

**Appendix 5.13A**  
**FHWA Rating Sheets**

---

Visual Resource Survey:		Hidden Hills Ranch	Existing Conditions
KOP Location:	Old Spanish Trail Highway Southbound		Viewpoint: <b>KOP 1</b>
Landscape Unit:	Pahrump Valley		Date: May-11
Viewpoint Description (Figure Caption):	View to the southwest from the southbound lane of Old Spanish Trail Highway. The project is visible in the middleground on private lands. Portions of land visible in the foreground are managed by BLM.		
Photo Orientation:	SW		
Viewer Position:	_____ Inferior    _____ Level <u>  X  </u> Superior		
View	Notes		
Foreground (0 - 1/2 mile)	The foreground includes the unpaved Old Spanish Trail Highway and desert scrub vegetation. An elevated outcrop extends from the left side of the view that is covered with desert scrub vegetation.		
Middleground (1/2 - 4 miles)	A blanket of desert scrub vegetation blankets the entire middleground. The community of Charleston View is barely visible on the horizon of the far-middleground.		
Background (> 4 miles)	The desert floor creates a horizontal line across the far-middleground which is broken up by a transition to the steep mountain faces of the distant Nopah Range mountains and foothills. Portions of the Kingston Range foothills are visible in the left side of the view.		
Vividness			
Feature	Score*	Notes	
Landform	6	The Nopah Range mountains and foothills dominate the distant background and create a backdrop to the view.	
Vegetation	4.5	Desert vegetation includes Mojave saltbush scrub and Mojave creosote bush scrub which dominates the landscape. Stumps are visible on the small elevated outcrop in the foreground.	
Water Feature	n/a		
Human-Made	4	An unpaved dirt road is visible in the immediate foreground. The scattered rural residential community of Charleston View is barely visible in the far-middleground.	
Overall	<b>4.8</b>		
Intactness			
Overall	<b>6</b>	Little development is visible across the valley, resulting in a high degree of intactness.	
Unity			
Overall	<b>6</b>	The overall view is of a desert landscape, which includes an expansive valley floor with mountain ranges in the background. Human-made elements, including the unpaved road and scattered residential development, are subordinate to the overall natural environment and significantly blend into the natural environment.	
<b>Overall Visual Quality Score</b>	<b>5.6</b>		

\*Score Key:

1 - Very Low; 2 - Low; 3 - Moderately Low; 4 - Average; 5 - Moderately High; 6 - High; 7 - Very High

<b>Visual Resource Survey:</b>		<b>Hidden Hills Ranch</b>	<b>With Project</b>
KOP Location:	<b>Old Spanish Trail Highway Southbound</b>	Viewpoint:	<b>KOP 1</b>
Landscape Unit:	Pahrump Valley	Date:	May-11
Viewpoint Description (Figure Caption):	View to the southwest from the southbound lane of Old Spanish Trail Highway. The project is visible in the middleground on private lands. Portions of land visible in the foreground are managed by BLM.		
Photo Orientation:	SW		
Viewer Position:	_____ Inferior    _____ Level <u>  X  </u> Superior		
<b>View</b>	<b>Notes</b>		
Foreground (0 - 1/2 mile)	Same		
Middleground (1/2 - 4 miles)	New towers and associated power block facilities are visible in the middleground.		
Background (> 4 miles)	Same		
<b>Vividness</b>			
<b>Feature</b>	<b>Score*</b>	<b>Notes</b>	
Landform	6	No change	
Vegetation	4.5	No change	
Water Feature	n/a		
Human-Made	5	The new towers are clearly visible across the landscape and would be the most prominent human-made features in the view.	
Overall	<b>5.2</b>		
<b>Intactness</b>			
Overall	<b>4</b>	The towers contribute elements of visual discord and lower the intactness of the view because they are visible in an area where there is a little development.	
<b>Unity</b>			
Overall	<b>4.5</b>	The new towers and associated facilities decrease the overall unity of this view and diminish the expansiveness.	
<b>Overall Visual Quality Score</b>	<b>4.6</b>		

\*Score Key:

1 - Very Low; 2 - Low; 3 - Moderately Low; 4 - Average; 5 - Moderately High; 6 - High; 7 - Very High

