retains most of those species but decreases in grass density with significantly more bare ground than the eastern areas, upslope. The tree cholla component also decreases in density. Fluffgrass, and desert joint fir (*Ephedra trifurca*) also become more common in these areas. In the lowest portions of the project area with deeper sands, including the washes that drain through the site, sand sage (*Artemisia filifolia*), Apache plume (*Fallugia paradoxa*), Indian ricegrass (*Achnatherum hymenoides*), and sand verbena (*Abronia fragrans*) become common. In the basins and disturbed areas associated with the old retention dams, kochia (*Kochia scoparia*), tansymustard (*Descuriana pinnata*), globemallow (*Sphaeralcea* spp.), Russian thistle (*Salsola kali*), silverleaf nightshade (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*) and bottlebrush squirreltail are very common. Other species less common, but distributed throughout the project area include sand dropseed (*Sporobolus cryptandrus*), ring muhly (*Muhlenbergia torreyi*), redstem filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), and fourwing saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*). A variety of vertebrate fauna occurs in the middle Rio Grande Valley area. A large number of extant species, many recovered from prehistoric and early historic sites along the middle Rio Grande, are also formerly indigenous to the region. A large number of aquatic species, particularly fish, are now extinct or extirpated (Sublette et al. 1990). There are many amphibians and reptiles indigenous to the project area, with common reptiles being whiptail lizards, horned lizards, and snakes (Degenhardt et al. 1996). The Rio Grande River is the major migratory bird flyway through New Mexico. Migratory species include ducks, geese, and cranes. Avian taxa include hawks, owls, quail, the roadrunner, and a variety of perching birds (Ligon 1961). A variety of mammalian taxa occur in or near the project area. Some of the more culturally important mammals include the desert cottontail, black-tailed jackrabbit, black-tailed prairie dog, pocket gopher, kangaroo rat, coyote, fox, mule deer, and black bear (Bailey 1931; Findley et al. 1975).

20. a. **Percent Ground Visibility: 70-80%** b. **Condition of Survey Area (grazed, bladed, undisturbed, etc.):** The survey area has a two-track road extending across the parcel as well as construction debris from adjacent property development.

21. **CULTURAL RESOURCE FINDINGS** Yes, See Page 3 No, Discuss Why: The survey area is very small.

<p>22. Required Attachments (check all appropriate boxes):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USGS 7.5 Topographic Map with sites, isolates, and survey area clearly drawn</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy of NMCRIS Mapserver Map Check</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> LA Site Forms - new sites (<i>with sketch map & topographic map</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> LA Site Forms (update) - previously recorded & un-relocated sites (<i>first 2 pages minimum</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Historic Cultural Property Inventory Forms</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> List and Description of isolates, if applicable</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> List and Description of Collections, if applicable</p>	<p>23. Other Attachments:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Photographs and Log</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other Attachments</p> <p>(Describe):</p>
---	---

24. I certify the information provided above is correct and accurate and meets all applicable agency standards.

Principal Investigator/Responsible Archaeologist: Richard Burleson

Signature 

Date 3/11/14

Title (if not PI):

25. Reviewing Agency: Reviewer's Name/Date Accepted () Rejected () Tribal Consultation (if applicable): <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	26. SHPO Reviewer's Name/Date: HPD Log #: SHPO File Location: Date sent to ARMS:
---	---

CULTURAL RESOURCE FINDINGS

[fill in appropriate section(s)]

1. NMCRIS Activity No.: 129985	2. Lead (Sponsoring) Agency: Sandoval County	3. Lead Agency Report No.:
--	--	-----------------------------------

SURVEY RESULTS:
 Sites discovered and registered: 0
 Sites discovered and NOT registered: 0
 Previously recorded sites revisited *(site update form required)*: 0
 Previously recorded sites not relocated *(site update form required)*:
TOTAL SITES VISITED: 0
 Total isolates recorded: 0 **Non-selective isolate recording?**
 Total structures recorded *(new and previously recorded, including acequias)*:

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY: During the course of the Class III survey, no cultural resource sites or isolated occurrences were encountered. No further archaeological investigations are recommended at this time.

IF REPORT IS NEGATIVE YOU ARE DONE AT THIS POINT.

SURVEY LA NUMBER LOG

Sites Discovered:

LA No.	Field/Agency No.	Eligible? (Y/N, applicable criteria)

Previously recorded revisited sites:

LA No.	Field/Agency No.	Eligible? (Y/N, applicable criteria)

MONITORING LA NUMBER LOG *(site form required)*

Sites Discovered *(site form required)* : Previously recorded sites *(Site update form required)*:

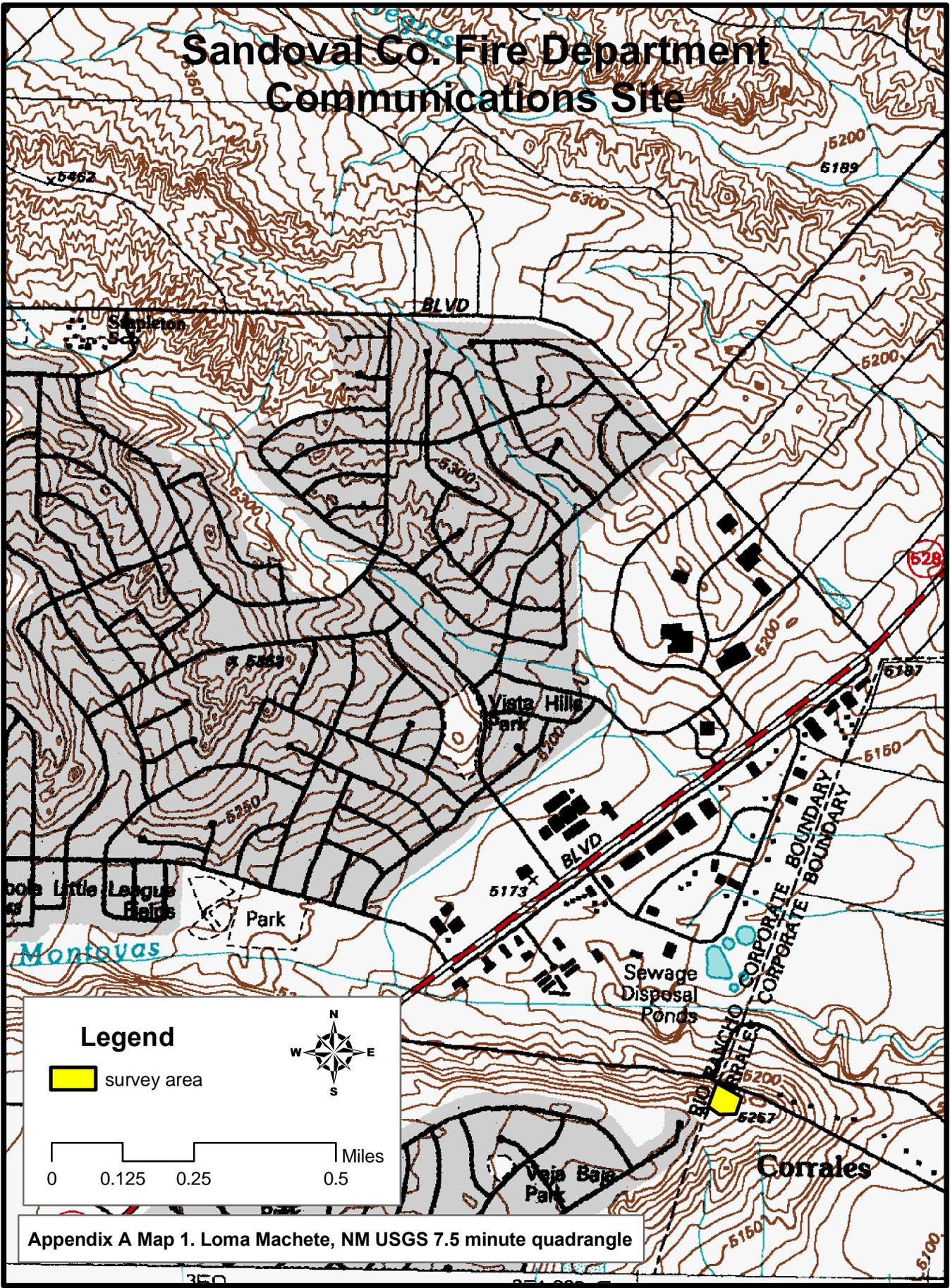
LA No.	Field/Agency No.	LA No.	Field/Agency No.

