

PANDA GILA RIVER, L.P. POWER PLANT PROJECT

Project Overview

Southwestern Power Group team members played a key role in the success of the planned Panda Gila River Project, which consists of a 2,080 megawatt (MW) combined cycle, gas combustion power generating facility located north of the small town of Gila Bend, Arizona. Construction of the facility is scheduled to begin in December 2000 with complete build-out in 2003. The project will produce reliable, low cost, environmentally friendly energy for the growing southwest.

Project Detail

The proposed project includes four combined cycle units, each nominally rated at approximately 520 MW. All four units will be designed to operate in the combined cycle mode to provide a base load power supply or cycle to follow power market demands. The project also includes:

- Eight evaporative inlet air coolers
- Eight natural gas-fired combustion turbine electric generators with dry low nitrogen oxide combustors
- Four heat recovery steam generators with supplemental natural gas firing
- Eight condensing steam turbine generators

The plant will serve the market from the Palo Verde hub.

Project Elements Included

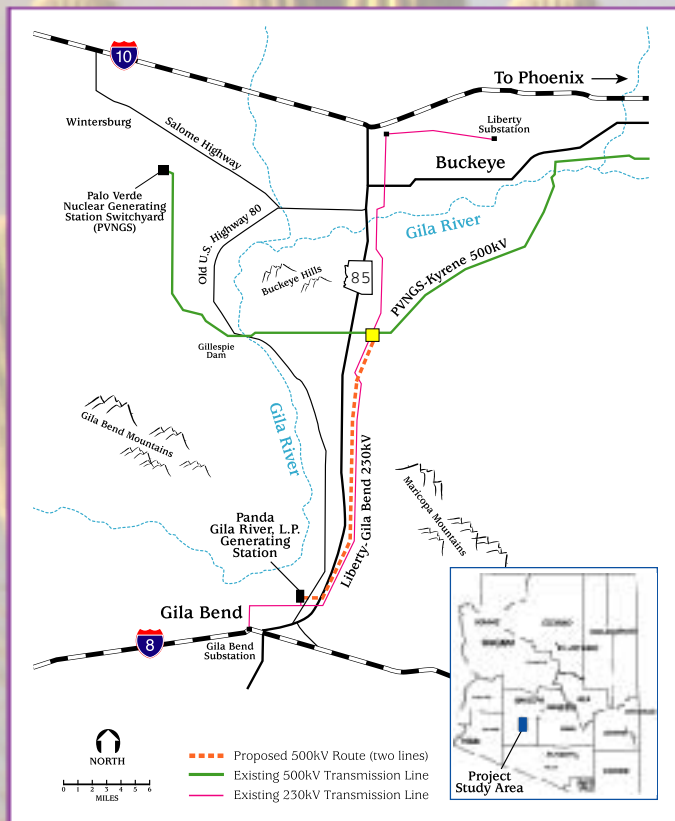
Site selection — The proposed site included the right combination of key elements. Key factors in the siting of this plant included the availability and quality of water; availability of natural gas; interconnection with the existing transmission system; local support; and site access.

Permitting strategy —

Strategies were developed and implemented to obtain necessary environmental and site permits. Key elements in permitting this plant included air quality analysis, groundwater studies, land use analysis, biological and cultural resource surveys and analysis, and visual analysis. The plant site is located in an attainment area for air quality and outside an Active Management Area for groundwater.

Transmission line —

Studies were conducted to determine transmission line routes and specifications. The route utilized existing town and BLM utility corridors.



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