Visual Resource Survey:		Hidden Hills Ranch	Existing Conditions
KOP Location:	Stump Springs ACEC	Viewpoint:	KOP 2
Landscape Unit:	Pahrump Valley	Date:	May-11
Viewpoint Description (Figure Caption):	This is a view to the west from Stump Springs ACEC . The project site is visible in the far-middleground. Both private lands and BLM-managed lands are visible in this view.		
Photo Orientation:	W		
Viewer Position:	_____ Inferior _____ Level _____ x _____ Superior		
View	Notes		
Foreground (0 - 1/2 mile)	This slightly elevated view from Stump Springs ACEC consists of moderately dense desert scrub vegetation in the foreground.		
Middleground (1/2 - 4 miles)	Desert vegetation blankets the middleground.		
Background (> 4 miles)	The desert floor creates a horizontal line across the far-middleground which is broken by a transition to the distant Nopah Range mountain and foothills.		
Vividness			
Feature	Score*	Notes	
Landform	5	The lands of Stump Springs ACEC transition from the open Pahrump Valley to the faces of the Nopah Range mountains and foothills.	
Vegetation	5.5	Desert scrub dominates the landscape; little variety is apparent. Remnants of a former water source are evident by a few scattered stumps within the foreground of the view.	
Water Feature	n/a		
Human-Made	n/a	None visible.	
Overall	5.3		
Intactness			
Overall	7	No development is visible from this view, resulting in a very high degree of intactness.	
Unity			
Overall	6	The relatively pristine desert in the foreground and the backdrop of the Nopah Range in the distance creates a high level of unity.	
<b>Overall Visual Quality Score</b>	<b>6.1</b>		

\*Score Key:

1 - Very Low; 2 - Low; 3 - Moderately Low; 4 - Average; 5 - Moderately High; 6 - High; 7 - Very High

Visual Resource Survey:		Hidden Hills Ranch	With Project
KOP Location:	Stump Springs ACEC	Viewpoint:	KOP 2
Landscape Unit:	Pahrump Valley	Date:	May-11
Viewpoint Description (Figure Caption):	This is a view to the west from Stump Springs ACEC . The project site is visible in the far-middleground. Both private lands and BLM-managed lands are visible in this view.		
Photo Orientation:	W		
Viewer Position:	_____ Inferior _____ Level _____ x _____ Superior		
View	Notes		
Foreground (0 - 1/2 mile)	Same		
Middleground (1/2 - 4 miles)	New towers are visible in the middleground.		
Background (> 4 miles)	New towers are visible in the background.		
Vividness			
Feature	Score*	Notes	
Landform	5	No change	
Vegetation	5.5	No change	
Water Feature	n/a		
Human-Made	4	New towers are visible across the far-middleground and background of the view. They would be distinctive features that would to some extent add to the memorability of this view.	
Overall	4.8		
Intactness			
Overall	5.5	The towers would be visible in far-middleground views to the northwest from Stump Springs ACEC. The towers are the only visible human-made elements and create a distinctive contrast to the open landscape so they diminish the intactness of the view.	
Unity			
Overall	5	The new towers decrease the unity of the view by creating prominent vertical elements which disrupt the horizontal lines created by the valley floor and mountain range.	
<b>Overall Visual Quality Score</b>	<b>5.1</b>		

\*Score Key:

1 - Very Low; 2 - Low; 3 - Moderately Low; 4 - Average; 5 - Moderately High; 6 - High; 7 - Very High

Visual Resource Survey:		Hidden Hills Ranch	Existing Conditions
KOP Location:	St. Therese Mission Project		Viewpoint: <b>KOP 3</b>
Landscape Unit:	Pahrump Valley		Date: May-11
Viewpoint Description (Figure Caption):	This viewpoint is located near the southeastern edge of the project site along Old Spanish Trail Highway. The proposed St. Therese Mission site is visible in the foreground.		
Photo Orientation:	WNW		
Viewer Position:	_____ Inferior <u>  X  </u> Level    _____ Superior		
View	Notes		
Foreground (0 - 1/2 mile)	Existing transmission lines, utility poles, fencing, and a construction trailer break up the desert floor which is dotted with desert scrub vegetation. The HHSEGS project site is visible beyond the structures in the foreground.		
Middleground (1/2 - 4 miles)	The Pahrump Valley floor is visible as a horizontal line in the distance.		
Background (> 4 miles)	The Nopah Range and foothills are visible in the background.		
Vividness			
Feature	Score*	Notes	
Landform	5.5	The Nopah Range and foothills provide a backdrop in this view; the valley floor occupies the entire foreground and middleground.	
Vegetation	4	The view is dominated by the desert scrub which blankets the valley floor.	
Water Feature	n/a		
Human-Made	3	Vertical features include existing utility poles and small white place markers. Horizontal features include chain-link fencing and barely distinguishable transmission lines. These elements along with a temporary construction trailer and signage represent the degree of progress of the St. Therese Mission project.	
Overall	<b>4.2</b>		
Intactness			
Overall	<b>4</b>	The human-made features described above (transmission lines, utility poles, fencing, trailer) amid the backdrop of the Nopah Range create an average level of intactness.	
Unity			
Overall	<b>4.5</b>	Human-made elements are subordinate to the overall landscape which moderately blend into the existing natural environment.	
<b>Overall Visual Quality Score</b>	<b>4.2</b>		