Areas outside known nearby site boundaries monitored? Yes , No If no explain why:

TESTING & EXCAVATION LA NUMBER LOG *(site form required)*

Tested LA number(s) Excavated LA number(s)

Sandoval Co. Fire Department Communications Site



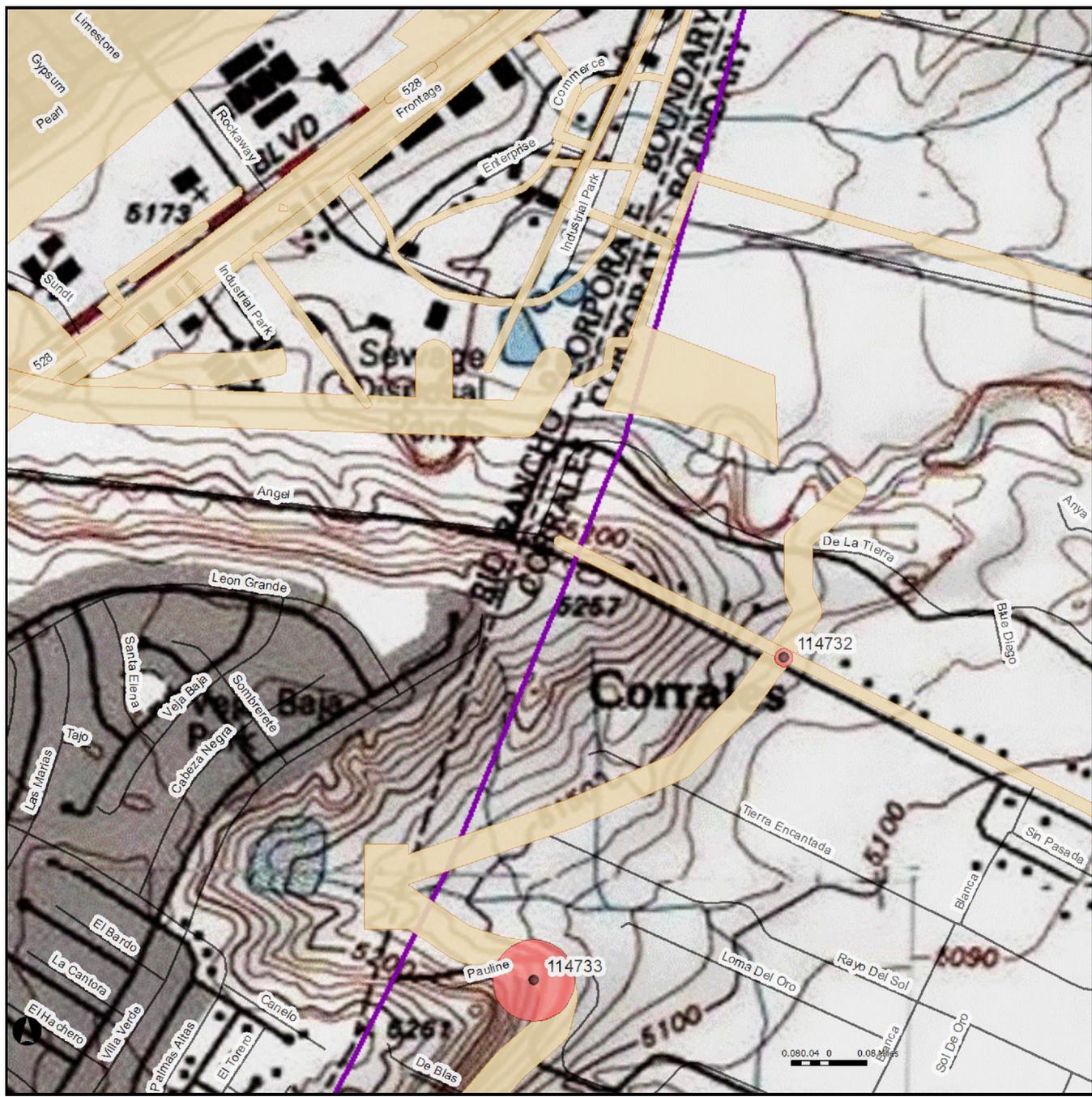
Legend

-  survey area

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

Appendix A Map 1. Loma Machete, NM USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle

Map



- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Site Labels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <p>Site Boundaries (Edit)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <p>Site Boundaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not Defined ■ Proposed ■ Approved <p>Building Labels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ | <p>Buildings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not Defined ■ Proposed ■ Approved <p>Objects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not Defined ■ Proposed ■ Approved <p>Linear Resources</p> | <p>Archaeological Surveys (Edit)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <p>Archaeological Surveys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not Defined ■ Proposed ■ Approved <p>Highways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Primary Limited Access or Interstate — Primary US and State Highways — Secondary State and County |
|--|--|---|

Object Labels 	 Not Defined	 Local - Rural
Linear Resource Labels 	 Proposed	 Ramp, other
Historic Structure Labels 	District Labels 	Detailed Streets 
Historic Structures (Edit) 	Districts (Edit) 	New Mexico 
Buildings (Edit) 	Districts  Not Defined	Counties 
Objects (Edit) 	 Proposed	Towns 
Linear Resources (Edit) 	 Approved	NGS USA Topographic Maps
Historic Structures  Not Defined	Register Properties (Edit) 	
 Proposed	Register Properties  Not Defined	
 Approved	 Proposed	
	 Approved	

NMCRIS

Background Reference Layers

DRGs: Copyright: © 2013 National Geographic Society
NGS USA Topographic Maps: Copyright: © 2013 National Geographic Society

Satellite Imagery

ESRI_Imagery_World_2D: Copyright:© 2013 ESRI, i-cubed, GeoEye
World Imagery: Copyright:© 2013 ESRI, i-cubed, GeoEye

RECEIVED
FRC MAIL CENTER
FEMA REGION 6
2014 JUN -9 A 2:59



FEMA
99186

May 5, 2014

Jeff Pappas, PhD.
State Historic Preservation Officer
Attention Bob Estes, Archaeologist
Department of Cultural Affairs
Bataan Memorial Building
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501

RECEIVED
Bob MAY - 9 2014
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

RE: Section 106 Review Consultation
Sandoval County Tower and Shelter: 2012-SS-00097 (14436)
Village of Corrales, Sandoval County, New Mexico
Coordinates: 35.254378, -106.631768

Dear Dr. Pappas:

The County of Sandoval has applied for funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the Homeland Security Grant Program for the installation of a communications tower and the supporting infrastructure. The purpose of the project is to construct a communications site that will enhance interoperability and coverage for all agencies in the area. Sites where existing equipment currently resides lack coverage and are not on government owned land. This site will eliminate at least two other sites and increase coverage. FEMA has determined that this project constitutes an Undertaking and is initiating consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The undertaking will involve the construction of a 180ft high communications tower, shelter, and fence on the 2 acre site. The footprint for the tower and shelter that will house a generator will be 30ft x 60ft. The footers for the tower should be no more than 8ft deep. Leveling will occur for a slab the same size of the shelter, 12ft x 24ft, to put the shelter on which will be on the leveled surface. There will be some additional disturbance in the immediate area to facilitate construction.

There is an existing driveway access on the property. A utility trench will start at the SE corner of the property and go west up the south boundary until it reaches the eastern edge, about 30ft from the west boundary. It will then go north to furnish electricity to the communications site. The trench will be approximately 2ft deep x 6in wide x 30ft long beginning approximately 30ft from the south

boundary; parallel with and 30ft east of the west boundary. The trench needed for the communications site will be an extension of the trench that is needed for a water tank project.

The proposed fence will begin at the southwest corner of the tower site and go north past the water tank project along the west boundary of the property. It will be approximately 30ft x 60ft with the long axis oriented north to south. Fence posts will be on approximate 10 foot centers and holes should be about 2ft deep x 1ft diameter. *(There is no federal funding for the water tank project.)*

The proposed tower site footprint is clear of historic resources, but the half mile-radius APE required by the FCC National PA of 2005 for a 180-foot tower includes three recorded sites: LA 114732, LA 114733, and LA 113734.

1. LA 114732 is a non-eligible disturbed prehistoric lithic manufacturing scatter (29 meters by 25 meters) at UTM (NAD83): 351901 E, 3902344 N, Zone 13, located 0.3 miles SE of the proposed tower footprint ;
2. LA 114733 is a non-eligible disturbed prehistoric lithic manufacturing scatter (135 meters by 60 meters) at UTM (NAD83): 351491 E, 3901814 N, Zone 13, located 0.4 miles S of the proposed tower footprint;
3. LA 114734 is a non-eligible disturbed prehistoric lithic scatter (46 meters by 6 meters) at UTM (NAD83): 351351 E, 3901504 N, Zone 13, located 0.5 miles SSE of the proposed tower site.

These sites are located on the USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle map: Los Griegos, NM (35106-B6), and were discovered on NMCRIS activity (survey) 53390, as reported in a 1996 report by Christina G. Allen of Marron and Associates Environmental Consultants of Albuquerque entitled "A Cultural Resources Survey of the Southern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority Outfall Pipe from Dams 1 and 4 to Los Montoyas Arroyo, Located on the Border of Rio Rancho and Corrales, New Mexico." There are no Architectural historic sites recorded in the APE.

On March 11, 2014, Hammerstone Archaeological Services conducted a Class III cultural resource survey of the site for the proposed communications site. During the course of the survey, no cultural resource sites or isolated occurrences were encountered. No further archaeological investigations were recommended. See attached NIAF form.

Based on the information gathered through this review, FEMA has determined that the installation of the tower, fence, and utility trench will result in **No Historic Properties Affected**. We request concurrence with this determination.

Dr. Jeff Pappas
May 5, 2014
Page 3

Your prompt review of this project is greatly appreciated. Should you need additional information please contact Chris Dooley, Historic Preservation Specialist at christopher.dooley@fema.dhs.gov or (940)293-5610.

Sincerely,



for Kevin Jaynes
Regional Environmental Officer
FEMA Region VI

Concur with recommendations as proposed.

Alfonso R. Este *VA* June 6, 2014
for NHP State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures

USGS Topo Map
Aerial Photo of Location
NIAF
NMCRIS Map

APPENDIX D. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE DOCUMENTS



EJView Census 2010 Summary Report



Location:

Study Area:

Summary Census 2010

Population
Population Density (per sq. mile)
Minority Population
% Minority
Households
Housing Units
Land Area (m ²)
% Land Area
Water Area (m ²)
% Water Area

Population by Race	Number	Percent
Total		-----
Population Reporting One Race		
White		
Black		
American Indian		
Asian		
Pacific Islander		
Some Other Race		
Population Reporting Two or More Races		
Total Hispanic Population		
Total Non-Hispanic Population		
White Alone		
Black Alone		
American Indian Alone		
Non-Hispanic Asian Alone		
Pacific Islander Alone		
Other Race Alone		
Two or More Races Alone		

Population by Sex	Number	Percent
Male		
Female		

Population by Age	Number	Percent
Age 0-4		
Age 0-17		
Age 18+		
Age 65+		

Households by Tenure	Number	Percent
Total		
Owner Occupied		
Renter Occupied		

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals dues to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1.



