

UtahState UNIVERSITY

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UTAH PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION

2009 AUG -4 A 10:43

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July 30, 2009

RECEIVED

Mike Nelson, Realty Specialist
BLM Salt Lake Field Office
2370 S. 2300 W.
Salt Lake City, UT 84119

Subject: Rocky Mountain Power Mona to Oquirrh Power Line Siting

Dear Mr. Nelson:

I am writing this letter to provide input regarding the placement of Rocky Mountain Power lines in Tooele County as part of the Mona to Oquirrh power line siting. The planned placement of the power lines is of interest to Utah State University (USU) and our Tooele Regional Campus for the following reasons:

- USU has a rapidly growing regional campus in Tooele County. Currently approximately 800 students enroll each semester. Enrollment growth ranged from 20% to 40% during the past several academic years, and we anticipate similar levels of continued growth for years to come.
- To meet the increasing demand for access to degree programs, USU is expanding the USU Tooele Regional Campus located at 1000 West and Vine Street in Tooele City. A \$2.3 million expansion of the current USU Tooele building was recently completed.
- Tooele City also donated to USU 30 acres of land located just south of the current building. USU will purchase an additional 20 acres of land to create a 50-acre campus with many separate buildings.
- It is especially important to note that other education entities will share this location. Tooele School District is currently constructing a new career and technical education building adjacent to the USU land. The newly-created Tooele Applied Technology College is submitting a legislative request to construct a new building on the 50-acre USU Tooele Regional Campus.
- This higher education campus area of Tooele City has become the "jewel" of Tooele County and will continue to be the focus of new educational opportunities and facilities.

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- The potential for locating student housing and retail businesses in this area will be greatly enhanced as the campus expands.

USU's position is that the current proposal to locate Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) lines in this area of Tooele City will negatively impact the potential for growth as well as the aesthetics and health of this public and higher education complex. Briefly, these are my primary concerns:

- RMP's alternate route for a section of the Mona to Oquirrh Transmission Corridor borders the west edge of the new USU Tooele Regional Campus (See #1 on the attached map). The main entrance to the new campus faces west. Location of a large power line at the west entrance of the campus will negatively impact the aesthetics of the campus, and poses potential health and safety concerns.
- A second RMP line borders or may intersect (See #2 on the attached map) the southern edge of the campus, impacting expansion of the campus to include student housing and retail businesses.
- Placement of the power lines in the area that will eventually become a residential USU campus will create safety issues that inhibit recruiting and retention of students. Indeed, the RMP lines could compromise the entire viability of the campus (See proposed campus map, attached).

To avoid negative planning, safety, and aesthetic impact to the USU Tooele Regional Campus and related education facilities, I strongly request that the RMP proposed west route be followed to place the power line on the sparsely populated west bench of the Tooele Valley (See #3 on the attached map). We would prefer that the southern proposed route bordering the campus be moved further south to mitigate the negative impact on the campus (See #4 on the attached map).