\*Score Key:

1 - Very Low; 2 - Low; 3 - Moderately Low; 4 - Average; 5 - Moderately High; 6 - High; 7 - Very High

Visual Resource Survey:		Hidden Hills Ranch	With Project
KOP Location:	St. Therese Mission Project	Viewpoint:	KOP 3
Landscape Unit:	Pahrump Valley	Date:	May-11
Viewpoint Description (Figure Caption):	This viewpoint is located near the southeastern edge of the project site along Old Spanish Trail Highway. The proposed St. Therese Mission site is visible in the foreground.		
Photo Orientation:	WNW		
Viewer Position:	_____ Inferior <u>  X  </u> Level    _____ Superior		
View	Notes		
Foreground (0 - 1/2 mile)	Same		
Middleground (1/2 - 4 miles)	New towers and associated power block structures are visible within the middleground.		
Background (> 4 miles)	Same		
Vividness			
Feature	Score*	Notes	
Landform	5.5	No change	
Vegetation	4	No change	
Water Feature	n/a		
Human-Made	4	The addition of towers and associated structures enhance the vividness of human-made features in the view.	
Overall	4.5		
Intactness			
Overall	3	The new towers encroach on the skyline of the view, extending above the Nopah Range. This disrupts the dominant horizontal lines of the view and visually detracts from the natural elements.	
Unity			
Overall	3.5	The addition of the project towers shift the focus of the view from the Nopah Range in the background to the towers. The visual discord between the built elements in the foreground and middleground and the surrounding natural environment diminish the harmony of the view.	
<b>Overall Visual Quality Score</b>	<b>3.7</b>		

\*Score Key:

1 - Very Low; 2 - Low; 3 - Moderately Low; 4 - Average; 5 - Moderately High; 6 - High; 7 - Very High

Visual Resource Survey:		Hidden Hills Ranch	Existing Conditions
KOP Location:	<b>Charleston View</b>	Viewpoint:	<b>KOP 4</b>
Landscape Unit:	Pahrump Valley	Date:	May-11
Viewpoint Description (Figure Caption):	View to the north from the rural residential community of Charleston View which is located south of the Old Spanish Trail Highway. The project site is visible beyond Charleston View in the foreground.		
Photo Orientation:	N		
Viewer Position:	_____ Inferior    _____ x _____ Level    _____ Superior		
View	Notes		
Foreground (0 - 1/2 mile)	The foreground includes views of patchy desert scrub vegetation, rural residential structures, and an unpaved road.		
Middleground (1/2 - 4 miles)	Desert scrub vegetation blankets the left side of the view across the middleground. The right side of the middleground is blocked by taller vegetation including trees planted around people's houses.		
Background (> 4 miles)	The desert floor creates a horizontal line across the far-middleground which is broken up by a transition to the distant mountain range. The Spring Mountains including snow-capped Mt. Charleston dominate the distant background.		
Vividness			
Feature	Score*	Notes	
Landform	5.5	A vast desert landscape dominates the foreground and middleground views. The Spring Mountain range and foothills add a distinct element of visual interest in the backdrop of the view.	
Vegetation	4.5	Desert vegetation including Mojave saltbush scrub and Mojave creosote bush scrub are visible in the foreground. The vegetation in the foreground impedes the views of the middleground and background in the right side of the view. Vegetation creates a blanket covering the middleground and background in the left side of the view.	
Water Feature	n/a		
Human-Made	4	An unpaved road in the left-center view creates a line toward the distant background. A typical residence within the community of Charleston View is visible in the right side of the view.	
Overall	<b>4.7</b>		
Intactness			
Overall	<b>4.5</b>	The sparse vegetation and cluttered structures associated with the rural residential development create a slightly above average level of intactness.	
Unity			
Overall	<b>4.5</b>	The sparse vegetation and cluttered structures of the rural residential development of Charleston View are offset with distant views of the Spring Mountains which form a scene with an above average level of cohesiveness.	
<b>Overall Visual Quality Score</b>	<b>4.6</b>		

\*Score Key:

1 - Very Low; 2 - Low; 3 - Moderately Low; 4 - Average; 5 - Moderately High; 6 - High; 7 - Very High

