



0000101102

Sheila Stoeller

From: info@azhighway83.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2009 11:09 AM
To: Mayes-WebEmail
Cc: 'az83'
Subject: Arizona Corporation Commission - Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 - Case #144 - Vail to Valencia
Attachments: KimRegoLetterToChairmanMayesVailtoValencia_7-29-09.pdf

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2009 JUL 29 PM 2: 06

AZ CORP COMMISSION
Arizona Corporation Commission
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Arizona Corporation Commission - Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 - Case #144 - Vail to Valencia

Public Comment

Dear Chairman Mayes,

DOCKETED
MLO

My name is Kim Rego I am a customer of Tucson Electric Power (TEP), webmaster of AZHighway83.com, small business Owner, former Board Member of the Empire Fagan Coalition, and a long time resident of Vail, located south and east of the Vail Substation and the proposed project.

I am writing to you to ask for the Commission's consideration of the following letters from the public that were sent to the Chairman of the Line Siting Committee in Case #144 - Vail to Valencia. It is my understanding that the Committee was unable to visit the northern portion of the project on its field trip during the hearing. This makes it even more vital that our community concerns are viewed carefully by the Commission.

1. Public outreach by the utility companies. In Line Site Case 144 as there was no public meeting held in Vail, Corona de Tucson, or Rita Ranch. The first public outreach meeting was held in Rio Rico. Months later a meeting was held in Tucson-quite close to the large Tucson Electric Complex off Alvernon and I-10. Additionally; the Vail Preservation Society, one of the community organizations that I volunteer for is a registered Neighborhood Association in Pima County within the project vicinity. My neighbors to the south are members of the Hilton Road Community Association-another registered Neighborhood Association in the direct vicinity of the project. It is my understanding that residents at a retirement complex at Kolb & I-10 were not contacted either. I have a family member that lives in the development and did not receive any notification of the project. Neither was contacted. The Santa Rita Foothills Community Association, registered with Pima County and located in Corona de Tucson has boundaries approximately 1/2 mile from the alternate route in segment 1A and was not contacted either.

2. Potential use of the Vail Substation as a gas fired power plant and other proposed projects. Unisource Energy/TEP had its fee simple land south of Interstate Ten west of Rita Rd. up zoned by the City of Tucson for this purpose. Also, Mr. Beck gave Elizabeth Webb a list of proposed projects associated with the Vail Substation in the next 25 years. There are sixteen (16) projects projected on the list. (Please see attached). This list does not include another 345k line from the Tortolita substation to the Vail Substation, the proposed Rosemont Electric project, or a substation planned by SWTC in New Tucson. TEP will bear the burden of the majority of the costs for the 345kVa transformer needed for this project to avoid conflicts with the two county financing mechanisms.

We are now at nineteen projects in the next 25 years, excluding any renewable projects (one planned between South and Vail substations) or the Mountain View substation that was denied in LS Case 137. The Mountain View substation is still on TEP's plans in the BTA. Our current population is approximately forty five thousand (45k) and a large fraction of our area is served by Trico instead of TEP. Currently, we have the Robert-Bills Substation, Los Reales Substation, the Vail 138k substation (in addition to the 345k), the 46k Greaterville substation and the newly approved Cienega Substation to serve our area. Our Community has proposed a way to help mitigate the impact all of these proposed projects that was not considered by the Committee.

3. Structure color. I request any new transmission structures installed next to existing lattice structures be constructed of dull grey galvanized steel. In virginal areas with sky and mountains as a backdrop I would also request dull grey galvanized steel. The Pole Finish Plan in the CEC signed by the Committee does not address the issue of how individuals will be given the PFP and when the 15 day complaint period begins.

4. As a TEP customer I am concerned with the exporting of power to a community far south of the Vail Substation, especially if as a TEP customer I am expected to bear any burden of the actual cost. 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 approving a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility?

5. I also 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. I am very concerned about the lack of outreach to the Bureau of Land Management for the two portions affected by this project that would address cumulative impacts

6. 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 approved by the Commission.

Although the Committee is able to weigh need versus environmental impacts on an individual basis it is imperative that long range planning between the Community and the Company occurs **BEFORE** the cases appear in front of the Committee. It is clear that the Company did not heed the Commission's instructions to improve public outreach in our area. The advertising for the Open Houses was vague and called the project an "upgrade". This project involves nearly 80% of the transformer cost born by TEP and therefore the solution of a CAC associated with this CEC would be relevant.

Thank you,
Dated this 29 day of July 2009

Kim Rego
PO Box 786
Vail, AZ 85641-0786
www.azhighway83.com
info@azhighway83.com

(this letter and other supporting docs are attahed as a pdf)

This website is devoted to Citizens as well as the visitors to the Vail/Corona/Cienega Corridor and the Empire Fagan Valley. The goal of this website is to educate the Citizenry of the issues that affect the region and to promote Community Involvement.

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or

Mailing Address: PO Box 786, Vail, AZ 85641-0786

www.azhighway83.com

Arizona Corporation Commission - Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 - Case #144 - Vail to Valencia

Public Comment

Dear Chairman Mayes,

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Thank you,
Dated this 29 day of July 2009

Kim Rego
PO Box 786
Vail, AZ 85641-0786
www.azhighway83.com
info@azhighway83.com

UNS ELECTRIC, INC.
 SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSES TO MS. WEBB'S
 FIRST SET OF DATA REQUESTS
 L-00000F-09-0190
 May 29, 2009

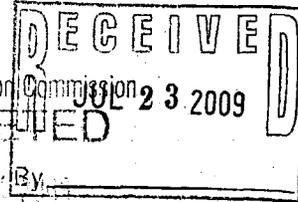
VAIL TAPS (LINES) OR SUBSTATION PROJECTS	TEP / UNSE ONLY PROJECT	10-YEAR OR 25-YEAR PLANNING HORIZON?
Vail to Valencia 138 kV Line	Yes	10-Year Plan
Cienega 138 kV Substation	Yes	10-Year Plan
Tech Park 138 kV Substation	Yes	10-Year Plan
Vail to Irvington 138 kV	Yes	25-Year Plan
Vail to Swan 138 kV	Yes	25-Year Plan
Vail to Irvington 345 kV	Yes	25-Year Plan
Vail to Winchester #1 345 kV	No	25-Year Plan
Vail to Winchester #2 345 kV	No	25-Year Plan
Vail to South #2 345 kV Plan	Yes	25-Year Plan
SS NO33 138 kV Substation	Yes	25-Year Plan
SS NO24 138 kV Substation	Yes	25-Year Plan
SS NO17 138 kV Substation	Yes	25-Year Plan
SS NO27 138 kV Substation	Yes	25-Year Plan
Irvington 345 kV Substation	Yes	25-Year Plan
Vail to Tech Park 138 kV Line Upgrade (417,000 KVA)	Yes	10-Year Plan
Vail to Robert Bill 138 kV Line Upgrade (417,000 KVA)	Yes	10-Year Plan

RESPONDENT: Ed Beck

Kristen Mays, Chairman
Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioner's Wing
1200 W. Washington - 2nd Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85007

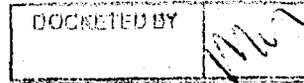
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2009 JUL 24 A 10:50

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL



RE: TEP Vail to Valencia 115kV to 138kV Transmission Line Upgrade Project and Alignment
in Segment 2, Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 Case No. 144

Dear Chairman Mays & Commissioners

The Corporation Commission soon will be voting to approve the final Certificate of Environmental Compatibility for the Vail to Valencia 115kV to 138kV Transmission Line Upgrade Project proposed by Unisource Energy Services (UES). We are writing to ask that the Corporation Commission take another look at and consider the alignment on the west side of the Union Pacific Railroad grade in Segment 2 north of the Canez Substation in Rio Rico. We believe that this proposed alignment has merit and will provide relief to the many residents and property owners east of the selected preferred alignment in that residential area.

We support the placement of transmission lines on the west side of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) grade from Kiwi Corte to the Canez Substation in Rio Rico (SEE ATTACHMENT). This portion of Segment #2 of the proposed west alignment of the transmission line would not be in the old growth mesquite bosque, nor would it be close to the Santa Cruz River channel. There is already an existing ranch road on the west side, which is above grade and wide enough for UES construction and utility vehicles. The road ends approximately due west of Kiwi Ct., which is where the dense mesquite bosque begins and the Santa Cruz River approaches closer to the railroad grade. This segment of transmission line is approximately 1.3 miles and may require approximately 6 structures, if the east pole placement suggested by the UES is used. In addition, the west of the railroad grade alignment is within the 500-foot corridor requested by UES.

The Line Siting Committee has already selected the east side of the UPRR grade as their preferred alignment. During the deliberations, several committee members had expressed their preference for the west side of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) grade until receiving a letter from the Santa Cruz County Flood Control District, which offered a negative assessment of placing the transmission line west of the UPRR grade.

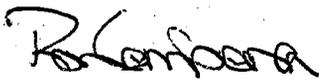
After speaking with John Hays, Santa Cruz County Flood Coordinator, he agreed that there would be minimal impact to the river channel and danger to the railroad grade, stating that his letter was based upon the information presented to him by representatives of the UES. We have requested that he write a letter to that effect, however he was leaving on vacation and it is unknown if he would get the letter completed prior to his departure. We have not yet received a reply from John Hays.

As Commissioners, you have the opportunity to lessen the impact on the residents by supporting the west alignment in this single area. The benefits include easier and cheaper access by the UES to maintain and service their structures and reduction in their liability by removing the lines from roadways and residential areas. For the residents, it provides improved view shed, improved property values, greater safety and reliability of our energy resource, and preservation of wild land habitat on the east side of the UPRR grade in this area.

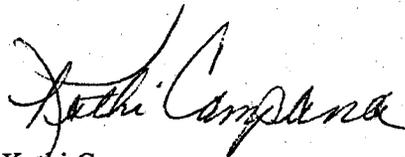
Kathi and I have supported the preferred alignment along the east side of the Union Pacific Railroad grade from the beginning of this proposed project. We have written letters; talked to UES staff and consultants voicing our preference for the UES preferred alignment in this area of Segment 2. However, many of our friends and neighbors came forward near the end of this process and voiced opposition to the preferred alignment for environmental and right of way concerns. In support of our neighbors, we offered the alternative to the west of the railroad grade alignment to help mitigate their concerns.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request. We know that the Line Siting Committee took a great deal of time and effort to consider their recommendations, however the denial of the west side of the railroad grade in this location, in our view, was based on misleading information. We commend the Line Siting Committee's work and efforts, but hope that you will consider our recommendation and concerns. If we can be of any assistance or answer any question you may have, do not hesitate to contact Kathi or me.

Sincerely,



Ron Campana
1520 Pendleton Drive
Rio Rico, AZ 85648



Kathi Campana

520 281-8250

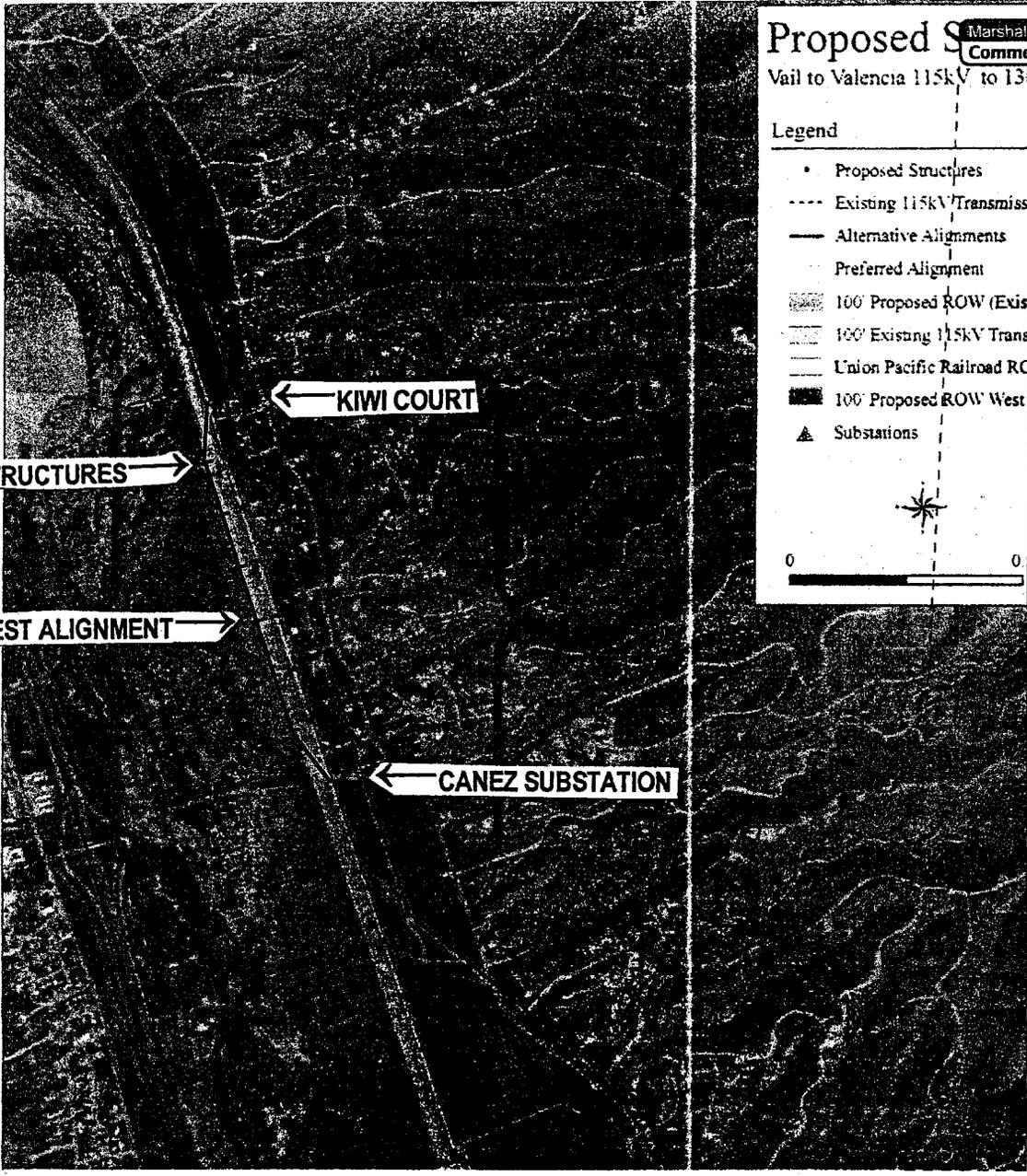
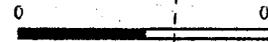
ronc1247@yahoo.com / kathicampana@yahoo.com

