

Table Mountain Wind Farm

Visual Analysis and VRM
Compliance Report

Project Background

- EIS completed in 2007, ROD never signed
- Supplemental FEIS required by BLM Management:
 - Project ownership change
 - Visual Resource Management Objectives not met
- Project Design changes
- Power is all going to California and Mexico



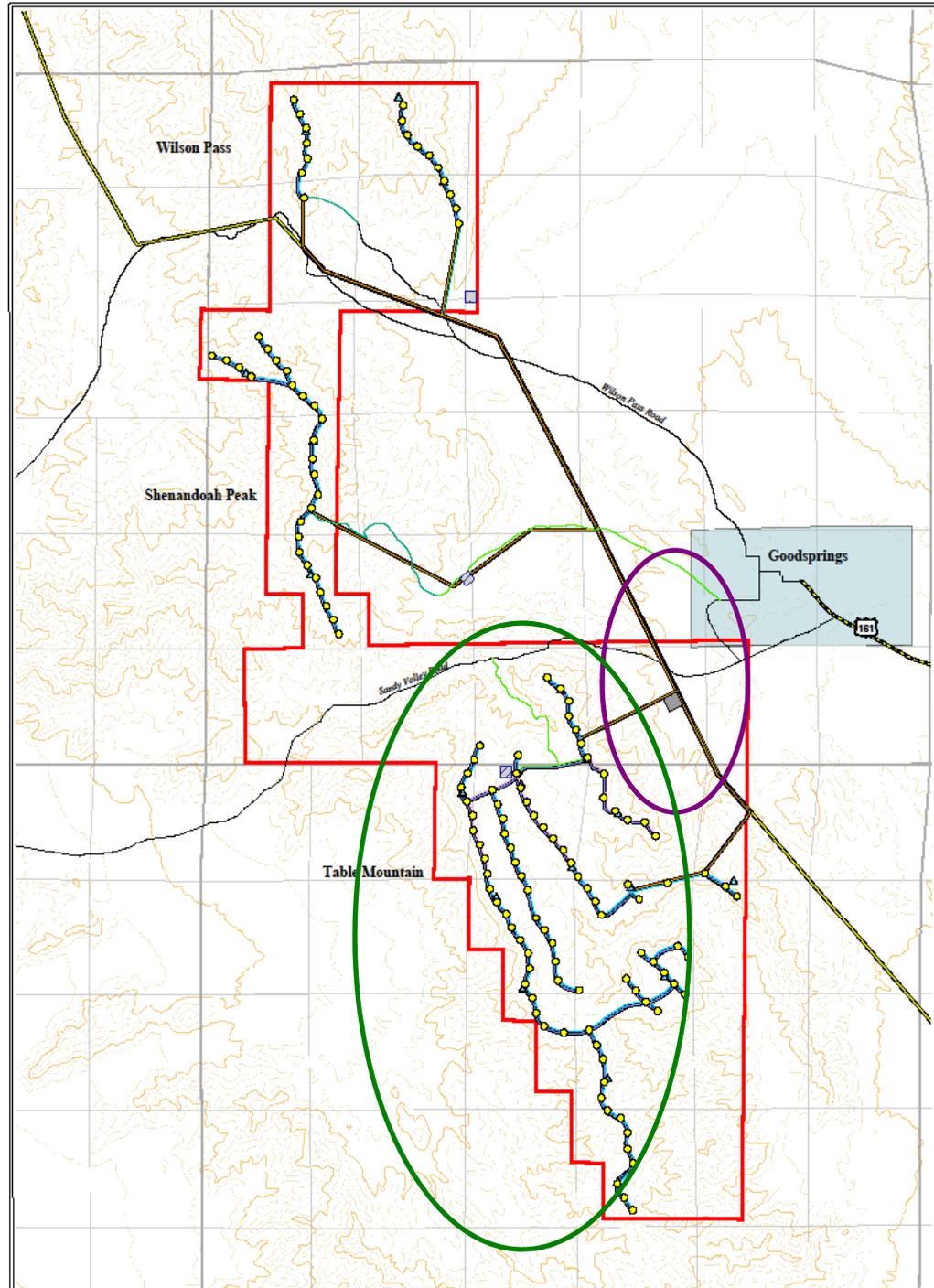
Project Overview

Original:

- 12,000 acres
- 250 turbines
- 300 ft height

Revised:

- 7,000 acres
- 325 disturbed surface area
- 88 turbines
- 400-500 ft height



Project Requirements

- Must have turbines near the ridge for maximum efficiency
- Larger platform needed – approx 6 acres
- Power substation needed, but is willing to move within reason
- Power substation must tie into existing 230kV transmission line. Limited opportunity to move within site
- Wind speed must rebuild between turbines, and close spacing is impossible
- White paint is currently on order, and significant expense to change
- Access road is needed to access plateau. Current design is fairly-well hidden and follows contours
- Customer has already spent millions of dollars on EIS and is now asking BLM to redesign the project

Purpose and Need



Purpose

“To provide wind generated electricity from a site in southern NV to meet existing electricity need and to provide a reliable, economical, an environmentally acceptable resource in the region.”

Need

“For the production and transmission of energy without generating air or water emissions or producing hazardous waste.”

