

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM



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ORIGINAL

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSIC

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

RECEIVED

Investigator: Carmen Madrid

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

2008 AUG 22 P 1:58

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2008 70882

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION DOCKET CONTROL

Date: 8/21/2008

Complaint Description: 19L misc line siting
N/A Not Applicable

Complaint By: First: Kim Last: Kolba

Account Name: Kim Kolba Home: (000) 000-0000

Street: [REDACTED] Work: (000) 000-0000

City: Vail CBR: [REDACTED]

State: AZ Zip: [REDACTED] is: E-Mail

Utility Company: Tucson Electric Power Company

Division: Electric

Contact Name: n/a Contact Phone: n/a

Nature of Complaint:
Kim Kolba

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington
Phoenix AZ 85007-2996
L-00000C-08-0011-0137
TEP Case No. 137

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED
AUG 22 2008

8/16/08

DOCKETED BY [Signature]

Dear Chairman Gleason and Commissioners;

I would like to thank you and the Commissioners for taking the time to make the trip to Tucson on August 18, 2008. I sincerely believe it is important for the potentially impacted residents to be able to participate in this process in person. So, once again, thank you for the courtesy of an Open Meeting. Unfortunately, due to my company's relocation, I am unable to make the Open Meeting, however, would like to express my opinions.

My name is Kim Kolba and I am a resident of Vail. I am familiar with the efforts of several community based organizations regarding this ecologically sensitive and beautiful area. I am a homeowner, as well as an avid photographer, wine enthusiast, and enjoy hosting family and friends that visit from out of state.

I am also a registered voter and current TEP ratepayer. I have some great concerns about how the areas Southeast of Tucson will be affected by the proposed Vail Area projects. I am also concerned about how these projects will tie into other projects in the regions to include the TEP Greaterville Substation south of the

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proposed Phase 2 Mountain View Substation, Fort Huachuca, and Unisource Energy's Vail to Valencia project which would change the current Nogales tap to the Vail Substation.

In the last election I voted, along with many other Pima County residents for the State Land Reform. The reason I mention that is due to the need to conserve and preserve areas. To that means, Pima County has purchased many acres of land in Cienega area for just that reason. The Sonoran Desert Plan that was adopted in 1998 provides for responsible community growth and has designated these areas as part of the biological core. These areas would then be offered more protections from large development and the unrestrained growth that comes with it I have concerns that these areas will be impacted by the growth that could potentially accompany these TEP projects if approved. Water is an important issue in Pima County. This area is bounded by the Santa Rita, Whetstone and Rincon mountains, the Cienega Creek watershed is critical for wildlife movement, has a rich cultural history, and is one of Arizona's last and most intact native grasslands.

Cienega Creek is a primary source of recharge for Tucson's precious groundwater as well as providing flood storage capacity. The Davidson Canyon connects Cienega Creek Natural Preserve and Coronado National Forest. The Davidson was nominated this year to receive the Arizona state designation as a Unique Water, which Cienega Creek already holds.

The Bar V Ranch is located south of 1-10 and east of Sonoita Highway, and includes 1,763 acres of fee simple land) and 12,674 acres of State grazing leases. Davidson Canyon runs through the Bar V, providing critical wildlife linkages under the interstate. The Bar V also adjoins the County's Cienega Creek Natural Preserve. This area would be directly affected by the proposed Phase 2 transmission line and Mountain View Substation. There are other small ranches in the area that have been purchased with bond money as well. These sites were purchased for conservation and specific purposes. That rationale will be undermined as a result of this project.

The idea of TEP's asking for a 15-year certificate to use as a placeholder for these corridors with a possibility that it may never be utilized is something that, as a rate-payer, doesn't compute. I should not be held responsible to pay for a lease that TEP is already saying, "may not be used in the future." This to me is not a good use of limited funds. It seems that TEP should be maintaining the lines they have rather than taking on lines that they may use. This has been brought to bear recently when there were several old lines and poles damaged in a recent storm.

This area is not projected for much residential growth and I have concerns that the idea that TEP feels that "one customer" warrants the project or addition of these lines might simply be setting the stage for the Rosemont Mine to have the electricity it needs to operate some time in "the future". Phase 2 of the project is simply not justifiable in terms of these particular areas based on their conservation and geographic/zoning restrictions, which will affect large developer purchase potential. The following is directly from Augusta Resource's website: 'The available electrical power supply for the Rosemont mine and process facilities falls within the Tucson Electric Power (TEP) and the TRICO service territories. Geographically, the area east of the Rosemont pit (which includes part of the mine and all the process facilities), falls in the TEP service territory. The area west of the Rosemont pit (including the balance of the mine and the fresh water pumping system) falls in the TRICO service territory. Because most of the mine's estimated electrical load and power requirements fall within TEP's service territory area, TEP will be the main electric utility service provider for the entire facility, including the fresh water system.' Sulfur Springs Electric has told its customers that they will not provide power to the Proposed Rosemont Mine. So the question beckons, is this Phase 2 for a Proposed mine?

However, with the planned TEP line and Greaterville substation upgrade along with the Phase 2 transmission line corridor and associated Mountain View substation – these two substations (both located close to Highway 83) could provide close to the projected need of the proposed Rosemont Copper Mine should it ever be permitted. Currently it is not permitted and may never be permitted so TEP should not be allowed to use it in any calculation of current or future need. According to the study "Mining's Potential Economic Impacts in the Santa Rita and Patagonia Mountains Region of Southeastern Arizona" the annual electrical power consumption of the proposed project would be equivalent to the annual electrical usage of about 68,000 households. (*prepared by Joseph Marlow, PH.D, Sonoran Institute Land and Resource Economist for the Save

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the Scenic Santa Ritas.

http://sonoran.org/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_view&gid=207&Itemid=5).

This project gives me great concern and resembles a possible Trojan Horse, as the Greaterville Substation currently serves the Rosemont Ranch, and a large part of the area proposed for the southern half of the Mountain View load. Augusta's Plan of Operations has at least 4 pages dedicated to this issue refer to:[http://www.augustaresource.com/upload/Plan of Ooerations/2.7 Electrical Power Supply.pdf](http://www.augustaresource.com/upload/Plan%20of%20Operations/2.7%20Electrical%20Power%20Supply.pdf)

Sincerely,
Kim Kilba
Vail, AZ
End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

August 21, 2008

Kim Kolba

RE: TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER (CASE NO. 137)
DOCKET NO. L-00000C-08-0011-0137

Dear Ms. Kolba:

Your correspondence regarding the Tucson Electric Power ("TEP") Line Siting Committee application will be placed on file with the Docket Control Center of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") to be made part of the record.

The concerns raised in letters received from customers will assist the Committee in the investigation and review of the application.

Your comments are appreciated and the interest taken on the proposed application.

Sincerely,

Carmen Madrid
Public Utility Consumer Analyst
Utilities Division

Filed in TEP Case No. 137
Docket No. L-00000C-08-0011-0137
End of Comments

Date Completed: 8/21/2008

Opinion No. 2008 - 70882

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