CC: Commissioner Gary Pierce
Commissioner Paul Newman
Commissioner Sandra Kennedy
Commissioner Bob Stump

Vail to Valencia 115kV to 138

Legend

- Proposed Structures
- Existing 115kV Transmiss
- Alternative Alignments
- Preferred Alignment
- ▨ 100' Proposed ROW (Exis
- ▨ 100' Existing 115KV Trans
- Union Pacific Railroad RC
- ▨ 100' Proposed ROW West
- ▲ Substations



STRUCTURES →

← KIWI COURT

WEST ALIGNMENT →

← CANEZ SUBSTATION

ORIGINAL

INTERVENTION

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION
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1
2 **COMMISSIONERS**

- 3 **Kristin K. Mayes**
- 4 **Gary Pierce**
- 5 **Sandra D. Kennedy**
- 6 **Paul Newman**
- 7 **Bob Stump**

2009 MAY 18 P 2:37

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

8 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF UNS ELECTRIC,
9 INC., FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
10 COMPATIBILITY FOR THE VAIL TO VALENCIA 115 KV TO
11 138 KV TRANSMISSION LINE UPGRADE PROJECT,
12 ORIGINATING AT THE EXISTING VAIL SUBSTATION IN
13 SEC. 4, T.16S., R.15E., PIMA COUNTY, TO THE EXISTING
14 VALENCIA SUBSTATION IN SEC. 5, T.24S., R.14E., IN THE
15 CITY OF NOGALES, SANTA CRUZ COUNTY, ARIZONA.

0190-00144

Docket No. L-00000F-09-0144

**Arizona Transmission and
Power Plant Line Siting
Case No. 144**

14 **Notice of Filing a**
15 **Motion to Intervene**
16 **by**
17 **Marshall Magruder**

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

MAY 18 2009

DOCKETED BY	
-------------	--

18
19 As a ratepayer, consumer, and interested party, I respectfully request to intervene to be a party
20 in this matter. I have experiences involving Santa Cruz County energy issues as an appointed member
21 of the Joint Santa Cruz County/City of Nogales Energy Commission in late January 2001 until August
22 2008. Potential issues should be prudently resolved during this case. The total environment is a major
23 issue that involves natural and human environments. The key issue is the cost impact to ratepayers.

24 The following are concerns in this case:

- 25 a. Consumer cost impacts by the change from the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) to
- 26 Tucson Electric Power Company (TEP) for transmission services for UNS Electric in Santa
- 27 Cruz County with potential increases in wheeling charges;
- 28 b. Total environmental impacts in terms of increased air pollution and water consumed with a
- 29 change from dominant natural gas to coal-generated electricity from the Four Corner's area;
- 30 c. Electrical and economic impacts due to increased energy (transmission) losses on the TEP
- 31 lines from Four Corners versus the WAPA transmission system that are now over 15%;
- 32 d. Electrical and economic impacts on the Tucson area power sink (deficit) by UNSE's 75 to 120
- 33 MW plus 133 MW for Rosemont Copper (considered separately) by importing "market" power;
- 34 e. Impacts of new routes that reduce trees in a riparian area;
- 35 f. Visual and safety impacts of segment 4 in the City of Nogales;

- 1 g. Visual impacts of "weathered" compared to less visible galvanized steel poles;
2 h. And other environmental issues.

3 If this motion is approved, request a discovery period through 30 June 2009, Due to the short
4 time between now and the hearings, if the applicant denies any discovery data request, that response,
5 requires rapid adjudication. Such denied response needs to include the Committee Chairman as an
6 addressee so any dispute can be promptly resolved. I plan to dispute any data request denial to the
7 Committee Chairman within 3 days. As usual, ten calendar days for data request responses is
8 expected.

9 This filing has been mailed to all parties in the Service List below.

10 Respectfully submitted on this 7th day of May 2009

11 MARSHALL MAGRUDER

12 By 
13

14 Marshall Magruder
15 PO Box 1267
16 Tubac, Arizona 85646-1267
17 (520) 398-8587
18 marshall@magruder.org

19 **Service List**

20 Original and 27 copies of the foregoing are filed this date with:

21 **Docket Control** (25 copies)
22 **Arizona Corporation Commission**
23 1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2927

24 **Janice Alward**, Chief Counsel, Legal Division
25 **Earnest G. Johnson**, Director, Utilities Division
26 **John Foreman**, Chairman of the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee
27 Assistant Attorney General, State of Arizona, Office of the Attorney General
1275 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

28 Additional Distribution (1 copy each) are filed this date:

29 **Jason D. Gillman**, Attorney for Applicant
30 Roshka De Wulf & Patten
31 One Arizona Center
400 East Van Buren Street, Suite 800
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2262

Marcus Jerden, Corporate Attorney
Tucson Electric Power Company
PO Box 711
Tucson, AZ 85711

Daniel W. Pozefsky, Chief Counsel
Residential Utility Consumer Office (RUCO)
1110 West Washington Street, Ste 220
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2958

ORIGINAL

Arizona Corporation- Commission Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 -Case #144
Vail to Valencia

Dear Chairman Foreman and Members of the Committee,

My name is James Webb and I am a resident in the Empire Mountains SE of Vail, Arizona and a member of the Hilton Ranch Community Association. Additionally, I am the Manufacturing and Process Engineer at Sargent Controls and Aerospace in Marana Arizona and have a master's degree in Research and Development Technology.

I spoke in front of the Commissioners at the August 18th 2008 Open Hearing regarding my concerns in TEP line site case 137. I have concerns in UNS Electric's line site case 144 as well.

My biggest concern is attached from Rosemont Copper's Mine Plan of Operations, downloaded today, May 25th 2009, from the Augusta Resources website http://www.augustaresource.com/upload/Plan_of_Operations/2.7_Electrical_Power_Supply.pdf. The MPO speaks of two alternatives to provide power to the proposed Rosemont Copper project from a planned transmission line (Vail to Kantor) that did not exist when the MPO was written. In fact, it does not exist today. It will only exist if the Committee chooses to grant a CEC in line site case 144. The MPO was revision date is 7/09/2007.

- This date is approximately 5+ months before a community meeting was held to notify the Vail community of the Evidentiary Hearing in line site case 137.
- This date is 13 months prior to a decision in Line Site case 137.
- This date is approximately 6 months prior to the Agency and Tribal Mailing List for line site case 144
- This date is approximately 7 months before the Open House for the Vail to Valencia line was held in Rio Rico Az and then many months later than every subsequent Open House for the project.

My question to the Committee is this. How is it that an un-permitted, non-approved project (especially in 2007) that is as opposed in Southern Arizona as Rosemont Copper had more prior knowledge of the Vail to Valencia upgrade than the general public-in some cases by more than a year? There was never a meeting in Vail or Corona, although the Vail Substation is within the Vail School District boundaries and we had just been impacted by Line Site Case 137.

This is completely unacceptable. A Citizens Advisory Council composed of local citizenry should be added to the conditions of the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility -should it be issued. We deserve to know what is happening with transmission planning in our neighborhoods and communities in a timely fashion

Thank you,
Dated this 25th day of May 2009

James M. Webb
17451 E. Hilton Ranch Rd.
Vail, AZ 85741-2032.

Pursuant to AAC R14-3-204
Original and 25 copies of the foregoing are filed with
Docket Control
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2927

Arizona Corporation Commission
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MAY 26 2009

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2.7.5 Preliminary Power Flow Analysis

A preliminary power flow analysis was prepared for an interconnection option with the TEP system (Option 1) and with the SWTC system (Option 2). The power flow studies utilized a 2010 summer peak-load base-case prepared by the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC). The studies assessed the impacts on the system in southern Arizona for both normal and outage contingency conditions and for both pre- and post- project scenarios. Contingencies were simulated on the 345 kV lines into and within southern Arizona, and on all facilities in the area with an operating voltage greater than 100 kV.

The studies indicated that the Vail substation could serve up to 75 MW of mine load if 20 MW of generation is on-line at the Valencia generating facility, or up to 100 MW if the Gateway Project were in service. The Gateway Project is a new substation facility expected to come on line in 2010. The facility is located near Sahuarita. The studies also indicated that shunt capacitors at Sonoita and the Rosemont Project substation would be required to maintain pre-project voltage levels. Upgrades to certain SWTC facilities would also be required to mitigate any impacts due to outages.

The analysis of the SWTC substation at Sahuarita indicated that the SWTC substation could provide 100-plus MW of power to the mine; however, some upgrades to their facilities would be required to mitigate the impacts of outages. Shunt capacitors at Sahuarita and the Rosemont Project substation would also be required to maintain pre-project voltage levels.

2.7.6 Description of Proposed Electrical Power Supply

Based on the analysis summarized above, Option 4 is proposed, although the line routing has been modified to avoid traversing the Santa Rita Experimental Range. Recent discussions with TEP have confirmed that the Vail-Kantor transmission line upgrades will be completed in time to support the project and that the Vail substation can supply the 100-plus MW of power for the project. The source of power for the project is, therefore, based on tapping into the upgraded 138 kV Vail-Kantor transmission line as noted in Option 4. The tap will be made at the intersection of the transmission line and the northern boundary of the Santa Rita Experimental Range (Figure 2-9). A new switching station will be provided for the tap and a new 138 kV transmission line will run about 4 mi east, along the northern boundary of the Santa Rita Experimental Range. The transmission line will then turn south for another 4 mi until it intersects the west access road into the mine site. The new transmission line to the plant main substation is about 11.6 mi long and follows the proposed fresh water pipeline route from the well fields north west of the tap near Sahuarita, Arizona (see Section 2.8).

The proposed 138 kV transmission poles will be single 90 foot, two section, direct buried, steel supporting a vertical type, three phase line configuration, providing a minimum of 75 ft ground clearance for the transmission line. Pole spacing will be about 800 ft on level ground and less where required to maintain ground clearance on varying and steep topography.

A new substation would be located at the switching station with a single 138 kV to 4.16 kV or 34.5 kV, step down transformer, isolation switches, and circuit breakers to distribute electrical power to the fresh water wells and pump stations at either 34.5 kV or 4.16 kV, using a three phase, overhead distribution wooden pole line. As an alternative, electrical power for the well fields and fresh water pump stations could be fed independently from a separate source on the SWTC system which is in TRICO's service area. The estimated power load for the well fields and pump stations is about 7.2 MW.

2.7 Electrical Power Supply

The electrical power supply for the Project facilities falls within the Tucson Electric Power (TEP) and the TRICO service territories. The eastern area of the Rosemont Project, which includes part of the mine and all the process facilities, falls in the TEP service territory. The western area of the Project, including the balance of the mine and the fresh water pumping system, falls in the TRICO service territory. Because most of the Project'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. A joint-venture business arrangement between TEP and TRICO will be negotiated and established to compensate both electric utility service providers. The arrangement will probably be based on a percentage of actual mine electrical load between each of the service territories. However, Rosemont Copper will receive one electric utility rate and bill with the breakdown of revenue between TEP and TRICO transparent to the project. This multiple service territory and provider agreement will be submitted, as required, to the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) for review and final approval prior to implementation.

In addition to traditional electrical service from commercial providers, the Rosemont Project will also generate energy on site using solar technologies such as passive solar installations for appropriate applications, such as water heaters and fans and photo-voltaic cell technology for supplemental electricity generation. By using the significant available surface area on facility roofs for the installation solar systems (approximately 300,000 sf), Rosemont will be able to enhance the overall energy efficiency of the operation.

The total connected load for the Rosemont mine and process facilities is estimated to be 133 mega watts (MW) and will require a minimum transmission voltage of 138 kV. Appendix C provides a summary table of the connected loads by mine process area as well as the demand load and estimated running load.

Four power supply options were evaluated to supply this load to the Project. Each is discussed below, followed by the proposed route.