EJView Census 2000 Summary Report



Location:

Study Area:

Summary Census 2000

Population
Population Density (per sq. mile)
Minority Population
% Minority
Households
Housing Units
Housing Units Built Before 1950
Land Area (m ²)
% Land Area
Water Area (m ²)
% Water Area

Population by Race	Number	Percent
Total		-----
Population Reporting One Race		
White		
Black		
American Indian		
Asian		
Pacific Islander		
Some Other Race		
Population Reporting Two or More Races		
Total Hispanic Population		

Population by Sex	Number	Percent
Male		
Female		

Population by Age	Number	Percent
Age 0-4		
Age 0-17		
Age 18+		
Age 65+		

Population by Place of Birth for the Foreign-Born	Number	Percent
Total		-----
Europe		
Asia		
Africa		
Americas		

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3.



EJView Census 2000 Summary Report



Location:

Study Area:

Population 25+ by Educational Attainment	Number	Percent
Total		-----
Less than 9th Grade		
9th - 12th Grade, No Diploma		
High School Graduate		
Some College, No Degree		
Associate Degree		
Bachelor's Degree or more		

Population Age 5+ Years by Ability to Speak English	Number	Percent
Total		-----
Speak only English		
Non-English at Home		
Speak English "very well"		
Speak English "well"		
Speak English "not well"		
Speak English "not at all"		
Speak English "less than well"		

Households by Household Income in 1999	Number	Percent
Household Income Base		-----
< \$15,000		
\$15,000 - \$25,000		
\$25,000 - \$50,000		
\$50,000 - \$75,000		
\$75,000 +		

Households by Tenure	Number	Percent
Total		-----
Owner Occupied		
Renter Occupied		

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3.



EJView ACS Summary Report



Location:

Study Area:

Summary of ACS Estimates	2006 - 2010
--------------------------	-------------

Population			
Population Density (per sq. mile)			
Minority Population			
% Minority			
Households			
Housing Units			
Housing Units Built Before 1950			
Per Capita Income			
Land Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)			
% Land Area			
Water Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)			
% Water Area			

	2006 - 2010 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
--	------------------------------	---------	---------

Population by Race

Total			
Population Reporting One Race			
White			
Black			
American Indian			
Asian			
Pacific Islander			
Some Other Race			
Population Reporting Two or More Races			
Total Hispanic Population			
Total Non-Hispanic Population			
White Alone			
Black Alone			
American Indian Alone			
Non-Hispanic Asian Alone			
Pacific Islander Alone			
Other Race Alone			
Two or More Races Alone			

Population by Sex

Male			
Female			

Population by Age

Age 0-4			
Age 0-17			
Age 18+			
Age 65+			

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals dues to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race. N/A means not available.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2006 - 2010.



EJView ACS Summary Report



Location:

Study Area:

	2006 - 2010 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population 25+ by Educational Attainment			
Total			
Less than 9th Grade			
9th - 12th Grade, No Diploma			
High School Graduate			
Some College, No Degree			
Associate Degree			
Bachelor's Degree or more			
POPULATION AGE 5+ YEARS BY ABILITY TO SPEAK ENGLISH			
Total			
Speak only English			
Non-English at Home ¹⁺²⁺³⁺⁴			
¹ Speak English "very well"			
² Speak English "well"			
³ Speak English "not well"			
⁴ Speak English "not at all"			
³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than well"			
²⁺³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than very well"			
POPULATION AGE 5+ YEARS BY LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME			
Total			
Speak only English			
Non-English Speaking			
Population by Place of Birth for the Foreign-Born			
Total			
Europe			
Asia			
Africa			
Oceania			
Americas			
Households by Household Income in 1999			
Household Income Base			
< \$15,000			
\$15,000 - \$25,000			
\$25,000 - \$50,000			
\$50,000 - \$75,000			
\$75,000 +			
Occupied Housing Units by Tenure			
Total			
Owner Occupied			
Renter Occupied			

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race. N/A means not available.

2006-2010 ACS 5-year Estimates: The American Community Survey (ACS) summary files provide nation-wide population and housing characteristic data at all Census summary levels down to the Block Group level. This data was collected between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2010. ACS replaces the decennial census sample data, and is not the 2010 Census population counts data. (<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/#fragment-3>)

Margin of error (MOE): The MOE provides a measure of the uncertainty in the estimate due to sampling error in the ACS survey. Applying the MOE value yields the confidence interval for the estimate. For example, an estimate value of 50 and +/- MOE of 5 means the true value is between 45 and 55 with a 90 percent certainty (http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/MultiyearACSAccuracyofData2010.pdf). Maximum MOE is shown for each value within study area.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2006 - 2010.

Health Statistics

Health Service Area for *Bernalillo (Albuquerque), NM - Valencia, NM*

The health data statistics for this feature of the Environmental Justice Assessment are provided by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) [EXIT Disclaimer](#), the official source for vital statistics. Currently, this information has not been released for all ethnic groups by NCHS. When the health statistics are released, they will be provided in this feature broken down by geographic area and ethnicity. This information will be made available as soon as the data have been quality assured and released by NCHS in their entirety.

Since 1960, NCHS has received several legislative mandates and authorities, and it works closely with other federal agencies, as well as researchers and academic institutions, to provide health information. NCHS data systems include data on vital events, as well as information on health status, lifestyle and exposure to unhealthy influences, the onset and diagnosis of illness and disability, and the use of health care. This information is used by policymakers in Congress and the Administration, by medical researchers, and by others in the health community.

Additional information is available from the [National Center for Health Statistics \(NCHS\)](#) [EXIT Disclaimer](#) website.

Statistic\Disease †	Heart Disease	All Cancers	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	Pneumonia and Influenza	Liver Disease
White Male Rate *	154.2	139.4	30.1	12.9	16.3
White Male Significance **	1	2	3	1	5
Black Male Rate *	164.4	156.8	28.3	21.3	3.4
Black Male Significance **	2	2	3	2	2
White Female Rate *	80	100.8	17.1	8.4	6.4
White Female Significance **	1	2	3	2	5
Black Female Rate *	85.4	116.9	9.3	1.1	10.7

Black Female Significance **	2	3	3	2	3
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SOURCE: [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Atlas of United States Mortality \(1997\)](#) [EXIT Disclaimer](#)

† Rates based on deaths during 1988-92 in the United States due to the diseases listed.

* **Rate:** The age-adjusted death rate due to cause per 100,000 population.

** **Significance:** A description of whether the death rate of the group, due to cause, varies significantly from the U.S. death rate.

2005 NATA Risk Estimates

	Cancer Risk (Persons per Million)	Neurological Hazard Risk	Respiratory Hazard Risk
BERNALILLO, NM	37.3 (77.3 Percentile)	.04 (77.4 Percentile)	1.52 (84.6 Percentile)
SANDOVAL, NM	24.79 (33.7 Percentile)	.03 (56.4 Percentile)	.75 (55 Percentile)
New Mexico			
New Mexico	27.84 (13.5 Percentile)	.03 (9.6 Percentile)	.89 (15.4 Percentile)

SOURCE: EPA Office of Air and Radiation (<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/nata2005/>)

NOTES: Values are derived from 2005 National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA) Cancer Risk Estimates and Non-Cancer Hazard Index Scores. Percentiles are ranking of Counties and States from 0 (lowest) to 100 (highest).

2007 Asthma Prevalence By State

	White Non-Hispanic Persons	Black Non-Hispanic Persons	Multi-Racial Non-Hispanic Persons	Other Race Non-Hispanic Persons	Hispanic Persons
New Mexico					
Lifetime	15.3%	30.4%	8.7%	13.1%	11.8%
Current	9.9%	9.8%	6.2%	4.9%	7.7%

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

2007 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) (<http://www.cdc.gov/asthma/brfss/07/brfssdata.htm>)

2008 Mortality Rates

	Deaths per 1000
BERNALILLO, NM	7.74
SANDOVAL, NM	6.25
New Mexico	
New Mexico	7.84

SOURCE: US Census Bureau <http://www.census.gov/popest/>

NOTES: Mortality rates are calculated using 7/1/2007 to 7/1/2008 deaths and estimated populations from the file, "County Population Estimates and Estimated Components of Change, April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2008".

Life Expectancy at Birth in 1999

	Male and Female	Male	Female
Bernalillo, New Mexico	77.7	74.7	80.6
Sandoval, New Mexico	79	75.8	82.1

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau & National Center for Health Statistics

All Cancers Mortality Rates

	1950 - 1994		1970 - 1994							
	White Male Age 0 - 19	White Female Age 0 - 19	All White Male	All White Female	All Black Male	All Black Female	White Male Age 0 - 19	White Female Age 0 - 19	Black Male Age 0 - 19	Black Female Age 0 - 19
BERNALILLO, NM	7.7866	4.738	185.8214	130.4128	238.3551	145.7876				
SANDOVAL, NM	3.4955	4.9174	158.6888	118.5029	136.2436	112.736				
New Mexico	6.3915	4.906	176.2282	123.6238	232.7052	133.5843	5.3343	3.8159	4.0466	2.1414

SOURCE: National Cancer Institute Cancer Mortality Maps & Graphs <http://ratecalc.cancer.gov/ratecalc/archivedatlas/>

NOTES: Mortality rates (number per 100,000) are extracted from the state and county mortality tables.

