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Please view comments given to Tucson Electric Power at the Rosemont Mine Transmission Line Project Open House in Vail at Acacia Elementary on March 24th 2009. (2 days after VUSD students returned from Spring Break). I have the same concerns regarding the Vail Substation now. Additionally, the Vail to Kantor line currently does not exist, but it will if the CEC is issued in Line Site Case 14

2009 MAY 26 A 9:28

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ORIGINAL

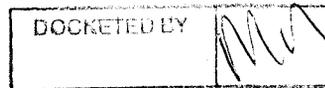
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MAY 26 2009

4/15/09



Sent Via: Fax: Phoenix: 602-956-4374
Tep Website / US Mail - Comment card

My name is Kim Rego and lives in Vail, Arizona. I have serious concerns about TEP undertaking this process since Rosemont is not approved.

I am writing to ask you to consider the ecologically, environmentally, culturally sensible route than the east side of the Santa Rita's. Science Highway 83 does not need to have 138-kV transmission lines or view of a substation on the side (or top) of the Santa Rita's. If an eastern route is selected to support Rosemont, local opposition will be extremely significant and should tie this project up in courts possibly for decades to come.

Will the proposed 46-kV to 138-kV upgrade through Box Canyon to Greaterville use the same route as it does now? How will you reduce the visibility of these poles and please use galvanized steel with sky backgrounds?

And also, has the Forest Service approved any transmission line corridors or routes to Greaterville and then to the Rosemont Mine on Forest Service lands? What process will the Forest Service use to site on their land?

Also along the east side is the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan, Biological Core Management Area and the Important Riparian Area. Would any of these transmission lines be running across state land through these important areas? We need to protect the view shed and adverse affects on this critical area.

We need some questions answered. More information is needed to be addressed to the public. Will the ACC issue a certification of environmental compatibility (CEC) in the National Forest area or is that a separate process?

We must save existing scenic areas, historic sites and structures and Native American archaeological and cultural sites in the vicinity of these lines. Pima County has invested millions of taxpayer bond monies to protect this region. These huge transmission lines would harm views and lower property values when within several miles of housing developments.

Below I have listed some cumulative impacts in or proposed along Hwy 83 that must be considered when conducting your reviews for the ACC CEC. These subjects all must be addressed so that a comprehensive picture of cumulative impacts on all of these is know before you start any work. The addition of air, land and water impacts from each of the below MUST be provided, not only for the present, but include the environmental impacts after the Rosemont mine is fully operational.

- 1) Proposed Rosemont Mining Project
- 2) Proposed Cal Portland Cement Mine
- 3) Proposed Charles Seel Mining Co.
- 4) Watershed issues (with proposed mines) to consider both impacts on quality and quantity of water
- 5) El Paso Natural Gas Line and Kinder Morgan Liquid Products Pipeline
- 6) Historic Pioneer and Native American cultural resource and Artifacts
- 7) Historic Andrada Ranch is in proximity
- 8) Bar V Ranch - Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan for Pima County
- 9) Riparian Area - designated IRA (Important Riparian Area)
 - a) Several wildlife corridors, plant and animal habitats
 - b) High biological significance areas containing habitat for vulnerable species
- 10) View shed impairment
- 11) Scenic Hwy 83 visibility and transportation impacts when constructing and later
- 12) Cienega Creek (which is also designated by ADWR as an Outstanding Waters
- 13) Davidson Canyon is the largest drainage into the Cienega Creek and has received Outstanding Waters Way
- 14) Diverse flora and fauna
- 15) Cumulative economic property value losses w/3 new mines in the area
- 16) Loss to Heritage and Eco-Tourism revenue from birders, guest ranches, hikers, hunters, and others who come to southern Arizona to enjoy our unique and beautiful area
- 17) Other agriculture lands and abandoned and operational mines off Mash Station Road and Old Sonoita Hwy
- 18) TEP services including know changes to support these mining projects
- 19) 3 - 4 Housing developments in the immediate 10/83 interchange
- 20) Rural response time in the area
- 21) Arizona Trail impacts
- 22) Limited cell service in this region

On the east of Sahuartia is the Scientific U of A Experimental Station, this pristine area has been doing research for 100 years. How will this impact the desert research for the future?

Will TEP generators be providing all the electricity power to the Rosemont mine? TEP is 95% coal-powered; this would add much more air that has been polluted to serve electricity for the Rosemont mine. The environmental effect of Mercury and other toxic and cancer causing pollutants are significant concerns. Once in the soil and water their presence is essentially irreversible.

How much ground water will be used to generate the electricity for use by Rosemont and where will this electricity be generated? Who is supplying the water for these generators? I believe that TEP should be required to use only CAP

water for making steam and for cooling instead of using any ground water at the Irvington Coal-Powered Plant. We do not need to be using any of our ground water to provide any electricity for Rosemont. As we all know, we are in the desert and water is an important asset. Groundwater should be used for human drinking consumption, not for industrial purposes. Will this be done?

Also, the Rosemont mine itself should also be restricted to using CAP water only. How much electricity will be used just to pump CAP water up hill to the mine and how much electricity for the mining operations? Can renewable (solar or wind) be used in the vicinity of the mine so less electricity is required to be transmitted via high voltage lines to the mine?

If I had to offer an alternative, I would suggest using existing lines and 'piggy back' or upgrade the poles, to the cost of the applicant (Augusta) not the other TEP customers.

Could a local natural gas generator, using gas from a pipe connecting the El Paso Gas Line near I-10, be used near the Rosemont substation site so that no transmission lines are required? Could Rosemont use solar power/solar powered generator? This would be less air pollution, use less water, and not put excess demands on local Tucson Electric Power generation or require more and higher cost electricity to be imported for the Tucson area and this mine. This will have fewer taxes on the resident / customers.

I believe that TEP and Rosemont are putting the cart before the horse. Rosemont is **NOT** a done deal. When does Rosemont require electricity since it does not have any permits from the Forest Service?

I would really appreciate someone to write me answers to my comments, as I know many of my neighbors have the same questions. I hope your answers will help us understand your positions.

Sincerely,


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Thank you,
Dated this 25th day of May 2009


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Pursuant to AAC R14-3-204
Original and 25 copies of the foregoing are filed with
Docket Control (25 copies)
Arizona Corporation Commission
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