



San Luis Transmission Project Fact Sheet

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Project proposal: Construct new transmission lines to interconnect Western’s system with Reclamation’s key San Luis Unit pumping and generating plants near the Los Banos area.

Why this project is needed: Western’s transmission contract with Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), under which power is transmitted to the San Luis Unit, will end in Spring 2016. The San Luis Unit is a key component in delivering water to central valley agricultural companies and farmers. The transmission lines are intended to minimize expected power delivery cost increases for operating the San Luis Unit.

Project benefits:

- **Avoid increased water costs:** Avoid an estimated \$8 million per year in added annual transmission service costs, which would increase water costs for California farmers and agricultural consumers.
- **Enhance reliability:** By strengthening the transmission corridor between Tracy and Los Banos areas and reducing expected future congestion.

Environmental review: The project is located in central California between the Tracy and Los Banos areas.

Western, as the lead agency for the National Environmental Policy Act environmental review process, will identify and analyze environmental resources in the project area and evaluate potential impacts related to construction and operation of the San Luis Transmission Project. The San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority will serve as the lead agency for the California Environmental Quality Act review process. This environmental review process will include mitigation measures, where appropriate.

Learn more about the NEPA process at: <http://energy.gov/nepa/office-nepa-policy-and-compliance>

Public outreach: During the environmental review process, Western will seek input from local communities, business, residents, elected and appointed officials, environmental groups and other interested parties. Public outreach and communication are critical elements as part of the environmental review of the San Luis Transmission Project. The project website is available for the public to learn more about the project, ask questions, and provide comments.