Childhood Leukemia Mortality Rates

	1950 - 1994		1970 - 1994							
	White Male Age 0 - 19	White Female Age 0 - 19	All White Male	All White Female	All Black Male	All Black Female	White Male Age 0 - 19	White Female Age 0 - 19	Black Male Age 0 - 19	Black Female Age 0 - 19

BERNALILLO, NM	3.647 2	2.2276	8.427 9	4.8666	8.0361	2.8961				
SANDOVAL, NM	1.724 5	1.5999	7.326 9	4.7813	13.873 4	0				
New Mexico	2.778 1	2.2246	7.933 2	4.7406	7.1348	1.8582	2.167 3	1.595	0	2.1414

SOURCE: National Cancer Institute Cancer Mortality Maps & Graphs <http://ratecalc.cancer.gov/ratecalc/archivedatlas/>

NOTES: Mortality rates (number per 100,000) are extracted from the state and county Leukemia mortality tables.

Adult Lymphoma Mortality Rates

	1950 - 1994		1970 - 1994							
	White Male Age 20 - 49 Age 50 - 74 Age 75+	White Female Age 20 - 49 Age 50 - 74 Age 75+	All White Male	All White Female	All Black Male	All Black Female	White Male Age 20 - 49 Age 50 - 74 Age 75+	White Female Age 20 - 49 Age 50 - 74 Age 75+	Black Male Age 20 - 49 Age 50 - 74 Age 75+	Black Female Age 20 - 49 Age 50 - 74 Age 75+
BERNALILLO, NM	1.9159 14.6073 43.3685	1.0176 10.6392 41.8341	5.96 64	4.54 1	6.84 3	.564 5				
SANDOVAL, NM	.4964 12.7254 50.8879	.4639 3.155 22.114	4.89 75	2.12 97	0	8.58				
New Mexico	1.7706 13.014 38.6452	.9276 9.7311 34.1661	5.50 21	3.97 8	5.31 46	3.67 43	1.9204 13.723 1 45.486 2	.9477 10.506 36.919	0 21.483 3 15.065 8	1.6494 12.6926 11.2438

SOURCE: National Cancer Institute Cancer Mortality Maps & Graphs <http://ratecalc.cancer.gov/ratecalc/archivedatlas/>

NOTES: Mortality rates (number per 100,000) are extracted from the state and county Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma mortality tables.

Lung Cancers Mortality Rates

	1950 - 1994		1970 - 1994							
	White Male Age 0 - 19	White Female Age 0 - 19	All White Male	All White Female	All Black Male	All Black Female	White Male Age 0 - 19	White Female Age 0 - 19	Black Male Age 0 - 19	Black Female Age 0 - 19
BERNALILLO, NM	0	.0401	49.6064	20.0436	60.1121	18.617				
SANDOVAL, NM	0	0	44.1034	21.5634	64.1723	30.3				
New Mexico	.0242	.0558	49.4622	20.1564	69.9306	19.8963	.0202	.0782	0	0

SOURCE: National Cancer Institute Cancer Mortality Maps & Graphs <http://ratecalc.cancer.gov/ratecalc/archivedatlas/>

NOTES: Mortality rates (number per 100,000) are extracted from the state and county mortality tables.

APPENDIX E. USFWS TOWER GUIDELINES



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Washington, D.C. 20240



In Reply Refer To:
FWSIFHC/DHCIBFA

Memorandum

To: Regional Directors, Regions 1-7

From: Director **/s/ Jamie Rappaport Clark** SEP 14

Subject: Service Guidance on the Siting, Construction, Operation and Decommissioning of Communications Towers

Construction of communications towers (including radio, television, cellular, and microwave) in the United States has been growing at an exponential rate, increasing at an estimated 6 percent to 8 percent annually. According to the Federal Communication Commission's *2000 Antenna Structure Registry*, the number of lighted towers greater than 199 feet above ground level currently number over 45,000 and the total number of towers over 74,000. By 2003, all television stations must be digital, adding potentially 1,000 new towers exceeding 1,000 feet AGL.

The construction of new towers creates a potentially significant impact on migratory birds, especially some 350 species of night-migrating birds. Communications towers are estimated to kill 4-5 million birds per year, which violates the spirit and the intent of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Code of Federal Regulations at Part 50 designed to implement the MBTA. Some of the species affected are also protected under the Endangered Species Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Act.

Service personnel may become involved in the review of proposed tower sitings and/or in the evaluation of tower impacts on migratory birds through National Environmental Policy Act review; specifically, sections 1501.6, opportunity to be a cooperating agency, and 1503.4, duty to comment on federally-licensed activities for agencies with jurisdiction by law, in this case the MBTA, or because of special expertise. Also, the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act requires that any activity on Refuge lands be determined as compatible with the Refuge system mission and the Refuge purpose(s). In addition, the Service is required by the ESA to assist other Federal agencies in ensuring that any action they authorize, implement, or fund will not jeopardize the continued existence of any federally endangered or threatened species.

This is your future. Don't leave it blank. - Support the 2000 Census.

A Communication Tower Working Group composed of government agencies, industry, academic researchers and NGO's has been formed to develop and implement a research protocol to determine the best ways to construct and operate towers to prevent bird strikes. Until the research study is completed, or until research efforts uncover significant new mitigation measures, all Service personnel involved in the review of proposed tower sitings and/or the evaluation of the impacts of towers on migratory birds should use the attached interim guidelines when making recommendations to all companies, license applicants, or licensees proposing new tower sitings. These guidelines were developed by Service personnel from research conducted in several eastern, midwestern, and southern States, and have been refined through Regional review. They are based on the best information available at this time, and are the most prudent and effective measures for avoiding bird strikes at towers. We believe that they will provide significant protection for migratory birds pending completion of the Working Group's recommendations. As new information becomes available, the guidelines will be updated accordingly.

Implementation of these guidelines by the communications industry is voluntary, and our recommendations must be balanced with Federal Aviation Administration requirements and local community concerns where necessary. Field offices have discretion in the use of these guidelines on a case by case basis, and may also have additional recommendations to add which are specific to their geographic area.

Also attached is a [Tower Site Evaluation Form](#) which may prove useful in evaluating proposed towers and in streamlining the evaluation process. Copies may be provided to consultants or tower companies who regularly submit requests for consultation, as well as to those who submit individual requests that do not contain sufficient information to allow adequate evaluation. This form is for discretionary use, and may be modified as necessary.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712) prohibits the taking, killing, possession, transportation, and importation of migratory birds, their eggs, parts, and nests, except when specifically authorized by the Department of the Interior. While the Act has no provision for allowing an unauthorized take, it must be recognized that some birds may be killed at structures such as communications towers even if all reasonable measures to avoid it are implemented. The Service's Division of Law Enforcement carries out its mission to protect migratory birds not only through investigations and enforcement, but also through fostering relationships with individuals and industries that proactively seek to eliminate their impacts on migratory birds. While it is not possible under the Act to absolve individuals or companies from liability if they follow these recommended guidelines, the Division of Law Enforcement and Department of Justice have used enforcement and prosecutorial discretion in the past regarding individuals or companies who have made good faith efforts to avoid the take of migratory birds.

Please ensure that all field personnel involved in review of FCC licensed communications tower proposals receive copies of this memorandum. Questions regarding this issue should be directed to Dr. Benjamin N. Tuggle, Chief, Division of Habitat Conservation, at (703)358-2161, or

Jon Andrew, Chief, Division of Migratory Bird Management, at (703)358-1714. These guidelines will be incorporated in a Director's Order and placed in the Fish and Wildlife Service Manual at a future date.

Attachment

cc: 3012-MIB-FWS/Directorate Reading File
3012-MIB-FWS/CCU Files
3245-MIB-FWS/AFHC Reading Files
840-ARLSQ-FWS/AF Files
400-ARLSQ-FWS/DHC Files
400-ARLSQ-FWS/DHC/BFA Files
400-ARLSQ-FWS/DHC/BFA Staff
520-ARLSQ-FWS/LE Files
634-ARLSQ-FWS/MBMO Files (Jon Andrew)

FWS/DHCIBFAJRWillis:bg:08/09/00:(703)358-2183
S:\DHC\BFA\WILLIS\COMTOW-2.POL

**Service Interim Guidelines For Recommendations On
Communications Tower Siting, Construction, Operation, and Decommissioning**

1. Any company/applicant/licensee proposing to construct a new communications tower should be strongly encouraged to collocate the communications equipment on an existing communication tower or other structure (e.g., billboard, water tower, or building mount). Depending on tower load factors, from 6 to 10 providers may collocate on an existing tower.
2. If collocation is not feasible and a new tower or towers are to be constructed, communications service providers should be strongly encouraged to construct towers no more than 199 feet above ground level, using construction techniques which do not require guy wires (e.g., use a lattice structure, monopole, etc.). Such towers should be unlighted if Federal Aviation Administration regulations permit.
3. If constructing multiple towers, providers should consider the cumulative impacts of all of those towers to migratory birds and threatened and endangered species as well as the impacts of each individual tower.
4. If at all possible, new towers should be sited within existing "antenna farms" (clusters of towers). Towers should not be sited in or near wetlands, other known bird concentration areas (e.g., State or Federal refuges, staging areas, rookeries), in known migratory or daily movement flyways, or in habitat of threatened or endangered species. Towers should not be sited in areas with a high incidence of fog, mist, and low ceilings.
5. If taller (>199 feet AGL) towers requiring lights for aviation safety must be constructed, the minimum amount of pilot warning and obstruction avoidance lighting required by the FAA should be used. Unless otherwise required by the FAA, only white (preferable) or red strobe lights should be used at night, and these should be the minimum number, minimum intensity, and minimum number of flashes per minute (longest duration between flashes) allowable by the FAA. The use of solid red or pulsating red warning lights at night should be avoided. Current research indicates that solid or pulsating (beacon) red lights attract night-migrating birds at a much higher rate than white strobe lights. Red strobe lights have not yet been studied.
6. Tower designs using guy wires for support which are proposed to be located in known raptor or waterbird concentration areas or daily movement routes, or in major diurnal migratory bird movement routes or stopover sites, should have daytime visual markers on the wires to prevent collisions by these diurnally moving species. (For guidance on markers, see *Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC)*. 1994. *Mitigating Bird Collisions with Power Lines: The State of the Art in 1994*. Edison Electric Institute, Washington, D.C., 78pp, and *Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC)*. 1996. *Suggested Practices/or Raptor Protection on Power Lines*. Edison Electric Institute/Raptor Research Foundation, Washington, D. C; 128pp. Copies can be obtained via the Internet at <http://www.eei.org/resources/pubcat/enviro/>. or by calling 1-800/334-5453).

