

STATE OF NEVADA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

> Joe Lombardo, *Governor* James A. Settelmeyer, *Director* Jennifer L. Carr, *Administrator*

Notice of Request for Section 401 Water Quality Certification Action - Bureau of Water Quality Planning

Web Posting: 6/9/2025

Deadline for Comments: 7/9/2025

Greenlink Common Tie Transmission Line Washoe, Storey, and Lyon Counties

Power Engineers, Inc. 5 West Mendenhall Street, Suite 202 Bozeman, MT 59715

Certification Action Number NV-401-25-015

The purpose of the proposed project is to construct approximately 131 miles of new 345 kV transmission line extending from the Walker River Substation (WRS), located approximately 10 miles north of Yerington, Nevada to existing Mira Loma and Comstock Meadows 345 kV Substations located approximately 12 miles northwest of Silver Springs and seven miles southeast of Reno, Nevada respectively. Of the 11 aquatic features identified as preliminarily jurisdictional (subject to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers confirmation) within the project area, temporary impacts are anticipated to occur at only two of these features (WL-5 and WL-1). Temporary impacts associated with WL-5 consist of a conversion of 0.42 acres of palustrine forested wetland to palustrine scrub-shrub wetland due to tree clearance issues. Temporary impacts associated with WL-1 (palustrine emergent wetland) are comprised of 0.17 acres of proposed temporary impacts, consisting of the placement of vegetation mats across three designated crossings that will be used to isolate equipment travel and protect soil structure and vegetation root systems. Construction is proposed to commence during the fall of 2025 and be completed by the winter of 2026. The project proponent has requested certification for the use of Nationwide Permit 57 (Electric Utility Line and Telecommunications Activities) administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

A 401 certification (or a waiver of certification) is required for any federal license or permit that authorizes activities that may result in any discharge into waters of the United States. Nevada Division of Environmental Protection is in receipt of a complete request for certification in compliance with Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification regulations which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency promulgated in 2023, codified as 40 CFR 121.

The Administrator is evaluating whether the proposed activity will comply with applicable water quality requirements. Certification actions are valid for the duration of the federal license or permit (typically five years). Any conditions contained within the certification action become a condition of the federal license or permit.

Persons wishing to comment on the application for consideration by the Administrator in making a determination regarding the certification action should submit their comments or request a hearing in writing, emailed no later than 5:00 P.M. on 7/9/2025:

Bureau of Water Quality Planning 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001 Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249 <u>ndep401@ndep.nv.gov</u>

The request for a hearing must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. All water quality-related comments or objections received within the

thirty (30) day period will be considered in the formulation of final certification action regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing date.

The applications, proposed permits, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied, or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by contacting Zachary Carter, Bureau of Water Quality Planning, at (775) 687-9456 or ndep401@ndep.nv.gov. The public notice for this project can be viewed at the following website: https://ndep.nv.gov. The public notice for this project can be viewed at the following website: https://ndep.nv.gov/posts/category/water.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons interested in this matter.