Visual Resource Survey:		Hidden Hills Ranch	With Project
KOP Location:	Charleston View	Viewpoint:	KOP 4
Landscape Unit:	Pahrump Valley	Date:	May-11
Viewpoint Description (Figure Caption):	View to the north from the rural residential community of Charleston View which is located south of the Old Spanish Trail Highway. The project site is visible beyond Charleston View in the foreground.		
Photo Orientation:	N		
Viewer Position:	_____ Inferior    _____ x _____ Level    _____ Superior		
View	Notes		
Foreground (0 - 1/2 mile)	Same		
Middleground (1/2 - 4 miles)	New towers and associated power block structures are visible within the middleground.		
Background (> 4 miles)	Same		
Vividness			
Feature	Score*	Notes	
Landform	5.5	No change	
Vegetation	4.5	No change	
Water Feature	n/a		
Human-Made	5.5	The new towers and associated power block structures are visible in the middleground, which enhance the overall vividness of human-made elements in the view.	
Overall	5.2		
Intactness			
Overall	2.5	The new towers are skylined, disrupting the horizontal lines created by the mountains in the background of the view. The addition of new towers and associated building structures increases the degree of clutter in the view, creating a low level of intactness.	
Unity			
Overall	2.5	The large scale and proximity of new towers to the community of Charleston View contribute to a low level of cohesiveness within the landscape.	
<b>Overall Visual Quality Score</b>	<b>3.4</b>		

\*Score Key:

1 - Very Low; 2 - Low; 3 - Moderately Low; 4 - Average; 5 - Moderately High; 6 - High; 7 - Very High

Visual Resource Survey:		Hidden Hills Ranch	Existing Conditions
KOP Location:	Old Spanish Trail Highway Eastbound		Viewpoint: <b>KOP 5</b>
Landscape Unit:	Pahrump Valley		Date: <b>May-11</b>
Viewpoint Description (Figure Caption):	View of the Pahrump Valley along Old Spanish Trail Highway traveling eastbound. The project site and rural residential community of Charleston View are visible in the middleground.		
Photo Orientation:	E		
Viewer Position:	_____ Inferior      _____ Level <u>  X  </u> Superior		
View	Notes		
Foreground (0 - 1/2 mile)	The foreground includes the paved two lane Old Spanish Trail Highway and gravel shoulder, in addition to scrub vegetation.		
Middleground (1/2 - 4 miles)	A blanket of desert scrub vegetation covers the landscape. A series of unpaved roads cross the project site. The rural community of Charleston View is visible in the right side of the view.		
Background (> 4 miles)	Further reaches of the Pahrump Valley including rural residential areas of the community of Pahrump are present in the distant view. The Spring Mountains form a backdrop and include the snow-capped mountain peak of Mt. Charleston.		
Vividness			
Feature	Score*	Notes	
Landform	5.5	Pahrump Valley backed by the Spring Mountains, including the snow-capped peak of Mt. Charleston, forms the foundation of the view.	
Vegetation	5	Mojave saltbush scrub, Mojave creosote bush scrub, and yucca cover the foreground and middleground.	
Water Feature	n/a		
Human-Made	4	The Old Spanish Trail Highway is visible on the valley floor in the middleground. Unpaved roads create a grid-like pattern. Structures that form the rural residential development of Charleston View are indistinct in the middleground on the right side of the view.	
Overall	<b>4.8</b>		
Intactness			
Overall	<b>5</b>	Visible development is mostly limited to roads and distant structures scattered across the valley floor. These features blend substantially into the valley floor and do not encroach on views of mountains or immediate foreground.	
Unity			
Overall	<b>5.5</b>	Human-made elements are subordinate to the overall natural environment, creating a moderately high level of unity.	
<b>Overall Visual Quality Score</b>	<b>5.1</b>		

\*Score Key:

1 - Very Low; 2 - Low; 3 - Moderately Low; 4 - Average; 5 - Moderately High; 6 - High; 7 - Very High

Visual Resource Survey:		Hidden Hills Ranch	With Project
KOP Location:	Old Spanish Trail Highway Eastbound	Viewpoint:	KOP 5
Landscape Unit:	Pahrump Valley	Date:	May-11
Viewpoint Description (Figure Caption):	View of the Pahrump Valley along Old Spanish Trail Highway traveling eastbound. The project site and rural residential community of Charleston View are visible in the middleground.		
Photo Orientation:	E		
Viewer Position:	_____ Inferior    _____ Level <u>  X  </u> Superior		
View	Notes		
Foreground (0 - 1/2 mile)	Same		
Middleground (1/2 - 4 miles)	New towers, power block structures, and heliostat fields are visible across the landscape of the far-middleground.		
Background (> 4 miles)	New towers, power block structures, and heliostat fields are visible across the landscape of the background.		
Vividness			
Feature	Score*	Notes	
Landform	5.5	No change	
Vegetation	5	No change	
Water Feature	n/a		
Human-Made	4.5	The addition of new towers, power block structures, and heliostat fields add a small degree of visual interest to the left-center side of the view.	
Overall	5.0		
Intactness			
Overall	4.5	The towers slightly intrude on the intactness of the view because they are visible in an area where there is currently a low degree of development. From this elevated view, the addition of human-made features increases visual clutter, resulting in a slightly above average level of intactness.	
Unity			
Overall	4.5	From this angle, the towers, power block structures, and heliostat fields are somewhat prominent in the view and compete with natural elements, lowering the level of unity.	
<b>Overall Visual Quality Score</b>	<b>4.7</b>		