7. Towers and appendant facilities should be sited, designed and constructed so as to avoid or minimize habitat loss within and adjacent to the tower "footprint." However, a larger tower footprint is preferable to the use of guy wires in construction. Road access and fencing should be minimized to reduce or prevent habitat fragmentation and disturbance, and to reduce above ground obstacles to birds in flight.

8. If significant numbers of breeding, feeding, or roosting birds are known to habitually use the proposed tower construction area, relocation to an alternate site should be recommended. If this is not an option, seasonal restrictions on construction may be advisable in order to avoid disturbance during periods of high bird activity.

9. In order to reduce the number of towers needed in the future, providers should be encouraged to design new towers structurally and electrically to accommodate the applicant/licensee's antennas and comparable antennas for at least two additional users (minimum of three users for each tower structure), unless this design would require the addition of lights or guy wires to an otherwise unlighted and/or unguyed tower.

10. Security lighting for on-ground facilities and equipment should be down-shielded to keep light within the boundaries of the site.

11. If a tower is constructed or proposed for construction, Service personnel or researchers from the Communication Tower Working Group should be allowed access to the site to evaluate bird use, conduct dead-bird searches, to place net catchments below the towers but above the ground, and to place radar, Global Positioning System, infrared, thermal imagery, and acoustical monitoring equipment as necessary to assess and verify bird movements and to gain information on the impacts of various tower sizes, configurations, and lighting systems.

12. Towers no longer in use or determined to be obsolete should be removed within 12 months of cessation of use.

In order to obtain information on the extent to which these guidelines are being implemented, and to identify any recurring problems with their implementation which may necessitate modifications, letters provided in response to requests for evaluation of proposed towers should contain the following request:

"In order to obtain information on the usefulness of these guidelines in preventing bird strikes, and to identify any recurring problems with their implementation which may necessitate modifications, please advise us of the final location and specifications of the proposed tower, and which of the measures recommended for the protection of migratory birds were implemented. If any of the recommended measures can not be implemented, please explain why they were not feasible."

APPENDIX F. PUBLIC MEETING DOCUMENTS



Planning & Zoning Department Village of Corrales

**4324 Corrales Road, Corrales, New Mexico 87048
Phone: (505) 897-0502 Ext. 219 / Fax: (505) 897-7217
Email: ctidwell@corrales-nm.org**

October 26, 2012

Mr. John A. Avila
Village Administrator
4324 Corrales Road
Corrales, New Mexico 87048

RE: Request for Site Development Plan Approval for a Radio Communications Tower and Three Water Tanks located at 500 Jones Road, 3001 Angel Road, and 1057 Sagebrush Drive, Village of Corrales.

Dear Mr. Avila;

At its regularly scheduled meetings of September 17th, and October 17th, 2012, the Planning and Zoning Commission approved your requests for approval of site development plans. In addition to approval of the locations of the water storage tanks and radio communications tower, the Village's requests for waivers from the requirement to landscape the sites were also approved.

The actions taken by the Commission are as follows:

SDP-12-02. Lot 18, Richland Hills Subdivision, also known as Angel Hill.

MOTION: Commissioner Cordova, to approve the request for a waiver regarding landscaping for SDP-12-02.
SECOND: Commissioner Brown.
VOTE: Motion to approve the waiver to not require landscaping for SDP-12-02 carried unanimously, with a vote of 6-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Cordova, to approve SDP-12-02.
SECOND: Commissioner Thompson.
VOTE: Motion to approve SDP-12-02 carried unanimously, with a vote of 6-0.

SDP-12-03. Corrales Recreation Center, 500 Jones Road

MOTION: Commissioner Cordova, to approve the waiver from landscaping for SDP-12-03.
SECOND: Commissioner Brown.

VOTE: Motion to approve the waiver from landscaping for SDP-12-03 carried with a vote of 4-2.
Commissioners Anderson, Brown, Cordova, and Thompson voting aye.
Commissioners Soto and Rizzi voting no.

MOTION: Commissioner Cordova, to approve SDP-12-03.
SECOND: Commissioner Thompson.
VOTE: Motion to approve SDP-12-03 carried unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

SDP-12-04. Salce Park North, 1057 Sagebrush Drive

MOTION: Commissioner Cordova, to approve the request for a waiver from landscaping requirements for SDP-12-04.
SECOND: Commissioner Brown.
VOTE: Motion to approve the waiver from landscaping, carried unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Brown to approve SDP-12-04.
SECOND: Commissioner Cordova.
VOTE: Motion to approve the SDP carried unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

It is the understanding of the Commission that site development plans for the recreational elements for Salce Park North and South will be submitted at a future date.

Sincerely,



Cynthia C. Tidwell
Planning and Zoning Administrator

Cc: Anthony Martinez, Village Fire Chief

Owner	ADDR2	CITY	STATE	ZIP
VILLAGE OF CORRALES	4324 CORRALES RD	CORRALES	NM	87048
CALLE CUERVO LLC	5741 PINON GRANDE NW	ALBUQUERQUE	NM	87114
GURULE, LORENZO T	1399 ANGEL RD	CORRALES	NM	87048
AGUILAR, EUGENE C & CHRISTINE Y	1389 ANGEL ROAD	CORRALES	NM	87048
VAUGHN, BEN E	1425 ANGEL RD	CORRALES	NM	87048
PEREA, DANIEL	1179 ANGEL RD	CORRALES	NM	87048
KRAMER, PATRICIA	3006 TRELIS DRIVE NW	ALBUQUERQUE	NM	871072938

Owner	ADDR2	CITY	STATE	ZIP
ARAGON, CELEDON & CYNTHIA	P.O. BOX 2692	CORRALES	NM	87048
TSO, CHRISTINA S	4200 PARADISE RD APT 1046	LAS VEGAS	NV	89169-6552-87048
GONZALES, PAUL CHRISTOPHER AND HILLARY R	2914 ANGEL RD	CORRALES	NM	87048-6801
LUCERO, FREDRICK & NORMA S.	2916 ANGEL RD	CORRALES	NM	87048
ANGEL AGENTS LLC	5300 PLANO COURT NW	ALBUQUERQUE	NM	87105-1551
WELLS FARGO BANK N.A.	3476 STATEVIEW BLVD	FORT MILL	SC	29715-7203
CURB INC	5160 SAN FRANCISCO RD NE	ALBUQUERQUE	NM	87109-4640
ROCKSTROH, STEPHEN S	PO BOX 1721	FRIDAY HARBOR	WA	98250-1721
LARRANAGA, ALFRED AND CORRINE	PO BOX 1273	EDGEWOOD	NM	87015-1273
GARCIA, TOBY P AND BEATRICE	3 QUIET LN	CORRALES	NM	87048-8270
SWANSON, LINDA MICHELE & WARD B	84 SILE RD	PENA BLANCA	NM	87041-5012
SWANSON, WARD & LINDA MICHELLE	#84 SILE RD	PENA BLANCA	NM	87041
KONERTH, THOMAS M & LEE, JEANNETTE M	102 VILLA VERDE CT	RIO RANCHO	NM	87124
BOWMAN, COURTNEY LEE	108 VILLA VERDE DR SE	RIO RANCHO	NM	87124-1339
ISAACSON, JOHN & VICTORIA & ISAACSON LIVING TRUST	100 VILLA VERDE CT SE	RIO RANCHO	NM	87124
PETERMANN, H CHARLES & JEAN M	106 VILLA VERDE CT SE	RIO RANCHO	NM	87124
RUCH, WANDA M REVOC TRUST	104 VILLA VERDE CT SE	RIO RANCHO	NM	87124

 = receipt rec'd.

 = str. returned



Village of Corrales Planning and Zoning Department

4324 CORRALES ROAD
CORRALES, NEW MEXICO 87048
PHONE (505) 897-0502
FAX (505) 897-7217
EMAIL: info@corrales-nm.org
WEBSITE: www.corrales-nm.org

SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN PERMIT APPLICATION

Applicant Information

Applicant Name: Village of Corrales Telephone: 897-0502

Mailing Address: 4324 Corrales Road

Property Owner: Village of Corrales Telephone: 897-0502

(if different from Applicant)

Mailing Address: _____

(if different from Applicant)

Descriptive Information:	Lot 18		
	Lot #'s	Tract #'s	Block
	Richland Hills Subdiv.		2.018 acres
	Subdivision	MRGCD Map #	Acreage
	X(shaded)		"M" Municipal
Flood Map Designation		Zone Designation	

Address for site: 3001 Angel Road

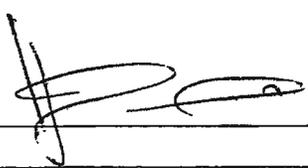
Additional Comments: This parcel is at the terminus of Angel Road; it abuts Rio Rancho. It lies along the southern boundary of Angel Road.

