NIETC TEAM / DOE

Thank you for the invitation to attend today's tri-county meeting in Great Bend, Kansas and for providing the list of questions from constituents and counties below. Unfortunately, representatives from the NIETC program are unable to attend today's meeting but we wanted to offer some resources that are hopefully helpful.

DOE has not yet made any decisions regarding which potential NIETCs included in the <u>preliminary</u> <u>list of potential NIETCs</u> will be moving forward to Phase 3 of the NIETC process. DOE anticipates announcing the potential NIETCs that will advance through the process during the Fall of 2024. For those potential NIETCs that will advance through the process to Phase 3, DOE will conduct a number of concurrent activities, including refining geographic boundaries of potential NIETCs; initiating any required environmental reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other applicable federal statutes; and conducting robust public engagement in potentially impacted communities to ensure ample opportunities for participation by potentially impacted communities and landowners prior to DOE finalizing any NIETC designation. This may include virtual and in person public meetings near potential NIETCs and informal workshops.

While we are unable to provide specific answers to all questions you have provided at this time, we welcome you to refer to our Frequently Asked Questions webpage, which includes a newly updated section on "Landowner and Land User FAQs" (<u>https://www.energy.gov/gdo/frequently-asked-questions-national-interest-electric-transmission-corridor-designation-process</u>). We hope this FAQs section will provide helpful answers in the meantime. We are also open to scheduling a call in the future to discuss the remaining questions and are open to feedback on how DOE should conduct public engagement for those NIETCs that move to Phase 3.

Best,

NIETC Team