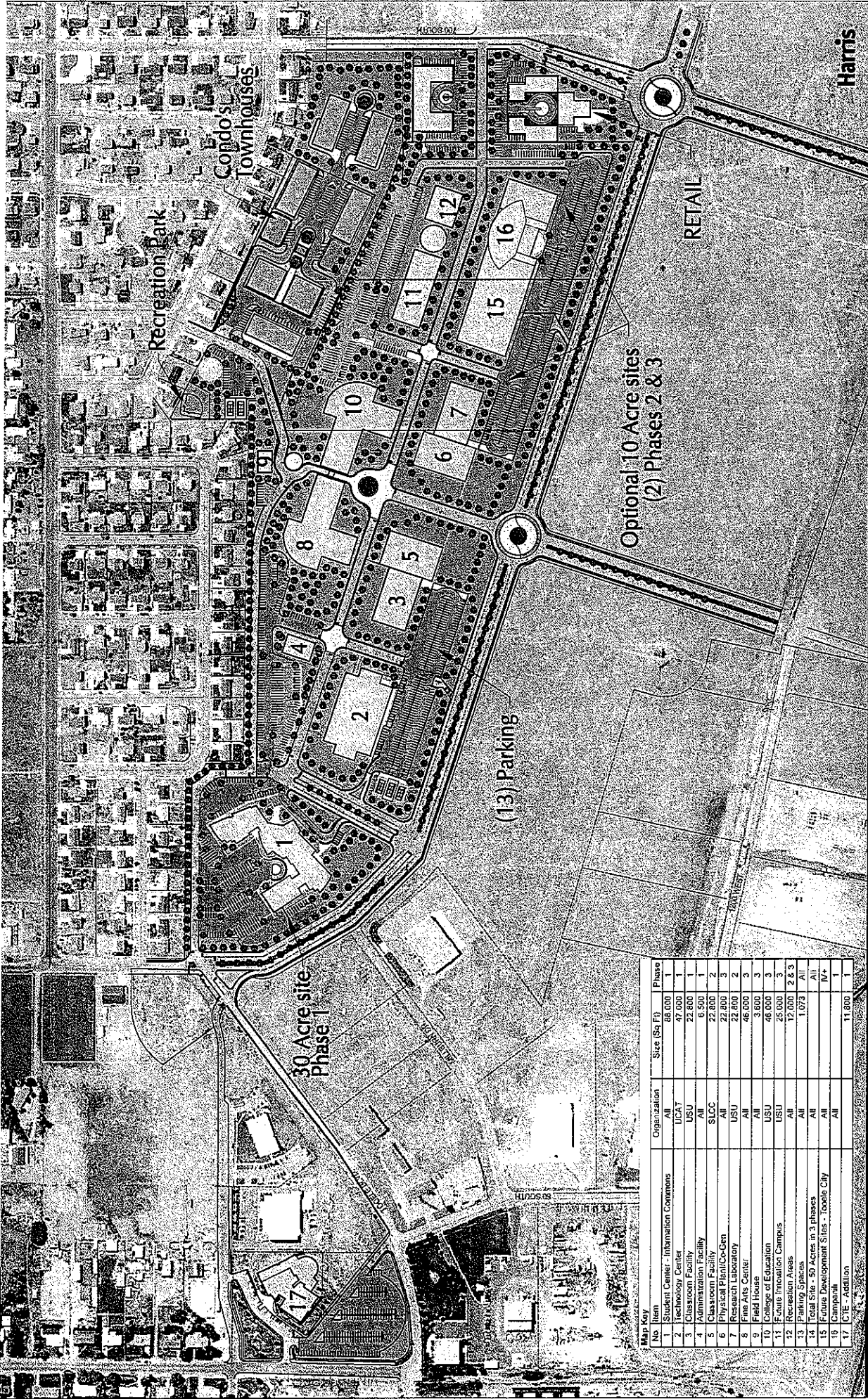
Thank you for your consideration of these important issues. Please don't hesitate to contact me for additional information. I can be reached by email at stan.albrecht@usu.edu or by phone at 435.797.7172. I look forward to working with you to arrive at a suitable solution.

Sincerely,



Stan L. Albrecht
President

cc: Rich Walje, Chief Executive Officer, Rocky Mountain Power
Ron Allen, Commissioner, Utah Public Service Commission



Map Key

No.	Item	Organization	Size (Sq. Ft.)	Phases
1	Student Center - Information Commons	All	88,000	1
2	Technology Center	UCAT	47,000	1
3	Classroom Facility	USU	22,800	1
4	Administration Facility	All	6,500	1
5	Classroom Facility	SLCC	22,800	2
6	Physical Plant/Cs-Gen	All	22,800	3
7	Research Laboratory	USU	22,800	2
8	Fire Arts Center	All	46,000	3
9	Field House	All	3,600	3
10	College of Education	USU	46,000	3
11	College Innovation Campus	USU	25,000	3
12	Recreation Areas	All	12,000	2 & 3
13	Parking Spaces	All	1,073	All
14	Total Site - 50 Acres in 3 Phases	All		All
15	Future Development Sites - Boolee City	All		IV+
16	Compass	All		I
17	CHE - Addition	All	11,000	1