Will there be any undue negative impact on the community? No

If yes, explain:

Buffering Required? Yes No

undetermined	Approx. 4
Linear feet of fence	Number of parking spaces

Signature of Applicant:  Date: 8/17/2012

General Information

1. Corrales Codified Ordinances Chapter 18 Section 18-45(b)
2. The Administrator shall determine if the proposed site development plan satisfies the requirements of Section 18-45(b) before submitting to the P&Z Commission for a public hearing.
3. Any change in use which would require additional parking and/or any alteration or addition to the site of any structure upon the site shall require a resubmitted application and approval as required by this Section.

Office Use Only

Date Received: 8/17/2012 Received by: [Signature] SDP- 12 - 02

Amt Paid: \$ NA Cash Check No.: _____ Credit card

Receipt No.: _____

Reviewed by: [Signature] Date: _____

Legal Notice Mailing Invoiced: \$ NA Date: _____ Date Paid: _____

APPROVED: [Signature] Oct. 17, 2012
Planning & Zoning Administrator Date of Hearing

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS: _____
Planning & Zoning Administrator Date of Hearing

DENIED: _____
Planning and Zoning Administrator Date of Hearing

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

AMENDED DRAWING(S) REQUIRED: _____

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:



Village of Corrales
Planning and Zoning Department

4324 CORRALES ROAD
CORRALES, NEW MEXICO 87048
PHONE (505) 897-0502
FAX (505) 897-7217
EMAIL: info@corrales-nm.org
WEBSITE: www.corrales-nm.org

SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN PERMIT APPLICATION

Applicant Information

Applicant Name: VILLAGE OF CORRALES Telephone: _____

Mailing Address: 4324 CORRALES RD

Property Owner: _____ Telephone: _____
(if different from Applicant)

Mailing Address: _____
(if different from Applicant)

Descriptive Information:	<u>18</u>	_____	_____
	Lot #'s	Tract #'s	Block
	<u>RICHLAND HILLS</u>	_____	<u>2.018</u>
	Subdivision	MRGCD Map #	Acreage
"X" SHADED	_____	<u>M</u>	
Flood Map Designation	_____	Zone Designation	

Address for site: _____

Additional Comments: WATER TANK & ANTENNA

Will there be any undue negative impact on the community? _____

If yes, explain: _____

Buffering Required? Yes No

Linear feet of fence _____
Number of parking spaces _____

Signature of Applicant: [Signature] Date: 8-17-12

General Information

1. Corrales Codified Ordinances Chapter 18 Section 18-45(b)
2. The Administrator shall determine if the proposed site development plan satisfies the requirements of Section 18-45(b) before submitting to the P&Z Commission for a public hearing.
3. Any change in use which would require additional parking and/or any alteration or addition to the site of any structure upon the site shall require a resubmitted application and approval as required by this Section.

received
8/17/12

Office Use Only

Date Received: _____ Received by: _____ SDP- _____

Amt Paid: \$ _____ Cash Check No.: _____ Credit card

Receipt No.: _____

Reviewed by: _____ Date: _____

Legal Notice Mailing Invoiced: \$ _____ Date: _____ Date Paid: _____

APPROVED: _____
Planning & Zoning Administrator Date of Hearing

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS: _____
Planning & Zoning Administrator Date of Hearing

DENIED: _____
Planning and Zoning Administrator Date of Hearing

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

AMENDED DRAWING(S) REQUIRED: _____
Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:



Village of Corrales

Planning & Zoning Department
4324 Corrales Road, Corrales, New Mexico 87048
Phone: (505) 897-0502 / Fax: (505) 897-7217

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Date of Meeting: September 17th, 2012, Monday, 6:30 p.m.

Location of Meeting: Council Chambers

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Commissioner Soto, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

The PZA called the roll.

Present: Commissioners Anderson, Brown, Cordova, Rizzi, Soto, and Thompson.

Absent: Commissioner Scherzinger (Excused).

Staff: Cynthia C. Tidwell, PZA

Anthony Martinez, Village of Corrales Fire Chief

Chris Sisneros, Building Official

John A. Avila, Village of Corrales Administrator

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Brown, to approve the agenda of September 17, 2012, as prepared.

SECOND: Commissioner Cordova.

VOTE: Motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously, with a vote of 6-0.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Thompson, to approve the minutes of August 15, 2012, meeting.

SECOND: Commissioner Brown.

VOTE: Motion to approve the minutes of August 15, 2012, carried unanimously, with a vote of 6-0.

45 **MOTION:** Commissioner Brown, to approve the minutes of the Work Study Session of
46 September 5, 2012, as corrected.

47 **SECOND:** Commissioners Thompson and Cordova.

48 **VOTE:** Motion to approve the minutes of the Work Study Session of September 5,
49 2012, carried unanimously, with a vote of 6-0.

50

51 **Commissioner Rizzi:** She stated the final draft of the minutes to show to be “minutes”
52 instead of “agenda.”

53

54

55 **VI. COMMISSIONERS’ FORUM**

56

57 **Commissioner Brown:** He reported that he and Chairman Soto met with the mayor last
58 week regarding putting regulations regarding “fences” back on the agenda for the
59 Council. The mayor would like us to review it in our next WSS and make any
60 amendments to be brought forward.

61

62 **Chairman Soto:** He asked the PZA to put it on the WSS agenda for October 3rd, and a
63 copy of the ordinance that went to the council to be distributed to all commissioners.

64

65 He also reported there is an appeals hearing tomorrow night regarding the home
66 application permit approval of ZOC-12-22 (Mike McKinstry). Commissioner Thompson
67 will attend the hearing in his absence and give a summary of the commission action. The
68 hearing will be de novo.

69

70 **VII. PZA REPORT**

71

72 She had nothing to report. She reported Ms. Daza has amended her application, but she
73 still needs to get in touch with Mr. Harrington.

74

75 **VIII. BUSINESS ITEMS:**

76 **a. Consent Agenda (Home Occupation Permits):** ****All matters listed under*
77 *the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the P&Z Commission and*
78 *will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these*
79 *items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent*
80 *Agenda and will consider separately.****

81

82 **1. ZOC-12-26. Linda M Ozier, 125 Todos Juntos Road,** more
83 specifically known as Lot 14, Block 2, Tierra de Corrales
84 Subdivision, comprised of some 1.0 acres more or less, is
85 requesting a home occupation permit for a home based business
86 doing fitness training, dba, “Todos Juntos Fitness,” using 50
87 square feet of a 2,703 square foot residence.

87

88 **2. ZOC-12-27. Natalie Woodard, 1453 West Ella Drive,** more
89 specifically known as Lot 10-A, Vista Corrales Subdivision II,
90 comprised of some 1.44 acres more or less, is requesting a home

91 occupation permit for a home based business providing massage
92 therapy, dba, "Sweet Soul Therapeutic Massage," using some
93 150 square feet of a 2,200 square foot residence.
94

- 95 **3. ZOC-12-28. James Ellison, 116 Doolittle Road,** more
96 specifically known as Lot 16, Rancho Corrales Subdivision,
97 comprised of some 1.0 acres more or less, is requesting a home
98 occupation permit for a home based business conducting internet
99 sales of novelty item, dba "Bright Valley Enterprises, LLC," using
100 some 300 square feet of a 1,950 square foot residence. This is
101 the second ZOC on this property: ZOC-12-16, approved June
102 20th, 2012.
103

104 **MOTION: Commissioner Brown, to approve the Consent Agenda, comprised of**
105 **ZOC-12-26, ZOC-12-27, and ZOC-12-28, of September 17, 2012.**

106 **SECOND: Commissioner Cordova.**

107 **VOTE: Motion to approve the consent agenda carried unanimously, with a**
108 **vote of 6-0.**
109

110 **PZA Tidwell:** She instructed the approved applicants to come to the
111 receptionist to obtain an annual business registration, within 90 days of
112 today.
113

114 **b. Business Items:**
115

- 116 **1. SUM-12-04. Phoebe Hire, 262 Entrada de los Martinez,** more specifically
117 known as Tracts, 98C1, 98D1, 98D2A, and port. Tracts 98A1A1A and
118 98A1A1B1, MRGCD Map No. 18, comprising some 1.23 acres more or
119 less, is requesting a Summary Plat to consolidate five (5) tracts into one
120 (1) parcel.
121

122 **Applicant Phoebe Hire, 262 Entrada de los Martinez and 535 Mission**
123 **Valley Road, (sworn):** She summarized her case which started with her
124 building a horse barn on Entrada de los Martinez; in order to get a building
125 permit, the Village required her to consolidate the lots into one parcel.
126

127 **Commissioner Brown:** He asked about the total area of the lot.
128

129 **Applicant Phoebe Hire:** She responded that its some 1.233 acres...over
130 an acre.
131

132 **MOTION: Commissioner Cordova, to approve the SUM-12-04, Phoebe Hire.**

133 **SECOND: Commissioner Thompson.**

134 **VOTE: Motion to approve SUM-12-04 carried unanimously with a vote of 6-0.**
135

136 **PZA Tidwell:** She asked if the Chair and Secretary would like to sign the
137 mylar tonight.
138

139 **2. SDP-12-02. Village of Corrales, 4324 Corrales Road, more specifically**
140 **known as Lot 18, Richland Hills Subdivision (no site address at this**
141 **time),** comprising some 2.018 acres more or less, is requesting site
142 development plan approval to construct a water storage facility for fire
143 suppression and to construct an antenna/repeater for emergency
144 responders.
145

146 **John A. Avila, Village Administrator, 4324 Corrales Road:** He
147 summarized the Village initiative and its desire to take advantage of a
148 regional partnership to construct water storage facilities and a
149 communications antennae at the top of what is known as Angel Hill at
150 3001 Angel Road.
151

152 **Commissioner Thompson:** She asked how the information was arrived
153 at regarding this location.
154

155 **Administrator Avila:** This location was identified in a report that has
156 been in place for several years...this is the highest point in the Village and
157 would allow communications to be picked up around the region and be
158 projected down into the valley.
159

160 **Commissioner Brown:** He said he agrees this is an ideal site; he asked
161 if the water tanks are above or below ground.
162

163 **Administrator Avila:** He responded that the tanks are above ground;
164 there are two (2) tanks providing approximately 60,000 gallons of water to
165 serve a portion of the village that's underserved at this time.
166

167 **Commissioner Brown:** He asked if the well will be on this site.
168

169 **Administrator Avila:** He answered that the Village has applied for the
170 well permit for a well on this site for the purpose of providing water for fire
171 suppression.
172

173 **Commissioner Brown:** He said it appears to be about 36' above the
174 road edge; how will people get up there to maintain the installations?
175

176 **Administrator Avila:** He responded the cul de sac on Angel Road is all
177 that is needed to service this installation. All the equipment will be brought
178 in from the Rio Rancho side to construct the facilities; the Village will not
179 require any additional access to the site.
180

181 **Commissioner Rizzi:** She asked about the requested waiver from
182 landscaping requirements, referring to the simulated photograph shown of
183 the two tanks in situ at a different location.