2.7.1 Interconnection with TEP Line Serving Santa Cruz County (Option 1)

TEP currently has a 115 kV transmission line starting at the Nogales tap on the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) line and running south through the Santa Rita Experimental Range to Santa Cruz County and Nogales. This is the Vail-Kantor line that runs approximately 9 mi northwest of the project site. This option would require that the 115 kV Vail-Kantor line be upgraded to 138 kV and the connection moved from the Nogales tap on the WAPA 115 kV line to the Vail 345 kV substation. A new 138 kV switching station would be required to tap into this line with a new 138 kV transmission line running to the main substation at the plant site. The switching station was initially to be located along Santa Rita Road, which was in the vicinity of the fresh water pipeline and pumps. Step-down transformers at this switching station would distribute power to the pump stations at either 34.5 or 4.16 kV, on a three phase overhead distribution pole line.

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Advantages of this option are that the cost for upgrading the Vail-Kantor line to 138 kV would be partially borne by TEP as part of a previously planned system upgrade of the system to improve service to Santa Cruz County. The new transmission line to the project site, at 9 mi, would be the shortest distance. The disadvantages are that the timing of the Vail-Kantor line upgrade to 138 kV may not meet the needs of the project schedule, and additional modifications to the TEP system may be required to ensure that 100-plus MW of power is available to the Project. This system option can currently provide only up to 75 MW of power for the Project.

2.7.2 Interconnection with SWTC Sahuarita 230 kV Substation (Option 2)

This option will connect to the existing SWTC 230 kV substation, located north of Sahuarita, and include a new 230 kV transmission line running south. It will parallel the existing SWTC transmission lines, until the new line reaches Santa Rita Road. At this point, the line will follow Santa Rita Road and the Rosemont Project's west access road to the mine's main substation.

The advantage of this option is that the Sahuarita 230 kV substation currently has capacity to provide the required 100-plus MW power load for the Project with improved reliability. The disadvantages are that the new 16-mi transmission line is the second longest, and there would be added cost for substation electrical equipment rated for the higher, 230 kV transmission voltage. Another disadvantage is the Project load will cause an overload on the existing 345/230 kV SWTC Bicknell transformer.

2.7.3 Interconnection with TEP South 345/138 kV Substation (Option 3)

This option will connect to the existing TEP south 345/138 kV substation located another four mi northwest of the SWTC Sahuarita substation described in Option 2. The new 138 kV transmission line will run east, then about 2.3 mi and then south about 5.2 mi to pick up the same alignment from Santa Rita Road to the mine site as illustrated in Option 2.

The advantage to this option is that the TEP South substation can provide the required 100-plus MW at a lower transmission voltage without affecting the 345/230 kV SWTC Bicknell transformer described in Option 2. The 138 kV main substation at the mine site would be less expensive at 138 kV than the higher transmission voltage in Option 2. The South 345/138 kV substation is also owned and operated by TEP, which will be the electric utility service provider for the project. The disadvantage is the new 138 kV transmission line would be the longest at 21 mi.

2.7.4 Interconnect the TEP South Line to the TEP Vail-Kantor Line (Option 4)

This option will connect the 138 kV transmission line from the TEP 345/138 kV south substation described in Option 3 with the TEP 138 kV Vail-Kantor line. They will join where the two lines cross at Santa Rita Road when the Vail-Kantor transmission line is upgraded to 138 kV service voltage. This will be the most expensive option; however, the two sources of electrical power will provide greater reliability for the mine.

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**Arizona Corporation Commission
Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144
Case #144
Vail to Valencia
Public Comment**

Chairman John Foreman
Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee

Dear Chairman Foreman and Members of the Committee,

As President of the Santa Rita Foothills Community Association I write to you with the following concerns about the proposed Vail Substation siting tentatively to be located west of the unincorporated village of Corona de Tucson where my family and I have made our home for the past 33 years.

I spoke to the Commissioners at the public meeting on August 18th 2008 concerning TEP line site case #137. The areas of concern I addressed at that meeting are of concern now.

- 1.) Lack of public outreach on the part of the utility company; to date there has been no public meeting in Vail or in Corona de Tucson concerning the placement of the proposed line in Case #144.
- 2.) Potential use of the proposed Vail Substation as a gas-fired power plant; it is my understanding that the City of Tucson approved zoning for this purpose.
- 3.) Structure appearance; we request any and all new transmission structures installed next to existing lattice structures be constructed of galvanized steel. Our village nestles in an area of the Sonoran Desert with a unique beauty. Lest the landscape be blighted in virginal areas with a backdrop of the majestic mountains that surround us and the unmarred vision of the vast Arizona sky, we request galvanized steel structures be used as well. These structures weather and will better blend into the environment than any other alternative.

I did not address the possibility of the proposed Vail to Kantor line at the August 18th meeting of the Commission. If site case #144 is granted a certificate of environmental compatibility, it would provide an alternative route for a power source to the proposed Rosemont Mine. The Vail Substation is listed on TEP's transmission line projects under Rosemont Mine as one of the initial locations. The Rosemont Mine is vehemently opposed by the residents of Corona de Tucson and residents of hamlets, villages, ranches and country homes throughout Southern Arizona. The fight is ongoing and will not be easily won by the foreign mining conglomerate proposing an open pit mine that will forever scar our beloved desert.

Corona de Tucson is a growing community with roots sunk deep in our rural desert and a population ready and willing to protect our stark, yet beautiful landscape and the wilderness that surrounds us. We deserve a role in transmission line planning. We request the appointment of an Advisory Council comprised of community, neighborhood and homeowners associations, emergency responders, environmental groups and other interested parties be added to the conditions to the granting of any proposed Certificate of Environmental Compatibility.

Thank you,

Dated this 25th day of May 2009

By: *Sandra M. Whitehouse*

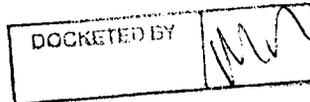
Sandra M. Whitehouse
139 West Camino del Emperador
Corona, AZ 85741-2032.

Pursuant to AAC R14-3-204

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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.

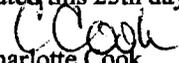
Areas of concern now include:

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


Charlotte Cook

Charlotte Cook
16755 Old Sonoita Highway
Vail, AZ 85641

Arizona Corporation Commission

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Arizona Corporation Commission
Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144
Case #144
Vail to Valencia
Public Comment

Chairman John Foreman
Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee

Dear Chairman Foreman and Members of the Committee,

My name is J.J. Lamb and I live in New Tucson, one of the many small communities in the Vail/Cienega corridor. New Tucson is east of the proposed transmission line upgrade and new interconnection to the Vail Substation and is actually served by TRICO Electric. I write as a community volunteer and registered voter in Pima County. I am a volunteer co-director of the Vail Preservation Society and I am a native Tucsonan. I hold a BA in history and have also lived in Europe for several years. My daughter read my comments to the Commissioners at the public meeting on August 18th 2008 concerning TEP line site case #137 (Decision 70469). Some areas of concern my daughter read for me at that meeting are of concern now.

1.) "I feel strongly that protecting the cultural and historical integrity of a community makes it stronger and its members more vested in its natural and cultural resources that make that community a special place to live. She also read of the "Vail Preservation Society's interests in helping TEP work with community sensitive safety and visual issues in fledgling historic districts." The Vail Preservation Society's boundaries written in its strategic plan extend westward to Wilmot Rd.

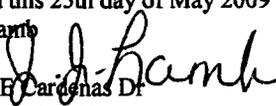
In addition to the comments before the Commissioners on August 18th 2009, I spoke at call to the audience on the opening day of the evidentiary hearing for Line Site Case 137 on February 19th 2008 and said "We would also like to request that we be added to your contact list of area stakeholders"

It saddens me to note that there was not an Open House held in the Vail/Corona de Tucson area regarding Line Site Case 144. I was in attendance when Commissioner Mayes stated that there should be aggressive upfront outreach to communities.

It is for the above reasons that I respectfully request the Committee add a condition for a Citizen's Advisory Council to the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility, should it be granted to avoid confusion over transmission planning.

2. Secondly, at the meeting on August 18 2009 my daughter read of my concerns regarding pole color. I would like to request that any monopoles located adjacent to areas with existing steel lattice towers or placed in "virgin" areas against open sky or distant mountains have a galvanized steel finish.

Other concerns include the potential use of the proposed Vail Substation as a gas-fired power plant; it is my understanding that the City of Tucson approved zoning for this purpose and any potential use of this line for the proposed Rosemont line.

Thank You,
Dated this 25th day of May 2009
J.J. Lamb

2954 E. Cardenas Dr
Vail, AZ 85641
(520)41904428

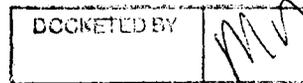
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Arizona Corporation Commission
Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 Case #144 - Vail to Valencia Public Comment

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

My name is Charlotte Cook and I live in Vail, Arizona. I have serious concerns about using the Vail Substation to support this mine. It is already overloaded, we have way to many wires going into and out of it.

I am writing to ask you to please 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 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 area? 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. 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) W. R. Henderson (Andrada) Quarry at Wentworth and Sahaurita
- 5) Watershed issues (with proposed mines) to consider both impacts on quality and quantity of water

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- 6) El Paso Natural Gas Line
- 7) Kinder Morgan Liquid Products Pipeline
- 8) Historic Pioneer and Native American cultural resource and Artifacts
- 9) Historic Andrada Ranch is in proximity
- 10) Bar V Ranch - Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan for Pima County
- 11) 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
- 12) View shed impairment
- 13) Scenic Hwy 83 visibility and transportation impacts when constructing and later
- 14) Cienega Creek (which is also designated by ADWR as an Outstanding Waters
- 15) Davidson Canyon is the largest drainage into the Cienega Creek and has received Outstanding Waters Way
- 16) Diverse flora and fauna
- 17) Cumulative economic property value losses w/3 new mines in the area
- 18) 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
- 19) Missile Silos
- 20) Other agriculture lands and abandoned and operational mines off Mash Station Road and Old Sonoita Hwy
- 21) TEP services including know changes to support these mining projects
- 22) 3 - 4 Housing developments in the immediate 10/83 interchange
- 23) Rural response time in the area (fire and police and limited cell service)
- 24) Arizona Trail impacts

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. Below I have attached a article about coal powered plants and mercury pollution.

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.

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?

Why couldn't TEP just use a short transmission line from Rosemont to the Helevicia mine just a few miles a way? I see that line going down Santa Rita Road. Can it also be used for Rosemont. Isn't this the easiest answer?

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. And this will have less taxes on the locals.

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?

Another item, the TEP mail flyer (received) and article in the newspaper (printed) and the meeting are all during Vail School's Spring Break and a lot of people are out of town on vacation time. It seems that everyone that I have tried to contact is gone. This kind/type of tricks has been done in the Vail area several times before, the Rosemont meetings, and the other TEP substations that Elizabeth Webb worked so hard on to stop off of Old Sonoita Hwy and relocate in the Vail area.

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.

March 16th 2009
Sincerely,
Charlotte Cook
Vail, AZ 85641
ccook520@aol.com

Thank you,
Dated this 25th day of May 2009


Charlotte Cook
16755 Old Sonoita Highway
Vail, AZ 85641

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<http://www.enn.com/pollution/article/39357/print>

<http://www.co2stats.com/certpro.php?s=1272&ref=http://www.enn.com/pollution/ar>

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From: Organic Consumers Association
Published February 23, 2009 09:20 AM

UN Reaches Landmark Agreement to Reduce Global Mercury Pollution

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Obama Administration Reverses US Position, Takes Leadership Role in Negotiations

Natural Resources Defense Council, via Common Dreams, February 20, 2009
[Straight to the Source](#)

WASHINGTON - February 20 - Representatives from more than 140 countries today committed to reduce global mercury pollution, which will help protect the world's citizens from the dangerous neurotoxin. This agreement was propelled by the United States' reversal in policy, which also influenced policy reversals of other countries, including China and India. The announcement is a historic step forward in the fight against mercury pollution, according to scientists and policy experts at the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC).

"This is great news for reducing mercury pollution around the world, and shows a commitment from the Obama Administration to international environmental issues," said Susan Egan Keane, policy analyst for NRDC. "The United States has taken a leadership role that will chart a new course on mercury protections around the world. We have set a strong example that is already influencing others to do the same."

The committed countries will reduce risks to human health and the environment from mercury by coordinating global cuts in the use and release of mercury into our air, water and land. The United Nations Environment Program Governing Council, which is meeting this week in Nairobi, Kenya, will now develop a legally binding treaty to be enacted by 2013. The treaty will include actions to reduce global mercury pollution and human exposure to the chemical, by reducing intentional use of mercury in industrial processes and products and reducing emissions from coal plants and smelters. It will also address the problems posed by mercury waste sites.

"Today we have won a momentous human health victory that will reduce illness and save lives both here and abroad," said Keane. "This globally coordinated plan will substantially reduce mercury contamination in fish, prevent the contamination of our water, and shield our children from a dangerous chemical."

Mercury is a dangerous neurotoxin and global pollutant that moves thousands of miles from its original source. Its travels through air and water, accumulating in large predatory fish, and poisons people mainly through the consumption of contaminated fish, including tuna. It is especially dangerous for pregnant women, babies and small children, as it can gravely impede brain development.

Coal-fired power plants are the largest source of mercury air emissions worldwide - emitting 50 tons of mercury pollution=2 0every year in the U.S. alone. As the price of oil has risen,=2 0coal has become a more economically attractive source of energy in countries where it is abundant and inexpensive. Currently, coal-fired power plants supply 75 percent of China's energy; in the ne xt eight years, China was expected to add more than 560 new coal plants - a pace of more than one new plant each week. Chemical manufacturing facilities in the Eu ropean Union, India and China and small-scale gold mines in the developing world are also among the biggest mercury pollution sources.

