

storage tank with a capacity of about 600,000 gallons, located on the proposed power plant site near the raw water tank. It then would be distributed to the various users within the proposed power plant and associated facilities.

#### 2.2.4 Access Road

Access to the proposed power plant site, groundwater well field, and other properties in the vicinity would be principally provided by about 2.3 miles of a new Mohave County road. The road would begin at the Cholla Canyon Ranch Road intersection with US 93, cross Sycamore Creek, and end at the proposed power plant. The portion of the access road from the southwest corner of Section 5 to the proposed power plant would be a private road.

The Mohave County road would be constructed within a 150-foot-wide county road and utility easement adjacent to the section lines between Sections 1 and 12, T15N, R13W and Sections 6 and 7, T15N, R12W. The Mohave County road right-of-way would not be fenced. The private road would be posted to reduce unauthorized access to private lands.

The area needed for construction would be a 90-foot wide path for a total disturbed area of 21 acres. The width of the permanent roadbed would be 26 feet wide. The road would include a concrete box culvert at the Sycamore Creek crossing and seven pipe culverts at smaller drainages. The concrete box culvert across Sycamore Creek would be constructed of 10 individual boxes, each having a cross-section of 12 feet wide by 8 feet high and each will be 58 feet long as the creek flows. The boxes would be constructed side by side and extend 120 feet across the Sycamore Creek streambed. The culvert would provide an 8-foot clearance above the streambed and an apron with riprap would be provided at grade on the downstream side of the culvert. The box culvert and road would be designed to handle a 100-year storm event.

Figure 2-11 shows the proposed location of the access road and associated land jurisdiction. The road would cross about 700 feet of BLM-managed public land at the junction with US 93

and a small portion of BLM-managed land at the southwest corner of Section 5.

#### 2.2.5 Natural Gas Supply Pipeline

A new 16- to 20-inch diameter high-pressure underground natural gas supply pipeline would bring natural gas to the proposed power plant from one or more of three interstate natural gas transmission pipelines located about 39 miles north of the proposed power plant site, immediately north and south of I-40. The proposed natural gas supply pipeline would have a nominal 50-foot-wide right-of-way and request authorization for construction disturbance within a nominal 100-foot-wide area. The pipeline would be constructed, owned, and operated by either the Project proponent (Caithness) or another entity. Figure 2-12 depicts the location of the proposed and alternative pipeline corridors evaluated in this Draft EIS.

This Draft EIS uses a corridor concept to locate and analyze alternative pipeline routes. Rather than identifying a specific alignment for the pipeline right-of-way, the routes follow broader corridors that allow adjustments to be made in the final engineered alignment of the pipeline, so that constraints identified during pre-construction surveys and right-of-way negotiations can be accommodated. Use of corridors rather than a specific alignment in this EIS provides the flexibility to make adjustments for these circumstances.

To the extent feasible, the pipeline would be located within a corridor such that permanent displacement of an existing use, such as a residence or business, is avoided. Compensation for use of lands would be determined through mutually agreeable business negotiations or, to the extent applicable, a court of law under a condemnation action. If the pipeline owner does not have the power of eminent domain, it would not be able to initiate a condemnation action and no use of the land would occur unless the proponent obtained the consent of the landowner.