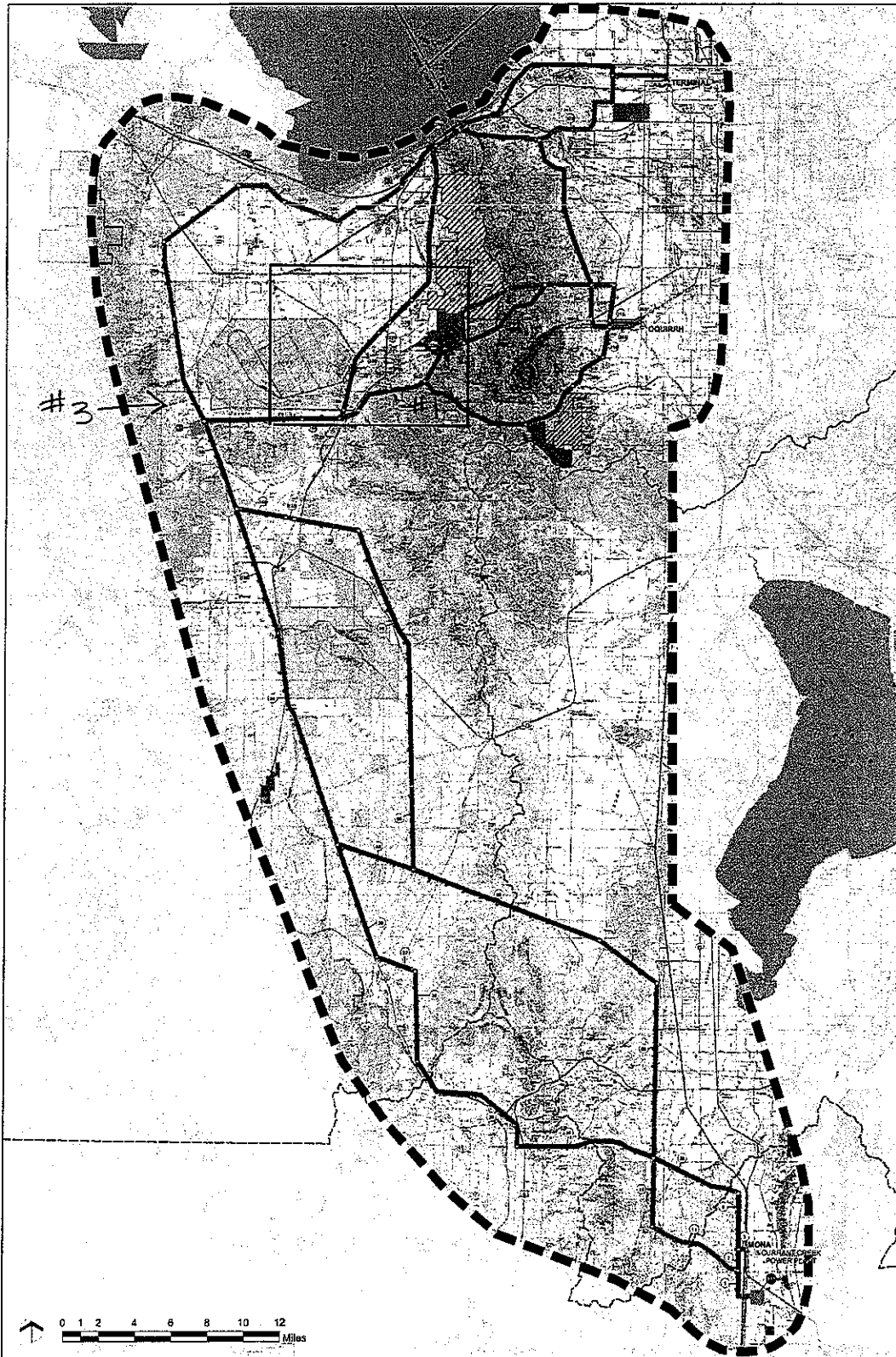
TOOE REGIONAL CAMPUS CENTER 10 YEAR PRELIMINARY MASTER PLAN STUDY

USU+SLCC+UCAT JOINT CAMPUS FACILITY



NORTH

APRIL 22, 2008



Legend

- | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| | Proponent's Proposed Route | | UDWR Wildlife Management Area |
| | Alternative Routes | | Yellow Fork Canyon Regional Park |
| | Substation Site | | Rose Canyon Ranch Open Space |
| | Bureau of Land Management | | North Oquirrh Management Area |
| | U.S. Forest Service | | Wilderness Study Area |
| | Department of Defense | | |
| | State Trust Land | | |
| | Private Land | | |

General Reference Features

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| | Project Study Area | | Railroad |
| | 345kV Transmission Line | | Major Road |
| | 138kV Transmission Line | | Natural Gas Pipeline |
| | Power Plant | | County Boundary |
| | Substation | | Township and Range Line |
| | Link Tag / Substation Tag | | |
| | Link Node | | |

Figure 2-3

April 2009

**Proponent's Proposed Route and Alternative Routes
MONA TO OQUIRRH TRANSMISSION CORRIDOR PROJECT**

SOURCE: LAND OWNERSHIP UT 1944 2004, County Boundary, Utah AGRC 2004, Annual Registry Map 2008 Utah AGRC, Transmission Lines and Substations, PNM/CP&E, Mon-Proposed_Rte_Alternative_Routes_2009.dwg

#2 enlarged