NRDC has worked to enact mercury protections at the national and globa l levels for decades. NRDC representative Susan Egan Keane is currently in attendance=2 0at the U.N. Environment Program Governing Council meeting in Nairobi, where she is working with the Zero Mercury Working Group, an international coalition of more than 75 public-interest non-gove rnmmental organizations worldwide that has been pursuing a legally binding international agreement to reduce mercury pollution for more than five years. Last year, NRDC successfully advocated for a new U.S. ban on the export of mercury, working closely with members of Congress, including the bill's sponsor, then-Senator Obama.

###

The Natural Resources Defense Council is a national, nonprofit organization of scientists, lawyers and environmental specialists dedicated to protecting public health and the environment. Founded in 1970, NRDC has 1.2 million members and online activists, served from offices in New York, Washington, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Beijing.

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

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Arizona Corporation Commission

Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 Case #144 - Vail to Valencia Public Comment

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Kim Rego
PO Box 786
Vail, AZ 85641-0786
kcr@vailaz.com

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4141 N 32ND ST.
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Phoenix, AZ
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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?

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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.

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- 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
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- 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,

Kim Rego
Vail, AZ 85641
kcr@vailaz.com

Thank you,
Dated this 25th day of May 2009


Kim Rego
PO Box 786
Vail, AZ 85641-0786

Pursuant to AAC R14-3-204
Original and 25 copies of the foregoing are filed with
Docket Control (25 copies)
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2927

ORIGINAL

Arizona Corporation Commission - Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 - Case #144 - Vail to Valencia

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

I am a customer of Tucson Electric Power (TEP), webmaster of AZHighway83.com, small business Owner, and member of the Empire Fagan Coalition, a long time resident of Vail, located south and east of the Vail Substation and the proposed project. In this case I write with the following concerns that I wrote to the Commissioners regarding the TEP Line Site Case 137.

Many areas of concern were similar to the areas of concern now.

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. Potential use of the Vail Substation as a gas fired power plant. TEP had the land up zoned by the City of Tucson for this purpose.
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.

One concern I did not comment in TEP line site case 137 is 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

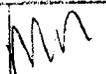

KIM REGO

Kim Rego
PO Box 786
Vail, AZ 85641-0786
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info@azhighway83.com

Arizona Corporation Commission

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MAY 26 2009

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Arizona Corporation Commission - Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 - Case #144 - Vail to Valencia - F

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

I am a customer of Tucson Electric Power (TEP). My family and I live in New Dawn Estates in Vail, AZ. Our community just went through a long and drawn out process with Line Site Case 137 and the Cienega Substation siting process with the City of Tucson. Fortunately, we were able to work cohesively with TEP to a positive end in that case.

Additionally, as the Chairperson for the first annual 'Tis the Season Tree Lighting "Between the Tracks" in Vail, AZ, I am happy to say that TEP made the lighting ceremony possible with its donation. That is the way it should be; Communities and Corporations working together. Today; however, I am writing about the following concerns regarding the proposed relocation of the transmission line to Nogales, Arizona from the Nogales Substation located at Wilmot Rd to the Vail Substation, located at Rita Rd.

1. Public Outreach by the utility companies. In this case, Line Site Case 144, there was no public meeting held in Vail, or Corona de Tucson. I thought things were going to change after the Cienega/Mountain View case.
2. Potential use of the Vail Substation as a gas fired power plant. TEP had the land up zoned by the City of Tucson just South of Rita Ranch for this purpose. How many cumulative impacts from environmental polluters should this area sustain?
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. Concern as a TEP customer at the exporting of power to a community far south of the Vail Substation when it was mentioned several times in the Cienega substation (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 visual impacts, water and air quality and more.

I read the article in the Tucson Weekly today where Joe Salkowski is quoted as saying "the situation is not one of outages...as much as long term reliability" Nowhere in the "Lack of Redundacy" article by Dave Devine in the May 24th edition of the Tucson Weekly does it mention that the line is anything but a system upgrade. I am concerned because this project at the north end involves construction of a completely new transmission line to the Vail Substation. It is by no means strictly an "upgrade" of an existing line.

As the member of family in a growing region already threatened by many environmental polluters, and someone who spent a vast amount of time on the City of Tucson Cienega Substation permitting process, I 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,
5/28/09


 Sherri Stinnett
 13695 E. Windswept Way
 Vail, AZ 85641
 (520) 762-0483

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Arizona Corporation Commission - Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 - Case #144

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

I am a customer of Tucson Electric Power (TEP) and a resident of Rita Ranch in SE Tucson, Arizona. I am writing about the following concerns regarding the proposed relocation of the transmission line to Nogales, Arizona from the Nogales Substation located at Wilmot Rd to the Vail Substation, located at Rita Rd.

1. Public Outreach by the utility companies. In this case, Line Site Case 144, there was no public meeting held in Vail, Rita Ranch or Corona de Tucson.
2. Potential use of the Vail Substation as a gas fired power plant. TEP had the land up zoned by the City of Tucson just South of Rita Ranch for this purpose. Mary Ann Cleveland, a community activist from Rita Ranch fought against this rezone. How many cumulative impacts from environmental polluters should this area sustain?
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. Concern as a TEP customer at the exporting of power to a community far south of the Vail Substation when it was mentioned several times in the Cienega substation (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 visual impacts, water and air quality and more.

I read the article in the Tucson Weekly today where Joe Salkowski is quoted as saying "the situation is not one of outages...as much as long term reliability" Nowhere in the "Lack of Redundacy" article by Dave Devine in the May 24th edition of the Tucson Weekly does it mention that the line is anything but a system upgrade. I am concerned because this project at the north end involves construction of a completely new transmission line to the Vail Substation. It is by no means strictly an "upgrade" of an existing line.

As the member of family in a growing region already threatened by many environmental polluters, I believe and request that our community have a proactive role in neighborhood and regional transmission planning, (particularly since the Vail Substation is anticipated 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
5/27/09



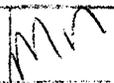
Ron and Sue Hermes
10233 E. Calle Costa del Sol
Tucson, AZ 84747
(520) 490-4798

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Arizona Corporation Commission - Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 - Case #144 -

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

I am a customer of Tucson Electric Power (TEP) and a resident of Vail, Arizona, although my home is south of Corona de Tucson in the Santa Rita Foothills. View shed is very important to my community and it is already traversed by multiple lattice structures to the north. Additionally, my family has owned Vail Feed between the tracks in Historic Vail, AZ since the early 1970's. I am writing about the following concerns regarding the proposed relocation of the transmission line to Nogales, Arizona from the Nogales Substation located at Wilmot Rd to the Vail Substation, located at Rita Rd.

1. Public Outreach by the utility companies. In this case, Line Site Case 144, there was no public meeting held in Vail, Rita Ranch or Corona de Tucson.
2. Potential use of the Vail Substation as a gas fired power plant. TEP had the land up zoned by the City of Tucson just South of Rita Ranch for this purpose. How many cumulative impacts from environmental polluters should this area sustain?
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. Concern as a TEP customer at the exporting of power to a community far south of the Vail Substation when it was mentioned several times in the Cienega substation (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 visual impacts, water and air quality and more.

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As the member of family in a growing region already threatened by many environmental polluters, I believe and request that our community have a proactive role in neighborhood and regional transmission planning, (particularly since the Vail Substation is anticipated 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,
5/27/09



Patty Kelley
11366 S. Vail Rd.
Vail, AZ
(520) 762-5301

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

6X

I am a customer of Tucson Electric Power (TEP). My family and I live "between the tracks" in Vail, AZ. Additionally, I own Data Systems Group Inc., computer consulting and networking and local internet provider. View shed is very important to my community and it is already traversed by multiple lattice structures and cell towers. I am writing about the following concerns regarding the proposed relocation of the transmission line to Nogales, Arizona from the Nogales Substation located at Wilmot Rd to the Vail Substation, located at Rita Rd.

1. Public Outreach by the utility companies. In this case, Line Site Case 144, there was no public meeting held in Vail, or Corona de Tucson.
2. Potential use of the Vail Substation as a gas fired power plant. TEP had the land up zoned by the City of Tucson just South of Rita Ranch for this purpose. How many cumulative impacts from environmental polluters should this area sustain?
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. Concern as a TEP customer at the exporting of power to a community far south of the Vail Substation when it was mentioned several times in the Cienega substation (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 visual impacts, water and air quality and more.

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As the member of family in a growing region already threatened by many environmental polluters, I believe and request that our community have a proactive role in neighborhood and regional transmission planning, (particularly since the Vail Substation is anticipated 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,
5/27/09

Stan Lalli
PO 1023
Vail, AZ
(520) 762-8896

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Arizona Corporation Commission - Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 - Case #144 - Vai

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

I am a customer of Tucson Electric Power (TEP) and a resident of Vail, Arizona. I am writing about the following concerns regarding the proposed relocation of the transmission line to Nogales, Arizona from the Nogales Substation located at Wilmot Rd to the Vail Substation, located at Rita Rd.

1. Public Outreach by the utility companies. In this case, Line Site Case 144, there was no public meeting held in Vail or Corona de Tucson.
2. Potential use of the Vail Substation as a gas fired power plant. TEP had the land up zoned by the City of Tucson for this purpose. How many cumulative impacts from environmental polluters should this area sustain?
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. 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 as one of the alternative starting locations for the proposed Rosemont Mine. The Vail to Kantor line is listed in two of Rosemont Copper's proposed alternatives on Augusta Resources website as of May 25th, 2009. My question is this. If the Vail to Valencia line is granted a certificate, can it be used with any connection to the proposed Rosemont Mine? Or, with a cross territory agreement to circumvent the two county rule? The Rosemont Mine is opposed vehemently in Southern Arizona.
5. Concern as a TEP customer at the exporting of power to a community far south of the Vail Substation when it was mentioned several times in the Cienega substation (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 visual impacts, water and air quality and more.

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Thank you,
5/27/09

Melvin Kolba

MELVIN KOLBA

PO Box 786
Vail, AZ 85641
mgkolba@msn.com

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ORIGINAL

Arizona Corporation Commission-Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144, Yail to Valencia

04

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

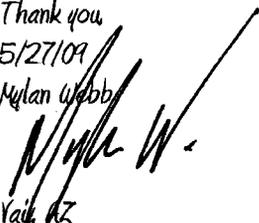
My name is Mylan Webb and I will be a senior in the Yail School District this year. For the last five years I have watched and helped my mother and others in our neighborhood do community service. We have tried to fight against and even work with companies trying to come in and pollute our area. We have tried to get parks and libraries for kids and adults because we don't have any and tried to save historic sites. I have stapled a news article where I talked about some of the blights our area already has to this letter. I also volunteer for the Southern Arizona Aids Foundation Moda Provocateur.

This is what I think about this electric business. My Mom and Mr. Magruder work harder than those lawyers because they actually care about their communities. My Mom becomes engrossed with this stuff because she does not know what she is doing and has to work harder to figure it out. She is on the computer and phone all of the time when the meetings are going to happen. We do not get to spend any time with her then. We do not even live in the actual place where the other case happened, and we do not live in the actual place where this case is happening either. My Mom and Mr. Magruder do this stuff because no one else will. It seems that way to me anyhow. Please consider the amount of electric projects there will be in the future. There are already so many electric towers and lines in our area.

One of the worst things is the amount of money she has to spend to send all of the papers to Phoenix. I remember at the last case on the last day, about five of the people who were had been on the committee just left their papers there for the garbage. You could see that had not even read the papers my Mom had to copy and I had to put together. My Mom made me pick up the stuff to save in case she might need it for another trial. If my Mom and Mr. Magruder do this and spend their own money you would think the people who get paid would at least pretend they are interested. It was uncomfortable watching my Mom at the last trial because she did not know what she was doing. But, she tries.

I don't think they should have to go to a trial. Like, why can't the electric company just consider what the people want or be honest with them about what is going to happen? Why can't the electric company bargain with the people before the trial to make sure things are ok for the communities? Why do they wait to the last minute so my Mom is running around to meetings and spending money on so many copies and gas?

I like the idea she has of a group made up of the people I have met in the years I have been helping. People like Sandy from Corona, Kim and Charlotte from Sonoita Highway, people from the Hilton Ranch Rd. Association, J.J. Lamb from the Yail Preservation Society and also some students from the school district. I hope you will seriously consider it because it is not fair what happens to families every time there is an electric trial.

Thank you
5/27/09
Mylan Webb

Yail, AZ
vailaz@hotmail.com

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MAY 29 2009

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Tucson Citizen

Mine opposed; much of copper for Asia

B. POOLE

Published: 06.09.2008

Just more than 200 people filed into an auditorium at Sahuarita High School on Saturday to hear views on a proposed mine.

The public hearing - part of the recently extended comment period for a mile-wide, open-pit mine proposed for the eastern flank of the Santa Rita Mountains - drew about 60 speakers, the vast majority against the mine.

Mylan Webb, 16, who lives about five miles from the mine site, was among the detractors of the Rosemont Mine. She received a list of blights that her rural community already has, including a gravel mine, abandoned mine shafts, cell phone towers and gas supply lines. She doesn't want another one.