184
185 **Administrator Avila:** He stated the simulation shows the tanks as they
186 are installed at Intel, with paving as required at this commercial site. All
187 that is necessary for installation on the Corrales site is the concrete pad
188 for the tanks and the tower, and no other impervious surface is required.

189
190 **Commissioner Rizzi:** She again asked if there could there be any
191 softening of the site, around the perimeter of the site.

192
193 **Administrator Avila:** He stated there is no need for landscaping at this
194 site, but the Village will consider advice on how to provide landscaping if
195 that is desired.

196
197 **Commissioner Cordova:** He offered a motion to approve the waiver
198 from the requirement to landscape the site.

199
200 **Chairman Soto:** He asked Commissioner Cordova to wait until all
201 questions were asked and answered before offering the motion.

202
203 **Commissioner Thompson:** She asked how the trucks are going to be
204 filled when they need water.

205
206 **Administrator Avila:** He answered that the pipe will reach Angel road
207 where the trucks will be filled from a hydrant.

208
209 **Chairman Soto:** He asked if the required funding has been secured.

210
211 **Administrator Avila:** He responded that the equipment is being donated,
212 and we are pursuing additional funding to complete the project; it's not
213 100% secured, but the Village is pursuing the funds necessary to
214 complete the project.

215
216 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

217
218 **In favor of...**

219
220 **Ron Reeder, 19 Santa Maria, Corrales (sworn):** He said he supports
221 the proposed site development plan which will continue the planned
222 improvements in providing water for the Village's firefighting, improving the
223 liability rating for the Village, and will improve communication for police
224 and fire and improve interagency communication over a large part of
225 Sandoval County. Over the years the Village has installed several
226 additional water storage tanks for firefighting. This site plan continues to

227 implement the fire safety improvement plan at a time when drought has
228 created severe fire danger in Corrales. The Angel Road antenna location
229 will improve communications for police and fire personnel; since it
230 overlooks the entire Village there will be direct line of sight path to the
231 antenna from everywhere in the Village. This will provide more reliable
232 communications at all times.

233
234 One of the issues the 911 commission identified as a problem was a lack
235 of inter-operable communication capability between agencies. The Angel
236 Road site is unique in providing radio communication for the most
237 populated area of Sandoval County as well as portions of Bernalillo
238 County.

239
240 Today when responding to large bosque fires, firefighters switch to state
241 fire frequency to communicate with firefighters and dispatch from other
242 areas. This frequency provides only limited range. The planned inter-
243 operability repeater will enhance the communication capability needed in
244 responding to large events that require mutual aide responses.

245
246 The installation described in the site development plan will significantly
247 enhance public safety in Corrales and the surrounding area.

248
249
250 **Opposed to...**

251
252 **Thomas Konerth, 102 Villa Verde, Rio Rancho, 87124, (sworn):** He
253 walked to the overhead screen to point out his home and other neighbors
254 in Rio Rancho and Ben Vaughn's house in Corrales. He pointed out the
255 abandoned house (Steve Rockstroh property),...he stated the antenna will
256 be directly in our line of view of the Jemez Mountains and the Sangre de
257 Cristo Mountains. Each one of us will feel the impact of these structures.
258 Two towers, especially a 180' radio tower with a blinking light on top of
259 it...flashing all night long...this will be the largest tower in the area. He
260 said the area is residential, and questioned why this site was chosen.
261 There are several high points in Corrales...the industrial park in Rio
262 Rancho, with three (3) cell towers and microwave towers. The cost of
263 putting up a new tower instead of leasing space on one of the existing
264 towers We bought this home based on the view. Our value in the
265 home is based on that view. He said it just doesn't make sense to him;
266 there are other areas that are more industrial, not in a residential
267 neighborhood.

268
269 There are other places to put the water tanks that would not be an
270 obstruction to the view of the neighbors. You've already got the
271 advantage of pressure from the elevation; put it in a place like Salce Park,
272 underground. (the recording faded in and out)

273 **Karen Alexander, 104 Villa Verde, Rio Rancho, 87124 (not sworn):**
274 She said she supports the comments made by Tom Connors. It's not just
275 2 or 3 homes that are affected, it's all the homes around the area. She
276 said she understands the need for firefighting capability and
277 communication but she hopes there is another alternative.
278

279 **Zoltan Bogar, 104 Villa Verde, Rio Rancho, 87124 (sworn):** He asked
280 for the Village to look into other locations; he understands firefighting and
281 communications are very important, especially at this time. He stated he
282 bought the house recently for the view. Please consider other sites; it will
283 impact us.
284

285 **Commissioner questions:**
286

287 **Commissioner Anderson:** She asked for the Fire Chief to come up.
288 She asked about the height of the tanks.
289

290 **Anthony Martinez, Fire Chief, Village of Corrales:** He responded that
291 the tanks are surplus and are approximately 38' in height.
292

293 **Commissioner Anderson:** She asked about requirements for the 180'
294 tower regarding flashing warning lights;
295

296 **Anthony Martinez, Fire Chief, Village of Corrales:** He responded that
297 there is present a staff member of a company that constructs these towers
298 to confirm that no warning light is required at this height. There is a study
299 regarding air craft flight paths that indicates no warning light is required.
300

301 **Commissioner Anderson:** She asked about construction of the tower.
302

303 **Anthony Martinez, Fire Chief, Village of Corrales:** He answered that it
304 is a lattice type metal frame structure.
305

306 (Village Staff: Chris Sisneros brought a photo simulation of the tower up
307 on the screen.)
308

309 **Anthony Martinez, Fire Chief, Village of Corrales:** He described it as
310 one in Rio Rancho at FD Station No. 5 on Santa Fe Trails Blvd.; it is wide
311 at the bottom for stability and narrow at the top.
312

313 **Commissioner Anderson:** She asked according to the plan the water
314 towers are centered at 34' which is some 16 feet above the horizontal
315 plane at elevation 5234' of the closest house in Rio Rancho, if that is
316 correct. The height of the base pad ... 5256' ... about 16 feet which is
317 actually vertical.
318

319 **Commissioner Brown:** He asked about placement of the utility
320 equipment all in the same place, and he wondered if they couldn't all be
321 located together in a different place on the property.

322
323 **Anthony Martinez, Fire Chief, Village of Corrales:** He answered they
324 chose the location as close to the western boundary and to the north
325 without getting into steep slope and to accommodate the need for line of
326 sight for communication functionality. Moving them to the east wouldn't be
327 feasible.

328
329 **Commissioner Brown:** He reminded the commission and the audience
330 that this is a dedicated VOC property zoned M Municipal, and has been
331 owned by the Village for many years. It is not a residential site.

332
333 **Anthony Martinez, Fire Chief, Village of Corrales:** He said that in 2007
334 or 2008, we changed the zone to M zone for water storage tanks; we had
335 some funding available but not enough, so we put the money into the two
336 tanks on Loma Larga and at the main fire station. A grant application is
337 into Santa Fe for funding to complete this project as a collaborative
338 communication facility; it is pending. A representative from the Sandoval
339 County Emergency Management office is here tonight to answer
340 questions.

341
342 **Commissioner Brown:** He asked about the cul de sac, which is about 28
343 feet lower than the tank; was it considered for the water towers only.

344
345 **Anthony Martinez, Fire Chief, Village of Corrales:** He answered we
346 looked at putting the tanks next to the cul de sac; these tanks cannot be
347 buried in the ground. We looked at putting them on the high side to use
348 gravity to fill the tanker trucks; we don't use pumps to fill the trucks. We
349 have less than 20 psi if at grade and about 40 psi of static water pressure
350 if the tanks are some 30 feet higher. A water line will run from the tank to
351 the hydrant at the cul de sac. No road system will be built; just a water
352 line. The donated tanks are fiberglass; they are not designed to fill water
353 tankers from the top; hydrants are needed.

354
355 **Commissioner Rizzi:** She asked why, if a radio tower in Rio Rancho is
356 being replaced with a mono pole, are we getting this one.

357
358 **Anthony Martinez, Fire Chief, Village of Corrales:** He said Rio Rancho
359 is looking at a combination cell tower and communication tower, and the
360 area coverage is not an issue in that area of Rio Rancho. Our area has a
361 radio coverage deficit and this tower will benefit several areas, including
362 dead spots in Rio Rancho.

363

364 **Commissioner Rizzi:** She asked for more details about the plan that was
365 abandoned several years ago for facilities at this site.

366
367 **Anthony Martinez, Fire Chief, Village of Corrales:** He answered that
368 the funding was allocated to other projects because of costs.

369
370 **Commissioner Rizzi:** She asked if there were there any other sites that
371 were considered for this project.