Project Issues and Concerns

- Aviation – proposed Ivanpah Airport
- Visual concerns for local communities, and travelers along roadways
- Proposed action does not meet VRM objectives
- Big horn sheep habitat
- Avian impacts



Key Observation Point Selection

1. Gas station near I-15
 - Selected to capture I-15 traffic and obtain a long-distance vantage point
2. Local road intersection
 - Selected to capture the vantage point of commuters traveling into and out of Goodsprings
3. Goodsprings Town Center
 - Selected to capture the vantage point of the majority of the population at a key community gathering place
4. Goodsprings growth area
 - Selected to capture views from potential residential growth in the annexation area of the town of Goodsprings.

KOP #1 Analysis



Does meet VRM III

KOP #2 Analysis



Does *not* meet VRM III

KOP #2 Analysis cont.



KOP #3 Analysis



Does *not* meet VRM III

KOP #4 Analysis



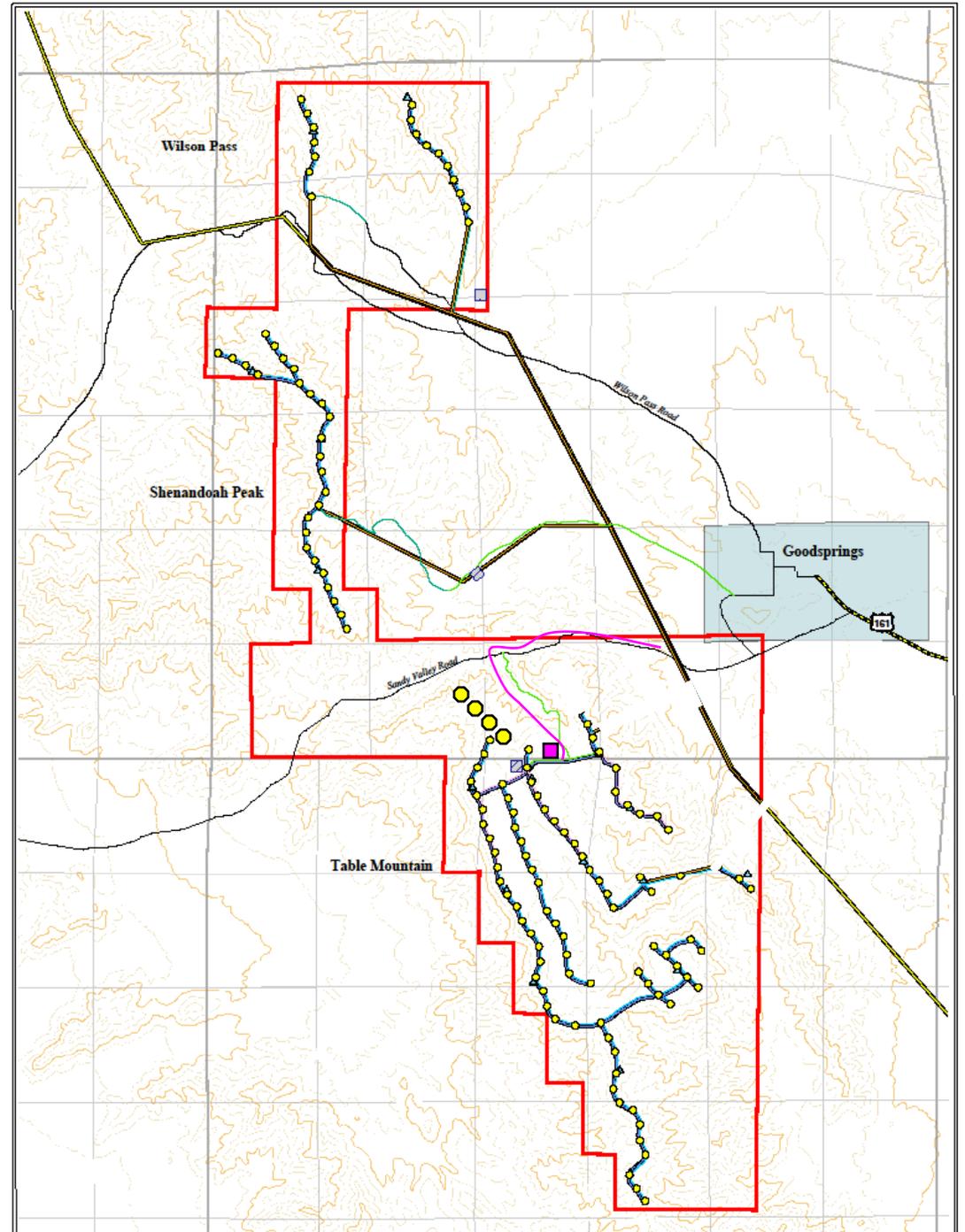
Does *not* meet VRM III

Proposed Mitigation

The Proposed Action does not VRM Class III or II objectives as proposed. With Mitigation, the project will meet VRM Class III objectives. The project will require a plan amendment.

- Paint turbine structures a hazy grey
- Relocate the northernmost four (4) turbines to the westerly ridge to reduce impact to Goodsprings residents
- Rehabilitate all temporary construction areas
- Locate power substation on top of the plateau, but located behind the ridge view
- Eliminate the second (southern) 34.5kV
- Amend the plan to include a utility corridor, following the Sandy Valley Rd ROW and continue up the access road
- Require painted lattice structure for the 230kV transmission line, or paint power monopoles Covert Green

Proposed Mitigation



Non-Mitigated



Mitigated