She urged the Forest Service to consider the impact on the families that live nearby.

"We will have the trucks. We will have the dust. We will have the leftover mess," Webb said.

Jamie Sturgess, vice president for sustainable development for Augusta Resource Corp, the Canadian company that hopes to pull copper, molybdenum and silver from the mine for 19 years, defended the mine.

It will bring about 500 jobs paying \$60,000 per year into southern Arizona. More than 100 locals are already employed planning for the mine, mostly in Tucson consulting firms, Sturgess said.

Several speakers pointed out that much of the copper would be for the Asian market, which Sturgess conceded.

"But even if our copper does go to China, there's other products that come back that we do use that contain that copper," he said.

<http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/ats/prinstory/frompage/87626>

5/28/2009

Sturgess said he does not think he was attacked, despite the jeers and comments that follow him at public hearings about the mine. There are thousands of people who would be directly or indirectly employed by the mine, he said.

"They're not here because we don't know who they are yet," he said.

Other concerns raised by mine opponents were for water use, increased truck traffic - and thus danger - along state Route 83, the cost of increased emergency calls because of that traffic and the loss of a chunk of the ever-dwindling natural beauty of southern Arizona.

The Forest Service will hold one more hearing - 6 p.m. June 30 at Tucson's Rincon High School, 421 N. Arcadia Ave. - to take comments.

The service will not stop taking comments after the official comment period ends July 14, a spokeswoman said.

"We will continue to accept comments past that point," said Heidi Schewel of the Coronado National Forest.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

TO COMMENT ON THE MINE

- In person: 6 p.m., June 30, Rincon High School, 421 N. Arcadia Ave.
 - By mail: Team Leader, Rosemont Copper Project, Coronado National Forest, 300 W. Congress St., Tucson, AZ 85701
 - By fax: 388-8305, Attn: Rosemont Team Leader
 - By e-mail: comments-southwest@fs.fed.us. Put "Rosemont" in the subject line.
- ON THE WEB**
Coronado National Forest Rosemont Mine page
Save the Scenic Santa Ritas, an anti-mine nonprofit
Augusta Resource Corp. Web site

<http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/ats/prinstory/frompage/87626>

5/28/2009

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Lack of Redundancy

Lack of Redundancy

A TEP power line upgrade would still leave Santa Cruz County residents vulnerable to blackouts

by Dave Dumas

High school graduation is an especially joyous occasion in a small town. In 2005, however, the ceremony in Nogales took a dark turn. Literally. Power went out during the outdoor evening event, and megaphones had to be used by the various speakers. As a result, the graduates' names couldn't be heard as they crossed the stage to receive their diplomas.

"We're very proud of them," the *Nogales International* newspaper (which, like the *Tucson Weekly*, is owned by Wick Communications) quoted school principal Mark Valenzuela as saying about the graduating seniors. "It was kind of frustrating for them, but they hung in there."

All of the residents of Nogales have been hanging in there, suffering for years from periodic extended blackouts due to a lack of electrical redundancy. Only one major transmission line now runs south to Nogales, from near Vail east of Tucson. Carrying 115 kilovolts of power, the line serves much of Santa Cruz County.

Natural-gas-powered turbines in Nogales provide a limited backup, but if the turbines aren't working, Nogales can be left without electricity when the transmission line goes out of service. That's exactly what happened during the graduation ceremony: A storm knocked out the power line, so parts of Santa Cruz County were dark for several hours.

This power-outage problem and lack of electrical redundancy for the border region has been recognized for more than a decade. In 1998, the city of Nogales filed a complaint about power outages with the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC). In response, the ACC ordered Citizens Utilities Company, which then supplied electricity to Nogales, to install a second transmission line by the end of 2003.

"The bottom line," the local chamber of commerce commented in a 2001 letter, "is that Nogales and Santa Cruz County needs new and reliable power sources, and soon."

A 2001 study looked at the Nogales power supply and, according to a story in the *International*, concluded: "Stabilized delivery of electric power would greatly improve opportunities for new industry and commerce."

But the matter of getting a second power line to Nogales soon became extremely complicated. Citizens in 2003 was acquired by UniSource Energy Services, which then assumed responsibility for meeting the ACC requirement.

By that time, UniSource, the parent company of Tucson Electric Power, had indicated to the ACC that it wanted to run a 345-kilovolt line to the border city. This line would also provide power to the potentially lucrative electrical market of Sonora, Mexico.

The route selected for UniSource's new 150-foot towers ran west of Interstate 19, cutting through the Coronado National Forest. While the ACC supported this idea, the U.S. Forest Service and many area residents did not. (See Tim Vanderpool's accompanying story on Page 15.)

"That project's in limbo," comments Joe Salkowski, a spokesman for UniSource, about the controversial 345-kilovolt proposal. "We're the innocent babies in this situation."

ORIGINAL

The ACC apparently isn't pressuring UniSource to install a second transmission line to Nogales. Instead, since a 2004 decision which required the company to make some other improvements to the Nogales electrical system, the mandate for implementing the second line has been on hold.

UniSource has now applied to upgrade its existing line to Nogales in order to meet more of the current electrical needs of the community, although the company does not suggest that the upgrade is an alternative to the 345-kilovolt proposal. The 138-kilovolt upgrade would follow basically the same route as the present 115-kilovolt transmission line, but UniSource will replace its existing wooden poles with 70- to 85-foot-high steel monopoles.

"The situation is not one of outages," Salkowski says of the application, "as much as long-term reliability." He says that the existing line can only supply about two-thirds of the peak power load demanded in Nogales, and adds that additional use of the turbines is not economically ideal for electrical customers.

"It will give us more flexibility in terms of system reliability," Salkowski says about the proposed upgrade. He adds that any rate impacts which result from the construction project "are not going to be dramatic."

While Salkowski does not offer specific figures for power outages in Santa Cruz County, Salkowski does provide a general comparison with Tucson.

"Tucson benefits from multiple connections to the (national) power grid," he says, "so it has more redundancy than Santa Cruz County."

In any case, the current application leaves the issue of the ACC-required second transmission line to Nogales unresolved.

"The upgrade was seen as something the company could do more quickly, along with installing new turbines a few years ago," Salkowski explains.

That explanation may not offer much consolation to the 16,000 UniSource customers in Santa Cruz County who lost power for a few hours the night before Thanksgiving last year. One of those most impacted by this loss of power was Flavio Gonzalez, the utility director for the city of Nogales. He remembers the extended outage made his job "kind of interesting."

Indicating that he always tries to provide double-coverage for things he deals with, Gonzalez believes UniSource should do the same.

"This situation has been going on for years," Gonzalez says about electrical outages. "It behooves (UniSource) to invest the money to take care of their responsibilities."

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

Consumer comment Kim Rego

Docket number
00000f-09-0190-00144-Case#144

Consumer comment Kim Rego
Docket number
L00000f-09-0190-00144-Case#144

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED
JUN 11 2009

DOCKETED BY
MM

L-00000F-09-0190-00144

ORIGINAL

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMM
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Trish Meeter

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2009 79268

Date: 5/28/2009

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

Complaint By: First: Josh Last: Landess

Account Name: Josh Landess Home: (000) 000-0000

Street: n/a Work:

City: n/a CBR: [REDACTED]

State: AZ Zip: n/a is: E-Mail

Utility Company: Unisource ** Energy Services (UNS)

Division: Electric

Contact Name: [REDACTED] Contact Phone: [REDACTED]

Nature of Complaint:

5/27 *****RECEIVED THRU COMMISSIONER NEWMAN'S OFFICE*****

Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

JUN - 2 2009

Original Message

From: Josh Landess [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Friday, May 08, 2009 5:05 PM
To: joshl1@mail.com
Cc: David Fernandez; Newman-Web; S Metzger [REDACTED]

DOCKETED BY [REDACTED]

Well, I got on my high horse about the solar angle, but the truth is I don't know for sure what UNS is doing to bring more solar harvesting to Santa Cruz county, so I look forward to someone correcting me... maybe they are doing a lot.

On Fri, 08 May 2009 17:02:34 -0700, Josh L [REDACTED]

>I'm not sure why these hearings have 3 days scheduled, and I don't
>personally have some huge bone to pick with UNS on this (I do want my
>power to continue to work, and I want improvement since there are some
>very lengthy productivity-sapping outages sometimes down here which can
>extend past the time my UPS batteries help me out).
>

>However, if I have time I would like to go and convey to them a
>different point...

RECEIVED
2009 JUN - 2 A 9:49
CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

>
>I am disappointed in the pace of solar installations down here. Why
>should they be installing capacity to bring electricity from up North
>when at the very same time they seem to be doing only a fraction of
>what they could be doing to help partner with us down here to bring
>more solar energy harvesting capacity? Why shouldn't more of our local
>energy be home-grown, consider the amount of insolation we have here?
>I have heard about Springerville and Gila Bend, but I have not heard of
>UNS making any really impressive effort to dramatically improve both the small and large solar installations
down here.
>
>I am not against improvement of
>
>transmission-from-comparatively-far-away.
>
>I am against UNS being allowed only to pursue
>
>transmission-improvement-from-comparatively-far-away
>
>while doing very little to pursue dramatically-more-renewable
>generation and transmission from much closer-by. If we were generating
>and using more of our own energy down here, we would need less
>transmission from comparatively far away and this also would contribute
>to alleviating the stress on the existing power line, and this also would help improve reliability down here.
>
>http://www.cc.state.az.us/AZ_Power_Plant/Siting_Hearing_Calendar/04-23-09noticeofhrg.pdf
>09noticeofhrg.pdf
End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

5/28

5/27

I have been asked by Commissioner Newman's office to respond to your concerns regarding Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144

Your email will be placed on file with the Docket Control Center of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") to be made a part of the record.

You can view the Line Siting Application submitted by UNS Electric, Inc ("UNS") for the Vail to Valencia Transmission Line Upgrade Project on the internet via the Commission website (www.azcc.gov) using the e-docket function.

An Inquiry has been filed on your behalf and sent to the offices of UNS for response to your questions relating to solar energy use and the outages you have experienced in the area.

Pursuant to the Arizona Administrative Code Rule R14-2-212.A.2, the company is allowed five business days to provide an initial response to a consumer inquiry. Once I receive further information related to this matter from UNS I will provide you with an update.

Staff appreciates your comments and the interest taken on the application. If you should have any questions

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

relating to this issue, please feel free to contact me toll free at (800) 222-7000 if outside the Phoenix area or directly at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Trish Meeter
Arizona Corporation Commission
Consumer Analyst
Utilities Division
[REDACTED]

Sent customer concerns regarding outages and solar energy use to company for response. See Complaint No. 79269.

End of Comments

Date Completed: 5/28/2009

Opinion No. 2009 - 79268

Public Comment

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

I am a customer of Tucson Electric Power (TEP), small business owner, and a volunteer for many organizations in the Vail/Corona de Tucson area. I am also a resident of Vail in the Rincon Valley. In this case I write with the following concerns:

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. Additionally; the Vail Preservation Society, one of the community organizations I volunteer for is a registered Neighborhood Association in Pima County within the project vicinity
2. As a small business owner whose business has struggled substantially due to the downturn in the economy, I feel it is important now, more than ever, that large corporations connect with communities who will be impacted by new and long term construction plans.
2. Potential use of the Vail Substation as a gas fired power plant. TEP had the land up zoned by the City of Tucson for this purpose.
3. Structure color. I request any new transmission structures installed next to existing lattice structures be constructed of dull grey galvanized steel. In virginal areas with sky and mountains as a backdrop I would also request dull grey galvanized steel.

Another concern as a TEP customer is the exporting of power to a community far south of the Vail Substation, especially if as a TEP customer I am expected to bear any burden of the actual cost. 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 also 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 a member of a 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 and emergency responders be added to the conditions of the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility, should it be granted.

Thank you,
Dated this 10th day of June 2009

Dee Pfeiffer
Dee Pfeiffer
13895 E. Placita Pezuna
Vail, AZ 85641

Pursuant to AAC R14-3-204
Original and 25 (26 total copies) copies of the foregoing
are filed with Docket Control
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2927

Arizona Corporation Commission
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AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

2009 JUN 15 P 12:54

RECEIVED

Arizona Corporation Commission - Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 - Case #144
Public Comment

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

I am a customer of Trico and a resident of "New Tucson" in the Vail area, located due east of the proposed project. I have volunteered for many organizations and love my community. It was just ten years ago that I boarded a bus with other parents of diverse backgrounds and rode to Phoenix to advocate in front of the Arizona State Legislature for the first high school in the Vail Unified District. We have always had to work hard to express our needs and to be heard. I write today with the following concerns.

1. Public outreach by the utility companies. In Line Site Case 144 there was no public meeting held in Vail or Corona de Tucson. This is especially of concern as Trico has plans to construct a new substation in our neighborhood in the next year.

2. Views along Interstate Ten. As there is little to no commercial activity in the Vail area, it is largely a commuting population. I am a night worker at the US Postal Service Cherry bell Location. My commute is almost entirely on Interstate Ten from the Vail/Wentworth Exit to Kino Parkway. On my trip to work, the brightly lit Vail Substation sits on my left, to the south. On my return trip, depending on the season, my sunrise is marred by several large steel four legged structures, and transmission lines and various brown poles to the south, on my right. How many are enough?