\*Score Key:

1 - Very Low; 2 - Low; 3 - Moderately Low; 4 - Average; 5 - Moderately High; 6 - High; 7 - Very High

Visual Resource Survey:		Hidden Hills Ranch	Existing Conditions
KOP Location:	Pahrump Rural Residential		Viewpoint: <b>KOP 6</b>
Landscape Unit:	Pahrump Valley		Date: <b>May-11</b>
Viewpoint Description (Figure Caption):	View to the southeast from a neighborhood on the southern boundary of the town of Pahrump. This view overlooks an area of patchy desert vegetation combined with rural residential development in the foreground. Portions of the project site are visible in the background.		
Photo Orientation:	Southeast		
Viewer Position:	_____ Inferior      _____ Level      _____ x _____ Superior		
View		Notes	
Foreground (0 - 1/2 mile)	The foreground includes low-lying desert scrub vegetation combined with rural residential development.		
Middleground (1/2 - 4 miles)	The rural residential development in the foreground impedes views of the middleground. Those middleground areas visible are dominated by typical desert vegetation.		
Background (> 4 miles)	The expansive desert valley floor transitions to the Nopah and Kingston Ranges in the distant background.		
Vividness			
Feature	Score*	Notes	
Landform	4	Pahrump Valley backed by the Nopah and Kingston Ranges, forms the foundation of the view.	
Vegetation	3	Patchy, low-lying desert scrub dominates the landscape along with ornamental trees planted near the houses.	
Water Feature	n/a		
Human-Made	3	The rural residential development includes houses, vehicles, fences, barns, bleachers, and other structures.	
Overall	<b>3.3</b>		
Intactness			
Overall	<b>4</b>	The rural residential structures blend into a horizontal line across the landscape resulting in a moderate level of intactness from this view.	
Unity			
Overall	<b>4</b>	The human-made features are somewhat prominent in the view and tend to dominate it. The composition of the natural setting is of average unity.	
<b>Overall Visual Quality Score</b>	<b>3.8</b>		

\*Score Key:

1 - Very Low; 2 - Low; 3 - Moderately Low; 4 - Average; 5 - Moderately High; 6 - High; 7 - Very High

Visual Resource Survey:		Hidden Hills Ranch	With Project
KOP Location:	Pahrump Rural Residential		Viewpoint: <b>KOP 6</b>
Landscape Unit:	Pahrump Valley		Date: <b>May-11</b>
Viewpoint Description (Figure Caption):	View to the southeast from a neighborhood on the southern boundary of the town of Pahrump. This view overlooks an area of patchy desert vegetation combined with rural residential development in the foreground. Portions of the project site are visible in the background.		
Photo Orientation:	Southeast		
Viewer Position:	_____ Inferior    _____ Level    _____ x _____ Superior		
View		Notes	
Foreground (0 - 1/2 mile)	Same		
Middleground (1/2 - 4 miles)	Same		
Background (> 4 miles)	New towers are visible across the landscape of the background.		
Vividness			
Feature	Score*	Notes	
Landform	4	No change	
Vegetation	3	No change	
Water Feature	n/a		
Human-Made	3	No change. The new towers in the background do not attract attention because they are seen against the existing development.	
Overall	<b>3.3</b>		
Intactness			
Overall	<b>3.5</b>	The presence of the towers decreases the level of intactness to a slight degree. They appear to be relatively small from this view and are not prominent due to the structures in the foreground. One of the towers is skylined, and slightly alters the shape of the horizon.	
Unity			
Overall	<b>3.5</b>	The new towers somewhat intrude upon the views of the distant mountain range (in the right side of the view), which contributes to a slightly lower level of visual coherence.	
<b>Overall Visual Quality Score</b>	<b>3.4</b>		

\*Score Key:

1 - Very Low; 2 - Low; 3 - Moderately Low; 4 - Average; 5 - Moderately High; 6 - High; 7 - Very High