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Western Area
Power Administration

2026
Annual Progress Report

I. WAPA – Desert Southwest Region

A. Vidal Solar Generation Planto

a) Description of Work:
Construct a new 160MW solar PV generation plant interconnected on the existing Blythe – Headgate 161-kV transmission line.

b) Completion Date:
4th Quarter 2026

B. Sterling Solar Generation Plant

a) Description of Work:

Construct a new 450MW solar PV generation plant interconnected on the existing Topock-Black Mesa 230-kV transmission line.

b) Estimated completion date

2nd Quarter 2028

C. Pinal Central – ED5 Transmission Line

c) Description of Work:

Construct a new 230kV transmission line, connecting the existing Pinal Central substation to the existing ED-5 substation.

d) Completion Date:

4th Quarter 2026

B. Bouse Upgrade

a) Description of Work:

- Expand the existing Bouse Substation by adding a 230kV bus.
- Add two 230/161kV Transformer Banks at the Bouse substation.
- Construct a new 230kV transmission line, connecting the Bouse Substation to the existing Parker-Liberty #2 transmission line. New configuration will be Parker – Bouse – Liberty 230kV transmission line.

- Connect the existing Parker-Headgate Rock 161kV transmission line to the existing Parker-Bouse 161kV transmission line. New configuration will be Headgate Rock – Bouse 161kV transmission line.

b) Completion Date:

4th Quarter 2030

II. WAPA – Upper Great Plains Region

Western Area Power Administration – Upper Great Plains Region (WAPA-UGPR) for a waiver of "Significant Impact" status for the Crossover 60-Ohm Series Reactor Project, per the process outlined in Section 3 of the WECC Progress Report Policies and Procedures.
This project is not seeking a new or revised path rating. Its primary purpose is to restore operation of an existing 230 kV transmission line from Crossover to Yellowtail on WAPA-UGPR's Southern Montana Transmission System following the permanent failure of the Crossover KV8A phase-shifting transformer (PST) in December 2022.
The required project information is as follows:

- **a. Project Name:** Crossover 60-Ohm Series Reactor Project
- **b. Project Purpose:** To install a 60-Ohm series reactor at the Crossover 230 kV switching station to manage power flows on WAPA-UGPR's Crossover – Yellowtail 230 kV transmission line. This installation serves as a functionally similar replacement for the failed KV8A PST, providing a static source of impedance to control flows within the local transmission area.
- **c. Brief Project Description:** The project involves the installation of a single 60-Ohm, 3-phase series reactor within the existing Crossover switching station, connected in series on the Crossover – Yellowtail 230 kV transmission line.
- **d. Expected Date of Release to Operations:** The estimated in-service date is projected is April 4th, 2026.
- **e. Expected Operating Voltage:** 230 kV.
- **f. Explanation for Limited Impact:** The project is expected to have a limited impact on the Western Interconnection for the following reasons:
    1. **Restorative Nature:** The project restores functionality previously provided by the Crossover KV8A PST from its in-service date in 1987 until its failure in 2022. The 60-Ohm reactance was selected to approximate the phase angle control historically provided by the PST under nominal System conditions, thereby restoring established operational performance rather than introducing new, unstudied operating conditions.
    2. **No Impact on WECC Transfer Paths:** Extensive analysis detailed in the *Crossover Phase-shifting Transformer KV8A Replacement Assessment* (dated October 2023, updated March 2024) demonstrates that this project does not negatively affect, and in fact supports, local transmission operations, including Path 80 (NWMT). The reactor is intended to support congestion management and supports prevention of potential post-contingency thermal exceedances that would otherwise limit Path 80's transfer capability if continued to be operated without the Crossover – Yellowtail 230 kV transmission line in-service.
    3. **No Required Flow Control Devices:** This project is the installation of a flow control device. Installation of this series reactor does not necessitate the addition of other control devices elsewhere on the System.
    4. **Positive Impact on Other Systems:** Documented analyses confirm that under normal operating conditions this project has the capability to mitigate the potential for thermal exceedances on neighboring transmission owner's facilities (NorthWestern Energy, PacifiCorp) under post-contingency conditions when considering N-1 secure operations of the current System operating configuration and a range of reasonable potential powerflow conditions.

In summary, the Crossover Series Reactor is a targeted infrastructure replacement designed to restore operation of an existing transmission line and provide a similar level of power flow impedance for normal local operating conditions as the previous facility it is replacing. Its impact is localized and beneficial, mitigating identified local potential thermal exceedances without negatively affecting the broader interconnection or established transfer paths.
WAPA-UGPR believes this project meets the criteria for a waiver of "Significant Impact" status and should not require the full Project Coordination Process.

III. WAPA – Sierra Nevada Region

WASN (WAPA-SNR) will provide a separate report.