372
373 **Anthony Martinez, Fire Chief, Village of Corrales:** He said the history
374 goes way back; we're always looking for alternatives to give us greater
375 coverage. We proposed bringing a couple of hydrants from Rio Rancho to
376 Angel Hill and Tierra de Corrales but that fell through. We look at Village-
377 owned properties to locate our facilities. We have to rely on tanker
378 shuttles to carry water to the sites, to calculate travel distances and times
379 to respond, and gallons per minutes to fill and to use at the fire site, and
380 try to get the best coverage we can. We have looked at many sites on the
381 escarpment and have been in conversations with SSCAFCA, but their
382 facilities are usually at flood control structures where there is high risk of
383 storm water damage or dam failure. (He referred to the coverage map in
384 the packet.)

385
386 **Commissioner Anderson:** She asked if the tanks will be painted sand or
387 brown color.

388
389 **Anthony Martinez, Fire Chief, Village of Corrales:** He answer that they
390 were going to be painted a compatible color; there have also been
391 proposals to put artwork on the tanks. He pointed out the example of the
392 water tank next to the Senior Center at the Village Administrative
393 Complex.

394
395 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

396
397 **Evelyn Losack, 5606 Corrales Road, Corrales (sworn):** She asked
398 how far this site is from Salce Park, and is it necessary.

399
400 **Ben Vaughn, 1425 Angel Road, Corrales (sworn):** He said he was
401 involved in the change of zoning for M municipal and he is not opposed to
402 water storage tanks up there, but he is opposed to the radio tower
403 because it is ugly.

404
405 **Thomas Conner:** He challenged the comment regarding the flashing
406 lights; he sees shorter towers that have lights on them.

407
408 **Village Administrator John Avila:** He stated we are trying to improve
409 communications especially in light of recent events; we have an

410 opportunity to receive donated equipment and this is a regional, public
411 safety need.

412

413 **MOTION:** Commissioner Cordova, to approve the request for a waiver
414 regarding landscaping for SDP-12-01.

415 **SECOND:** Commissioner Brown.

416 **VOTE:** Motion to approve the waiver to not require landscaping for SDP-12-
417 02 carried unanimously, with a vote of 6-0.

418

419 **MOTION:** Commissioner Cordova, to approve SDP-12-02.

420 **SECOND:** Commissioner Thompson.

421 **VOTE:** Motion to approve SDP-12-02 carried unanimously, with a vote of 6-0.

422

423 **Chairman Soto:** He thanked everyone for coming to give their comments
424 tonight.

425

426 **3. SDP-12-03. Village of Corrales, 4324 Corrales Road, more specifically**
427 **known as Corrales Recreation Center, 600 Jones Road,** comprising
428 some 17.3024 acres more or less, is requesting a site development plan
429 approval to construct a water storage facility for fire suppression.

430

431 **Village Administrator John Avila:** He spoke to the issue of water supply
432 in light of recent events, we had a structure fire that required over half a
433 million gallons of water and without the irrigation canals being available,
434 there would not have been enough water. This application is for fire
435 suppression only. The equipment is being donated to us and we have the
436 opportunity to locate the tank in the most remote location at the
437 Recreation Center with supply lines to Corrales Road were the need is
438 greatest for this water supply. It serves the immediate properties, and
439 especially with the Cottonwood School (with a water line connection) as is
440 the case with the San Ysidro Church water line connection for fire
441 suppression.

442

443 **Commissioner Brown:** He asked about fire hydrants along Corrales
444 Road. The CHAMP group talked about locating additional pens in that
445 area as a place for large animal evacuation, but the location as shown is
446 maximized the way the tanks are positioned. He asked about painting the
447 tanks.

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449 **Village Administrator John Avila:** He said they asked Intel if they would
450 paint them for us before we receive them, but they declined to do that but
451 we know they can be painted.

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453 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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455 **COMMISSIONERS**

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Commissioner Rizzi: She asked for the rationale for asking for a waiver from landscaping.

Village Administrator John Avila: He responded saying that it isn't necessary because the area is used as a horse arena, and an area for loading and unloading animals, and parking trailers. It's bare dirt, and if we add landscaping materials it reduces the area for the use that exists at present which is as an animal arena. These tanks are a small footprint and will not impact the present use.

Commissioner Rizzi: She said it appears it's close to a residential site.

Village Administrator John Avila: He stated that to the east are industrial storage barns or sheds. That was the use before.

Chairman Soto: He noted the Loma Larga site is painted green, but the site hasn't been landscaped yet. He would like to see some kind of relationship with the CHAMP group and to see if they have some ideas.

Commissioner Brown: He said CHAMP was going to fill that area with 12' by 12' pens for emergency evacuation of large animals and were going to have them along the entire north side; but the tanks will take up at least two stalls, and be right up against the fencing. There are trees along the north boundary already. There is limited parking for horse trailers and parking at this time and that will be reduced.

MOTION: **Commissioner Cordova, to approve the waiver from landscaping for SDP-12-03.**

SECOND: **Commissioner Brown.**

VOTE: **Motion to approve the waiver from landscaping for SDP-12-03 carried unanimously, with a vote of 4-2.**

Commissioners Anderson, Brown, Cordova, and Thompson voting aye.

Commissioners Soto and Rizzi voting no.

MOTION: **Commissioner Cordova, to approve SDP-12-03.**

SECOND: **Commissioner Thompson.**

VOTE: **Motion to approve SDP-12-03 carried unanimously with a vote of 6-0.**

- 4. SDP-12-04. Village of Corrales, 4324 Corrales Road, more specifically known as Salce Park-North (N), 1057 Sagebrush Drive, comprising of some 2.800 acres more or less, is requesting site development plan approval to construct a water storage facility and a recreational park.**

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Commissioner Cordova: He asked why there are no plans for the recreation part of the plans.

PZA Tidwell: She explained that Salce Park is divided into two parks. Tonight's application is for a water storage reservoir on the north portion of the park which is to become a storm water storage facility. The parks and recreation commission has not brought forward a site plan for the recreational portion of Salce Park (N).

Village Administrator John Avila: He summarized the application saying these two lots are one park, but we're addressing them as separate cases. The north side has experienced drainage issues and has been identified as the location where we can deal with some of those issues, but there are no firm plans for recreational purposes at this time. Salce Park (N) will be bermed with a path around it; tonight we're focusing on getting a water reservoir for fire suppression underneath a berm.

Commissioner Brown: He stated we're being asked to consider the placement of a water tank that will be buried.

Village Administrator John Avila: He asked the commission to consider only approving the park; otherwise, we could bring it back at a later date. This application is for a cistern for fire water supply. Procedurally, we understand you need to have a site plan for recreational purposes, unless you approve only the underground cistern for fire suppression tonight.

Chairman Soto: He said it's confusing the way it was posted.

Commissioner Cordova: He stated it makes more sense to table this matter until we have a plan for the park.

Commissioner Brown: We do have a conundrum here but we also have a plan for the water storage tank but we could at least take that part of it, and postpone the recreational component of the site development plan to a future date.

Chairman Soto: He said he agrees that the notice should be corrected.

MOTION: **Commissioner Cordova, table or postpone this item until a future date when we get more information on SDP-12-04.**

SECOND: **Commissioner Anderson.**

Commission Brown: He stated that on page 5 and 6 of our rules for the transaction of business it calls for postponement, rather than tabling.

546 **Commissioner Cordova:** He changed his motion to say “postpone”
547 instead of “table.”

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549 **Commissioner Brown:** He asked if the Village will come back with a
550 design for the park.

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552 **Village Administrator John Avila:** He answered that the parks and
553 recreation commission will come to us with a plan developed with the
554 neighborhood, and at that time we will re-submit a site plan for that
555 development. We intended to get the water reservoir approved and then
556 come back with a park design at a later time.

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558 **Chairman Soto:** He said we’re being asked to approve something that
559 we know nothing about.

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561 **VOTE: Motion to postpone SDP-12-04 to a future date carried unanimously,**
562 **with a vote of 5-1.**

563 **Commissioners Anderson, Cordova, Rizzi, Soto, and**
564 **Thompson voted aye.**
565 **Commissioner Brown voted no.**

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567 **5. SDP-12-05. Village of Corrales, 4324 Corrales Road, more specifically**
568 **known as Salce Park-South (S), 1057 Sagebrush Drive,** comprising
569 some 2.9857 acres more or less, is requesting site development plan
570 approval to construct a recreational park. **POSTPONED TO A FUTURE**
571 **DATE.**

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574 **2. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:**

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576 **1. Discussion and recommendation to the Governing Body regarding revisions**
577 **to the land use ordinances.**

578 **Sec. 18-42. Exterior lighting requirements.** Text and graphics.

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580 **2. Chapter 18 Land Use Regulations and Other Chapters of the Codified**
581 **Ordinances.**

582 a. Discussion of work study sessions and topics for consideration,
583 Chapter 18.

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585 **Chairman Soto:** He said he would like to see “Fences” on the agenda for
586 consideration...and a review of our Rules for the Transactions of
587 Business.

588 **Commissioner Brown:** He reported that when Mr. Soto and he visited with
589 the Mayor he was very supportive.

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591 **Commissioner Thompson:** She mentioned the Lighting regulations, which
592 should also be put on the agenda.

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594 b. Discussion of text amendments to regulations contained in Chapter 18.

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596 **VIII. OTHER BUSINESS .**

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598 a. Schedule for Work Study Sessions in 2012.
599 **October 3rd, 2012.**

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601 **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

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603 **MOTION: Commissioner Brown, to adjourn at 8:05 PM.**
604 **SECOND: Commissioner Thompson.**
605 **VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.**

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Cynthia C. Tidwell Date Roy Soto, Chair Date
611 Planning & Zoning Administrator Planning & Zoning Commission