3. Potential use of the Vail Substation as a gas fired power plant. TEP had the land up zoned by the City of Tucson for this purpose. This was fought by Mary Ann Cleveland, a Rita Ranch activist (see attached article) How many more lights will be required if this CEC is approved and how many lights will be required in the future if TEP builds its gas fired power plant. What are the environmental risks? It appears as if the industrial blight that Mary Ann feared is becoming a reality.

4. Structure color. I request any new transmission structures installed next to existing lattice structures be constructed of dull grey galvanized steel. In natural areas with sky and mountains as a backdrop I would also request dull grey galvanized steel. If I am going to have to see more towers I prefer that they are the same color. In some places the violent contrast of the black poles crossing the interstate is not appealing at all. It seems that it would make more sense to build on the existing steel structures as there are so many of them and they are so large. Why not use what is already there?

As the member of a 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 10th day of June 2009


Ken Lamb
2954 E. Cardenas Dr.
Vail, AZ 85641

Arizona Corporation Commission
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2009 JUN 15 P 3:39
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Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2927

Tucson Weekly

CURRENTS • FEATURE

July 05, 2001

The Next Generation

Twenty potentially harmful proposed electricity plants jolt Arizona into a new era of power politics.

by [Tim Vanderpool](#)

Sunrise spills like a broken yolk over Picacho Peak, as Jon Shumaker stalks the furrowed ground that's consumed his life.

If a group called Toltec Power Station LLC has its way, he says, this remote patchwork of cotton farms south of Casa Grande will soon be home to four smoke-belching power generators, pumping up to 2,000 megawatts of electricity into the commercial wholesale market. The enormous plant would span 215 acres sandwiched between Picacho Peak State Park on the east, the Sawtooth Mountains to the west, and the brand new Ironwood Forest National Monument on the south and west.

Nearby, an International tractor rumbles through a field, and a crop-dusting plane dips and rises above a carpet of green. Over the din, Shumaker, an archaeologist by training, describes how he's been single-handedly forced onto a gargantuan learning curve, attending relentless hearings and reading through enough legalese to swamp an army of lawyers, simply to make sure Toltec doesn't shove its way toward state approval like "greased lightning."

He recites a litany of complaints against the proposed plant, from concerns over water use and air pollution to its placement near the nature preserves. While a Toltec official says company planners have done their best to keep impact at a minimum, through extensive hydrological studies and revegetation research on surrounding farmland slated to become fallow, Shumaker flatly disputes these claims.

"Under questioning at a public hearing, I got them to admit that (revegetating farmland) is impossible to do," he says. "They're trying to make it look like they're great stewards of the land, but their science is completely non-existent."

Worst of all, the Toltec plant would be visible from the new Ironwood Monument, including a portion of the Sawtooths rising only six miles to the west. He says a power plant with eight towering stacks cannot peaceably exist next to so much wilderness.

"Yes, I do have a real problem with the proximity of this monster to the Ironwood. We're talking about a national monument, not just some little county park." All for a merchant plant geared to serve the lucrative wholesale market, he says, and California in particular. "It's pure arrogance on their part."

He kicks at a dirt clod, and his eyes narrow on a sign announcing the coming plant.

According to Shumaker, his questions about revegetating the farmland prodded Toltec to endow a related research position at the UA. His interrogation also slowed the project's approval, at least until another public meeting planned for July 9 in Phoenix, where he says "they're going to try to annihilate me."

Meet the new face of power politics in Arizona.

JON SHUMAKER'S BATTLE is being replicated across the state, as an unprecedented stampede of 20 applications for new power plants head for hearings before the Arizona Corporation Commission. That's in addition to a plethora of companies, from Tucson Electric Power to the Public Service Company of New Mexico, seeking approval for new high-power transmission lines across the landscape.

[click to enlarge](#)



TIM VANDERPOOL
"PNM doesn't give a damn whose lives they're affecting," says John Hewitt of Stoplines, a group opposing a transmission corridor through Avra Valley.



For information on these power projects, call the Arizona Corporation Commission at (520) 628-6550.

In most cases, the energy onslaught has local citizens running for cover. And statewide, environmental groups appear overwhelmed. "It's like trying to step on ants running every direction," says Steve Brittle of Don't Waste Arizona. "It just doesn't stop."

For example, in the small town of Kingman near the Arizona-California border, residents have protested a new power plant that will pump 8.4 million gallons of water daily from their aquifer. And in the Phoenix suburb of Gilbert, neighbors like Dale Bolger unsuccessfully opposed the expansion of a Salt River Project generator.

"There are 21 schools within a three-mile radius of this one plant," Bolger says. "The company is willing to put children at risk, so they can make money selling electricity to California."

Houston-based Reliant Energy Inc.--recently attacked by California Gov. Gray Davis for alleged price-gouging--is likewise putting the finishing touches on its new Desert Basin Plant in Casa Grande.

Meanwhile in Tucson, TEP is requesting an industrial rezoning for property it owns near I-10 and Rita Ranch Road. Area neighbors fear such a rezoning will spark an industrial blight in their midst, and two 75-megawatt plants in their backyard. "The TEP guys were extremely vague about their plans at a meeting with us," says Rita Ranch activist Mary Anne Cleveland. "Then when they went before the (city) zoning folks, they said something completely different. They essentially lied about their plans."

TEP officials didn't return several phone calls seeking comment on the neighbors' concerns.

The Tucson utility is also competing with the Public Service Company of New Mexico, or PNM, to run high-voltage power lines to Mexico, which is viewed as a market of limitless proportions.

The TEP preferred plan would place 150-foot towers through the environmentally sensitive Coronado National Forest. Its second choice would have lines running adjacent to I-19, and near the communities of Tubac, Amado and Green Valley.

At public hearings in Nogales on May 7 and 8 concerning TEP's transmission line plan, Emilio Falco, an astronomer with hopes to construct a home near one proposed path, raised the type of question leveled at other expansion-minded power companies across the state. "Your preferred alternative route passes right over where we plan to build our house," he said. "Do you expect to negotiate away our house?"

On June 11, PNM officials heard similar comments in the Marana High School auditorium, over their plans to blaze a megawatt transmission corridor through Avra Valley. "PNM doesn't give a damn whose lives they're affecting," said John Hewitt, a valley resident and member of Stoplines, a group opposing the project. Hewitt said the New Mexico company's stubbornness reminded him of a country song. "My question to PNM is this: What part of no don't you understand?" The audience of 200 roared in support.

SUCH COMMUNITY CONCERNS are well-founded, according to Ellen Berman, president of the Consumer Energy Council of America Research Foundation in Washington, D.C. "Companies are seizing opportunities (under electricity deregulation), which is not inherently bad," she says. "But the worry is, what are the environmental consequences, and what are the price benefits?"

In Arizona, where the vast majority of pending plants are geared toward western wholesale markets, the environmental consequences are likely to include dirty air, reduced water supplies and countless eyesores. The price benefits, if any, are a gambler's paradise.

This tsunami of power projects comes amid vigorous encouragement from the administration of President George W. Bush, and the mood among energy companies, as one observer puts it, "is to get going while the going is good."

Indeed, on May 18 the president ordered federal agencies to speed up approvals for refineries and power plants. This order came a day after the release of his energy plan, a blueprint that he said will balance energy development with environmental concerns. "We don't want either of them snarled in bureaucratic tangles, as local governments or entrepreneurs seek permit after permit from agency after agency."

Bush then asked citizens to help silence his critics. "When you hear these folks--it doesn't matter what side of the debate they're on--who are willing to kind of castigate somebody who may have a good idea, stand up and let them have it," he said while touring western hydroelectric projects.

Bush didn't specify which citizens he was referring to.

But even the bully pulpit has its limits. On June 18, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approved a price "mitigation" plan, aimed at reducing sudden whole electricity rate hikes in California and other western states, including Arizona.

This comes after intense criticism of the FERC's inaction as Californians saw their electricity bills mushroom--despite the commission's mandate to ensure "just and reasonable" consumer electricity prices.

The commission's new strategy is to limit power prices, tying them to a formula based on the efficiency of power generation. It also restricts energy providers from withholding electricity from the market simply to spike prices.

This plan falls just short of introducing price caps, a move Bush has ardently opposed, saying it would only reduce incentives for new plant construction.

Arizona Gov. Jane Hull has also opposed price caps. At a February energy conference in Oregon with other western governors, Hull said such limits would "undermine our deregulation efforts and discourage investment in power plants."

And, echoing the president, Hull said that "We need to keep a balance between environmental concerns and reliable power."

But the question lingers: How much reliable power is enough? And when does the environmental havoc wreaked by a surge in power projects outweigh reliability worries?

Basic math lends a clue. According to industry watchers, if all the planned plants are built, within two years Arizona will have enough power to serve 20 million people. This in a state where the population hovers between five and six million.

ON MAY 9, SEVERAL environmental and consumer groups called for a full analysis of Arizona's energy needs before further plants are approved by the Arizona Corporation Commission.

Airing their concerns to the ACC were organizations ranging from the Grand Canyon Trust in Flagstaff to the Phoenix-based Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest.

In the past, the ACC conducted regular inventories of Arizona's energy needs, said Rick Moore, program officer with the Trust. And Tim Hogan from the Center for Law cautioned that "No one is minding the store while all these plants are being approved."

The power plant boom has also prompted at least three lawsuits by the Center against the ACC. "State law governing the siting of power plants requires the commission to balance the need for an adequate, economical supply of power against the environmental impacts that the plants will have," Hogan told the *Tucson Weekly*. The legal action is meant to highlight that responsibility, he says.

Arizona officials say they've already responded to the power boom by tightening review procedures for the new plants. When the Corporation Commission recently approved one generator near Gila Bend, it included toughened air quality standards equivalent to those of coastal California.

Those standards include catalytic converters and other state-of-the-art technology to reduce emissions of carbon monoxide, particulates and organic compounds. "I think this does show there's a different level of scrutiny, in terms of collective impact of all these plants," says Heather Murphy, a commission spokeswoman.

Calls to ACC Chairman William Mundell for comment were not returned.

Still, the state's standards correlate with federal air and water quality standards laws, says Richard Tobin, deputy director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. As plants go through the planning process, he says his department reviews them for compliance.

Tobin says new plant operators must show a commitment to actually improving overall air quality in their area. This can mean anything from the installation of high-tech pollution controls to simply paving nearby roads to reduce dust. Nor, he says, is the ADEQ asleep at the wheel. "Our folks are very committed to the job they do, and they're holding the utility companies' feet to the fire."

And while the sheer number of new generators under review has strained the agency's resources, "Plants meant to serve state residents are given priority," he says.

The *Weekly* has also been told that the Arizona Attorney General's office will be looking into the rash of new plant applications, though details of this investigation were not available at press time.

You Gotta Have Friends

UNFORTUNATELY, LYING BEHIND this high-tech surge—with its enormous investments and potential for environmental calamity—is one factor that's been around since mankind first harnessed the energy of fire: plain old politics.

TEP's proposal for stringing transmission lines into Mexico is a good example of how political influence might be bought and sold to further Arizona's power industry.

Since TEP's plan and that of its competitor, PNM, include linkage with the power grid of a foreign country, the plans require approval from the federal Department of Energy with what's called a presidential permit.

Near the time its plan was released on August 17, TEP hired longtime local public relations executive Steve Lynn as director of corporate relations and communications. Lynn is also a former assistant director of the City of Tucson's Department of Human and Community Development.

In addition to his TEP duties, Lynn currently wields enormous clout as chairman of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission, which is charged with redrawing the state's congressional boundaries.

As coincidence would have it, the public-relations veteran is also a longtime friend of Fifth District Congressman Jim Kolbe, having worked both as a volunteer and paid consultant on Kolbe campaigns.

Now in his ninth term, the congressman sits on several House committees that oversee border issues, from the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export (which he chairs), to the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary, which funds agencies ranging from the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration to the International Boundary and Water Commission.

As its name implies, the latter commission oversees water and boundary issues along the U.S.-Mexico border. According to a federal official who asked to remain anonymous, as an organ of the U.S. State Department, "the IBWC must sign off on any presidential permits" for international power lines.

Finally, Kolbe also serves on the House Interior Subcommittee, which monitors the U.S. Forest Service. This oversight of course includes the Coronado National Forest, where TEP hopes to string its huge power lines.

In his roles on these various committees, Kolbe obviously has many opportunities to affect the presidential permitting process for TEP's transmission line proposal.

When asked whether he had discussed the project with his friend Steve Lynn, or with any other TEP officials, Kolbe responded by e-mail, through his press aide, Neena Moorjani. Rather than directly answer questions about specific discussions, the congressman wrote that "I have had numerous meetings on this matter with a full range of groups, individuals, and government agencies (federal, state, and local).

"I am following the matter closely as it goes through the public participation process seeking to ensure that federal agencies are responsive [sic] to the community," he said. "The current process is a public process, which I hope everyone with interest in this matter will participate."

Still, this isn't the end of cozy relationships. Serving alongside Lynn on the highly powerful, five-member redistricting committee is Dan Elders, owner of DRE and Associates, a Tucson landscape architecture and environmental consulting firm.

Elders was among those who later appointed Steve Lynn to the group, and selected him as chairman. Elders told a local daily newspaper that he chose Lynn because of the PR executive's communication and consensus-building abilities.

