

ORIGINAL



0000097267

Dear Chairman Foreman and Members of the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee,

I am a customer of Tucson Electric Power (TEP), Former Board Member of the Empire Fagan Coalition (broad based community coalition), previous resident of Sonoita, and a long time resident of Vail, located south and east of the Vail Substation and the proposed project.

I spoke to the Commissioners at the public meeting on August 18th 2008 concerning TEP Line Site Case #137 (Decision 73469) but due to time issues focused more on environmental issues.

Areas of concern now include:

1. Public Outreach by the utility companies. In Line Site Case 144 as there was no public meeting held in Vail or Corona de Tucson.
2. My perception is that people in my region are beginning to suffer from learned helplessness. Although the area has been overrun with obvious environmental polluters such as California Cement, W.R. Henderson, Kinder Morgan, El Paso Natural Gas, Tucson Electric Power, multiple cell towers and more, people often appear apathetic. This learned helplessness comes when people feel that their opinion has no value or that it will make no difference that large corporations will do as they please anyhow. A Citizen's Advisory Council, composed of several local members who are involved from onset in transmission planning would foster a sense of ownership in the process.
3. Structure color. We request any new transmission structures installed next to existing lattice structures be constructed of galvanized steel. In virginal areas with sky and mountains as a backdrop we would also request galvanized steel.
4. I am concerned about the possibility of the "Vail to Kantor" line (if line site case 144 is granted a certificate an environmental compatibility) as one alternative route for a power source to the Rosemont Mine. The Vail Substation is currently pictured on TEP's Transmission Line Projects under Rosemont Mine as one of the starting locations. The Rosemont Mine is opposed vehemently in Southern Arizona.

A second concern as a TEP customer is the exporting of power to a community far south of the Vail Substation when it was mentioned several times in Line Site Case 137 that there were constraints on the Vail Substation via transmission line length. I question how much of this case is about providing reliable energy to Santa Cruz County and how much is about tying the Tucson Electric Power and UNS Electric regional grid together for future projects. Is this the basis for granting a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility? I question the future cumulative environmental costs to my area, such as water and air quality, especially if a gas fired power plant, of any kind, is constructed in the vicinity of the Vail Substation.

As the member of family in a growing region already threatened by many environmental polluters, I believe and request that our community should have a proactive role in transmission planning, (particularly since the Vail Substation is projected to have many projects in the next few years) and request that a Citizens' Advisory Council, comprised of various community associations, emergency responders, and environmental groups be added to the conditions of the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility, should it be granted.

Thank you,  
Dated this 25th day of May 2009

*CCook*  
Charlotte Cook

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Arizona Corporation Commission  
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