In turn, Elder's firm was hired by TEP to conduct environmental impact studies on the transmission line project, and Elders testified under oath on the utility's behalf during the May transmission line hearings in Nogales.

But following his own appointment to the commission, Elders portrayed himself as a political babe in the woods. "Gee whiz, I'm probably right there with George Bush," he told the *Arizona Daily Star*. "If someone asked me who the president of X, Y or Z was, I wouldn't have a clue. I don't know the political pundits or who the movers and shakers are."

Elders did tell the *Star*, however, that among his first notes of congratulation was one from Kolbe.

Contacted by the *Weekly*, Elders said that he publicly disclosed his business relationship with TEP to the Arizona Secretary of State's office while being considered for the redistricting committee, and that he has only had one conversation "of a general nature" with Congressman Kolbe since his appointment.

He says any linkage between himself, Lynn and Kolbe "is of such a tenuous nature" that "it doesn't deserve comment."

Numerous calls to Lynn for comment were not returned.

However, the Kolbe/Lynn/Elders triad certainly provides ample opportunity for a juicy, last-minute quid pro quo: Under a draft map of newly drawn Congressional boundaries released in June, Kolbe will lose a large portion of his Catalina Foothills constituents. In turn, according to the draft, he would acquire a chunk of Tucson's south side, a portion of the Tohono O'odham Nation, and a slice of Santa Cruz County. None are considered particularly fertile ground for a Republican seeking reelection to a 10th term.

Observers are awaiting release of the final boundaries, to determine whether Lynn and Elders will be more kind to the Congressman in that version.

Regardless, Kolbe's Web site proclaims, in no uncertain terms, the congressman's opposition to an earlier transmission line route proposed by TEP's competitor, PNM. That route would have cut through the heart of his district, near Sonoita and Patagonia. There has been no specific comment from Kolbe's office about his position on PNM's newly proposed Avra Valley route.

Is this an insider's game? Ask Emilio Falco, the astronomer. "It seems pretty obvious what is going to happen," he said after the Nogales meeting. "Of course, TEP is going to get what they want."

More Lines of Power

THE FIRST STEPS in granting approval for power lines and plants in Arizona involve the ACC's Line Siting Committee. Committee meetings are meant to gather public opinion, and evidence about environmental impacts of a project. They are conducted like a court of law, with testimony and questioning under oath.

The committee is comprised of representatives from various state agencies, including the Corporation Commission, the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Commerce. Corporation commissioners also appoint six members representing the public, though one position is currently vacant.

Laurie Woodall of the Arizona Attorney General's office chairs the committee on behalf of Attorney General Janet Napolitano.

Following hearings on particular projects, a majority of committee members either rejects the project, or grants approval in the form of a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility.

Environmental and consumer advocates say the Line Siting Committee has a pro-business tilt. But Woodall says its diverse membership ensures that all viewpoints are represented.

"It's a common prejudice to somehow believe that everything that's involved in government ... that there must be something sort of cynical about it," she says. "But that has not been my observation." Woodall says Arizona law requires that "one member shall represent cities, one shall represent counties, one shall be actively involved in agriculture." As a result, "I think this board has an extraordinary number of representatives of the public."

Once the Line Siting Committee makes its call, the matter is forwarded to the ACC for a final decision. Calls to ACC Chairman William Mundell for comment on this process were not returned. But when the commission approved the Gila Bend plant with tightened environmental requirements in early April, Mundell told the *Arizona Republic* that "the pendulum has swung toward protecting the environment."

There have since been questions about whether officials from the Gila Bend project accurately listed planned emissions.

And in May, when activist groups aired their concerns before the ACC, Commissioner Marc Spitzer reiterated that he and fellow regulators were very dedicated to balancing power needs with environmental impacts.

Do such comments allow activists a better night's sleep? Steve Brittle of Don't Waste Arizona says he isn't comforted. "I don't really have a good view of (the commission) because I have seen them presented with testimony that I would call compelling, and they've ignored it."

He says the plant expansion approved for Gilbert provides "a perfect example. People put on the record plenty of information about hazards from the chemicals, such as ammonium sulfate that causes respiratory problems, all these concerns. Then commissioners told the Salt River Project they could build the huge plant, but that they couldn't burn diesel fuel. They [the commission] called that a significant environmental restriction. In terms of the potential tons and tons of pollution, that didn't really do much.

"The thing that really bothers me," Brittle says, "is when I've gone to hearings, and everything is supposed to be quasi-judicial. But it's only that way when [the commissioners] need it to be. It's really been about listening to what the corporations tell them. Then they sort of nod their heads, but you can tell they're not really listening to citizens, or the other information that's presented to them."

Back at Ground Zero

JON SHUMAKER ISN'T UNDER any illusions about his chances for killing the \$1 billion Toltec power plant project. Still, he's not about to stop trying. "There are still intact bighorn sheep herds in the Silverbell Mountains," he says. "And they move throughout those mountain ranges out there, and one of the ranges they go through is the Sawtooth Mountains. Is this really the kind of thing you want to build eight smokestacks next to?"

But Tom Wray, who spearheads the Toltec Project for the Phoenix-based Southwestern Power Group II, says the company has all its environmental ducks in a row, after conducting studies on land subsidence, water use and potential emissions. The company has also scouted how best to keep the visual impact on nearby monuments to a minimum, he says.

"I believe the nearest facility to Ironwood would be one of the transmission lines that's about nine miles (away). We've done numerous simulations of views from Picacho Peak, from different points inside Ironwood, [and the facilities and transmission lines] would be very difficult to see."

(In truth, Toltec would be roughly six miles east of the Sawtooth Mountains, which lie in the monument, and seven miles north of the core monument.)

Wray estimates that 75 to 80 percent of power produced at Toltec "would remain inside the state of Arizona for the local needs."

However, such numbers are little more than speculation in the volatile energy market; industry watchers say nearly all the new plants are aimed primarily at customers outside the state.

Like many of these planned plants, Toltec is owned by a limited liability partnership. This means that the true money behind such a project is difficult to trace. Wray refused to name Toltec's parent company. "I can't give you that information," he says. "That's one of the reasons you have limited liability companies--the owners are not disclosed."

But some digging unearthed a Louisiana company named MMR Power Group, based in Baton Rouge. Calls to MMR official Allen Boudreaux seeking comment were not returned, but a secretary confirmed that MMR owns the Toltec project.

Regardless, Wray says his company put the plant on the best spot it could find. "I would point to situations where you build plants in populated areas, which impacts those people's lives. We've bought enough land to buffer these plants from any of the homes that would still be there. And our simulations do not show visual impact from Ironwood or Picacho at all. I guess it's all in the eyes of any particular viewer."

Wildlife included.

For his part, Jon Shumaker watches the mad rush of new power projects like Toltec, and says he doesn't like what he sees. "At one hearing, this guy came up and asked me, 'If we don't build it here, where do you want to build it?' I told him I'd rather have it built in my back yard than out here. That shut him up for awhile."

The tractor is plowing its last row of the morning, as Shumaker takes a final glance around this remote battleground. He shakes his head in disgust. "It seems pretty simple to me," he says. "The more they develop next to this brand new national monument, the more they degrade the habitat out here. And where this plant is supposed to be is currently the quiet, rural, agricultural heartland of Arizona. If this goes through, Toltec is going to change the ambience of the entire area."

And like others opposing endless, well-funded power plans, he refuses to abandon his David vs. Goliath fight. "My intent is to drive a stake into the heart of this project," he says. "It's a bad project, and it's a terrible location."

[Feature archives »](#)

ORIGINAL

Arizona Corporation Commission Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 Case #144

Public Comment

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

I am a customer of Tucson Electric Power. I am also a resident along a designated Scenic Arizona Scenic Highway in Vail, AZ; SR 83 in the Empire Mountains in Supervisor Ray Carroll's District 4. I write today as a spokesman for the Hilton Ranch Road Community Association, a registered Neighborhood Association with Pima County in the vicinity of the proposed Vail to Valencia project. Please see the attached letter signed by several members of our Community Association in regard to concerns about Case 144.

I also have a few personal concerns I would like to share with you as well.

When I spoke in front of the Commissioners on August 18th 2008, Commissioner Mayes made the comment to me after I spoke: "...And so I hope that going forward the company learns a lesson from this case from its customers, which is you need to maximum outreach prior to do any case being filed and also multiple alternatives have to be offered. So I commend everybody who has been involved in this case for making those points."

It doesn't seem like much changed with this case, which was filed about eight months after these comments were made.

It is my understanding from reading the transcripts online that TEP intends to share the cost of a large 345kVA transformer with UNS Electric, indeed potentially bearing the majority of the cost for "future capacity" of 552 megawatts worth of a transformer. If this is the case why weren't we as customers of TEP and members of a community organization in the vicinity of the proposed project notified of this? Why were the notices written to imply that this project was merely an upgrade with a few minor changes? Cost is not the only issue. It is the idea of TEP receiving 552 megawatts of power without having to justify the need or say where it is going that is disturbing.

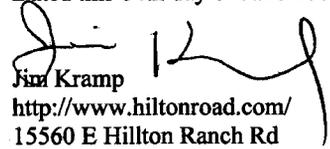
Just because all of us from our community do not waste the physical resources and time to attend meetings held outside of our area does not mean we do communicate with each other. We are a predominately working class neighborhood and many of us have long commutes and we are tired at the end of the day. Gas is expensive too.

We place a certain amount of trust in the fact that individuals in our community have settled into certain roles with certain responsibilities. It just sort of happened that way. Elizabeth Webb is the one who typically attends electric events and reports back. She may not represent all of us, but she keeps us informed. If she can't make electric meetings, such as the Rosemont project meeting that was held in March at Acacia Elementary, we are sure to have someone else there. I know she attended three separate meetings about this particular project, Case 144. I maintain our website, attend specific environmental meetings, report back via email and typically chair neighborhood meetings. We have others in our community who are responsible for other local issues. Others are responsible for food and beverage planning. Others plan and attend public outreach events where we need a face. When we need a large cohesive effort that is when we come together. This is the way a community conserves its limited resources.

I also very concerned about the perceived attempt to diminish the role of the BLM in this case to the public. The Nogales substation is located on BLM property. The preferred alignment crosses BLM land. It is extremely difficult to see this (if at all) on any of the photos on the Unisource Energy Services website. It is not mentioned on the project display board for right of way on the Unisource Energy Website except in a very general way. "Establish positive long term relationships between Unisource Energy Services and the landowner". There is a case where the Commission granted a certificate eight years ago where the Forest Service still has not allowed access through its land in Southern Arizona. Doesn't it make sense to work with the federal agencies concurrently? Also, and very important to our community is that fact that we have future and foreseeable projects in the area as well as potential cumulative impacts.

Again, I ask you to read the letter signed by many of the members of our Community Association with the mailing facilitated by me and take these comments into consideration.

Thank you,
Dated this 14th day of June 2009


Jim Kramp
<http://www.hiltonroad.com/>
15560 E Hillton Ranch Rd
Vail, AZ 85641

Arizona Corporation Commission
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2009 JUN 17 P 3:39
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Public Comment

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

We the undersigned are customers of Tucson Electric Power (TEP) and have some concerns regarding the proposed Vail to Valencia case before the Committee. We are also members of the Hilton Road Community Association. Our area is a very diverse one with very high end custom homes to more modest mobile homes. We have a mixture of retirees and younger couples with children still in school.

What we have in common in our rural landscape is a sense of responsibility to our community and a strong sense of unity. This is in part because we have little to no services in our region and have to depend on each other. A drive to the grocery store is now quite close since one was built in Rita Ranch at just about 16-20 miles from our homes. We do not live in a fire district, we pay to be included. We typically do not have cell phone service out here. Internet service in some places can only be provided by satellite.

Our community has been left out lately in infrastructure and industrial land use issues that strongly impact our future and we expect that you will read our concerns and listen, as perhaps they will also echo the sentiments of other rural communities in Arizona.

Here are areas of specific concern and some suggestions for the future:

1. Public Outreach by the Utility Companies: In Line Site Case 144 there was no public meeting held in Vail or Corona de Tucson. If a meeting is to be held in an area outside of our community, we would suggest that the notification given be done in a timely manner so that we may prepare and carpool. Or the Company could provide a shuttle. We would also suggest that meetings start later in the day so that our community would have time to arrive home or arrive at the meeting after work. 5:30pm is too early. 6:00-6:30pm is more reasonable for a community that has many younger members.

2. Advertisement of Open Houses: Another important aspect of public outreach is clear concise information in the advertising for the meetings. Advertising construction of a completely new transmission line from a TEP substation after disconnecting it from a non-TEP substation to supply non-TEP customers as an *"upgrade that would involve only a few changes to the existing transmission line route"* is disingenuous. And that is how it was advertised in the newspaper for the May and Dec 2008 Open Houses in Tucson.

3. Availability of Information to TEP Customers. This project will use shared equipment between two utility companies and travel through TEP's service territory. We would suggest that future joint projects have a listing on both websites just as the Sahuarita to Nogales project is listed on both websites with an explanation of the joint project. We would also suggest putting the website information on the newspaper advertisements for the Open Houses for those who cannot attend.

4. Cooperating with Other Agencies. We suggest that the Committee work with the BLM, on whose land the Nogales substation sits and where the preferred alignment in Segment 1A would cross. There are cumulative impacts associated with several transmission lines, structures, and future projects in our area. Additionally, the NEPA process *requires* social, economic and rural lifestyle issues to be

considered while Arizona only *allows* them to be considered. We sincerely hope you will take these factors into consideration under Total Environment when you make your decision about granting your conditions in this Certificate.

5. Vail to Kantor Line: The potential of this line to be used as Option 1 and 3 in Rosemont Mine's plan of Operations. As of today, June 14th 2009, the Vail to Kantor line which still does not exist, is listed on Augusta Resources website as two possible alternatives. It is our understanding that TEP has asked Rosemont to remove these two options from Augusta Resource's website but it still has not done so.

[http://www.augustaresource.com/upload/Plan_of_Operations/2.7 Electrical Power Supply.pdf](http://www.augustaresource.com/upload/Plan_of_Operations/2.7_Electrical_Power_Supply.pdf)
<http://www.augustaresource.com/section.asp?pageid=6320>

This creates great unease about this project among residents in my community, as if TEP/UNS Electric is being disingenuous about this aspect as well.

6. 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.

7. Potential use of the Vail Substation as a gas fired power plant. TEP had the land up zoned by the City of Tucson for this purpose.

Another 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 (Cienega) 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? We 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.

Our families live in a growing region already threatened by many environmental polluters. We recommend our community have a proactive role in transmission planning, (particularly since the Vail Substation is expected 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 is added to the conditions of the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility, should it be granted.

Thank you,

Dated this 14th day of June 2009

Debra M. Hanna P.O. Box 99 VAIL, AZ 85641
Debra M. Hanna P.O. Box 99 VAIL, AZ 85641
Carol Shinsky 15791 E. Hilton Ranch Rd Vail, AZ 80841
Bonnie Bonney 15560 E. Hilton Ranch Rd. Vail, AZ 85641

Chuck Woodford 15895 Hilton Ranch Rd Vail, AZ 85641
Mailing ~~at~~ PO BOX 144

DAVE TenPENNY 20,500 S. MARAUDERS TRAIL VAIL, AZ 85641

Gail Zvanoff 20421 S Sonoma Way Vail AZ 85641

Shelley Janner 15393 E. Hilton Ranch Road, Vail, AZ 85641

Rakut ~~Amff~~ 20421 S Sonoma Way, VAIL, AZ 85641

Jan Kwang 15560 E. HILTON RANCH RD VAIL, AZ 85641

~~M, L, L~~ 15791 E. HILTON RANCH RD, VAIL, AZ 85641

~~Tom~~ 17451 E Hilton Ranch Rd Vail AZ 85641
2009/06/14

Roger D'Amico 15393 E. HILTON RANCH RD. VAIL AZ 85641

Jack & Linda Pennington 20404 S Marauders Dr Vail AZ
85641

Greg Schoon Marauders Trail VAIL 85641

Walter ~~Amff~~ Marauders Trail VAIL 85641

Randy Oberlin 20301 S. Sonoma Way Vail AZ 85641

John ~~Amff~~ 15690 E. Hilton Vail, AZ 85641

Ray ~~Amff~~ 15690 Hilton Ranch Rd, Vail 85641

20985 S. total Wreck in Vail "

George Krump 15560 E. HILTON RANCH RD Vail 85641

Pursuant to AAC-R14-3-204

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Arizona Corporation Commission

1200 West Washington Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2927

ORIGINAL

Arizona Corporation Commission
Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144
Case #144 - Vail to Valencia

Arizona Corporation Commission
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2009 JUN 17 P 3:40

Public Comment

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

I am a customer of Tucson Electric Power (TEP) and have some concerns regarding the proposed Vail to Valencia case before the Committee. My concerns are prefaced by the following. A couple of years ago I was lucky enough to read Commissioner Kristin Mayes guest opinion in the Sunday Star speaking about TEP's Sun Share Solar program. I was so impressed with Commissioner Mayes and wowed by this idea that my wife and I installed the system on our house. (An energy efficient stabilized adobe home). We received the rebate and are thrilled with the system. We do believe large companies can work with the public to help the environment and the economy.

That said, I do feel an obligation to express these views. My wife and I are long time residents of Vail in the Empire Mountains SE of the proposed project. We are members of the Hilton Road Community Association which is a registered Neighborhood Association with Pima County in the direct vicinity of the project. (Please see the attached Pima County GIS map) We pride ourselves on being strong members of our community and are activists for a variety of important causes.

Here are areas of specific concern and some suggestions for the future:

1. Public Outreach by the Utility Companies: In Line Site Case 144 there was no public meeting held in Vail or Corona de Tucson. If a meeting is to be held in an area outside of our community, I would suggest that the notification given be done in a timely manner so that we may prepare and carpool. Or the Company could provide a shuttle. I would also suggest that meetings start later in the day so that our community would have time to arrive home or arrive at the meeting after work. 5:30pm is too early. 6:00-6:30pm is more reasonable for a community that has many younger members.

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3. Availability of Information to TEP Customers. This project will use shared equipment between two utility companies and travel through TEP's service territory. I would suggest that future joint projects have a listing on both websites just as the Sahuarita to Nogales project is listed on both websites rather than the link I saw today. I would also suggest putting the website information on the newspaper advertisements for the Open Houses.

4. Cooperating with other agencies. I suggest that the Committee work with the BLM, on whose land the Nogales substation sits and where the preferred alignment in Segment 1A would cross. There are cumulative impacts associated with several transmission lines, structures, and future projects in our area. Additionally, the NEPA process *requires* social, economic and rural lifestyle issues to be considered while Arizona only *allows* them to be considered. I sincerely hope you will take these factors into consideration under Total Environment when you make your decision about granting your conditions in this Certificate.

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5. Vail to Kantor Line: The potential of this line to be used as Option 1 and 3 in Rosemont Mine's plan of Operations. As of today, June 13th 2009, the Vail to Kantor line which still does not exist, is listed on Augusta Resources website as two possible alternatives. It is my understanding that TEP has asked Rosemont to remove these two options from Augusta Resource's website but they still have not done so.

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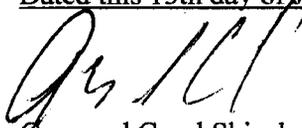
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7. Potential use of the Vail Substation as a gas fired power plant. TEP had the land up zoned by the City of Tucson for this purpose.

Another 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 (Cienega) 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.

My wife and I live in a growing region already threatened by many environmental polluters. I recommend our community have a proactive role in transmission planning, (particularly since the Vail Substation is expected 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 is added to the conditions of the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility, should it be granted.

Thank you,
Dated this 13th day of June 2009


Greg and Carol Shinsky
15791 E Hillton Ranch Rd
Vail, AZ 85641

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Select Map Features

Map layers:

- Streets - All
- Streets - Major - With Names
- Neighborhood Associations - Count

Map features:

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- HILTON ROAD COMMUNITY ASS
- VAIL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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pinas county.gis

Pinas County | Vail Preservation Society

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Legend:

- HandCar Service Area
- Historic Districts - National Register - City
- Homeowner Associations - County
- Hydrographic Belts
- Hydrographic Bedrock
- Hydrologic Soil Groups - NRCS
- Improvement District Plans - Pinas County
- Improvement Plans - Pinas County DOT
- Infrastructure - PDDOT - Polypars
- Jurisdiction
- Justice Precincts
- Lake
- Legislative Districts - State
- Lighting Code - Home
- Lighting Code - Pinas County
- Maintenance Districts - Pinas County 001
- Marine Riprap Approach Zones
- Natural Resource Influence Zone
- Neighborhood Associations - Count
- Neighborhood Associations - Tucson
- RFP-Permit Districts
- Riprap Project Areas
- Latest PMS - Ontopobob Project Inag
- Latest PMS - Ontopobob Project Elev
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airtable

Arizona Corporation Commission
Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144
Case #144 - Vail to Valencia

ORIGINAL

52

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

My name is Mary Ann Cleveland and I am TEP Customer. I am also one of the first Rita Ranch residents, support staff for Greeter Scheduling for the historic Saint Rita Shrine in the Desert (located between the tracks in down town Vail, AZ) and a very vigorous community activist. One of my proudest accomplishments was never giving up hope in my three year quest to see a road built to connect the communities of Rita Ranch in the City of Tucson and Vail in Pima County for the safety of our children.

That said, we still have much work left to do. Elizabeth Webb and I have worked on many community projects together in the past; the 2008 Pima County Bond to advocate for a library, community center and parks for our area, historic preservation on the two remaining oldest buildings left in downtown Vail and have attended Vail School District town halls, business, Pima County Board of Supervisor, City Council meetings and more.

I write today with the following concerns about LS case 144 and TEP's plan to acquire a large portion of a new transformer with another company. Eight years ago, Tucson Electric Power met with us about plans for a gas fired power plant at their location south of I-10 off Rita Rd. located less than 3 miles from our community in Rita Ranch and their plans to apply to the City for their property to be rezoned to Industrial Use. The TEP guys were extremely vague in their plans for the area. Then, they went in front of the City of Tucson and said something different. They received their rezone. TEP's spokesman Bill Norman said reserve amounts of electricity would need to be generated in preparation for the Southeast side's expected population boom. When are companies going to have to be accountable for statements they make regarding population growth when receiving permits and equipment? I still have the same concerns about water and air pollution associated with any future growth at the Vail Substation that I had then.

In this case there was no meeting held in Rita Ranch, Vail or Corona de Tucson. Rita Ranch is still located less than 3 miles from the Vail Substation. Children from as far away as Sonoita in Santa Cruz County attend high school at Empire HS which is located next to Rita Ranch. We have held plenty of meetings in our area at the schools. The Vail School District is very accommodating. The newspaper advertisement for the project is very vague and it is very difficult to know about proposed new construction when a project is called an upgrade.

My family lives in a growing region already threatened by many environmental polluters. I recommend our community have a proactive role in transmission planning and request that a Citizens' Advisory Council, comprised of various community associations, emergency responders, and environmental groups is added to the conditions of the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility, should it be granted.

Thank you,
Dated this 17th day of June 2009

Mary Ann Cleveland

Mary Ann Cleveland

9820 E. Donati Way, Tucson, AZ 85747

Arizona Corporation Commission

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June 16th, 2009

ORIGINAL

Arizona Corporation Commission
Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144
Case #144 - Vail to Valencia
Public Comment

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Arizona Corporation Commission
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2009 JUN 19 A 9:54

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

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
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I am writing on the behalf of the New Dawn and Vail Vistas Estates. Both are registered Neighborhood Associations with Pima County in the vicinity of the proposed project.

In February of 2008 at the hearings for LS 137 we were surprised to learn that in addition to the proposed line between the Vail Vistas and New Dawn Estates, Tucson Electric Power intended to install a third 345 kVa line in the future. It would have made a total of 4 very large lines and towers between our neighborhoods in a very narrow corridor. Such a large impact on one group of people is inappropriate. The neighborhoods will vigorously oppose additional lines and towers. Accordingly, TEP should prepare alternate routes for the lines.

We have worked extensively with TEP, the City of Tucson and the ACC to move the Cienega substation to a more appropriate location using appropriate colored monopoles (please see the attached notation regarding pole color from the City of Tucson Special Land Use Permit Application that was provided to us). We have really appreciated the efforts TEP has put into our requests regarding safety during construction, re-vegetation, flooding issues, intensive OHV prevention, and gating to prevent neighborhood trespassing. Additionally, we appreciate the neighborhood meetings that were held in our area at convenient times at convenient locations. We have shown that the Company can work collaboratively with the community on site specific issues. The Mountain View substation was shown that it was not needed.

However, TEP still has the third 345 (TEP Winchester to Vail) shown in their ten year plan that we will have to contend with. My point is this. **NO other community should be blind sighted at one hearing that their community is going to be hit in the near future by another possible transmission line, especially another extra high voltage line.**

This is one reason, among many, we highly recommend Citizens' Advisory Council, comprised of various community associations, emergency responders, and environmental groups is added to the conditions of the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility, should it be granted. Long term planning will help prevent these kinds of surprises.

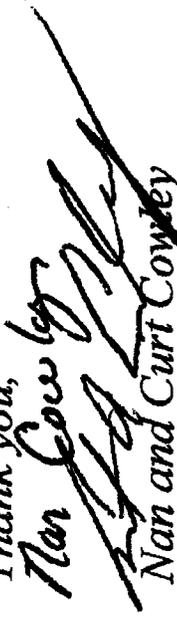
I spoke and represented my neighborhoods on August 18th 2008 in front of the Commissioners. Commissioner Mundell spoke when I finished and said *"That's why we have these public meetings, so that the Commissioners can all hear what the utility is telling you, for lack of a better word, in other meetings that we don't attend."* If the Committee approves a Citizen's Advisory Council, there can be accountability and the Community, the Commission and the Utility will all hear the same thing. It is a win-win situation for everyone.

Also, my husband and I stayed and we heard what Commissioner Mayes had to say when she spoke at the end. "So, you know, in addition to that I think we have learned a lot in this case. And I hope that the company has learned a lot. There has to be aggressive, upfront outreach to communities on all of these line siting cases."

Unfortunately, in Line Site Case 144, filed 8 months after the meeting on August 18th, 2008 there still was not aggressive upfront outreach to the community of Vail. We have hopes this will change in the future with your help.

Thank you,

Nan Cowley



Nan and Curt Cowley

13652 E. Mooncloud Way

Vail, AZ 85641

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1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2927

Cienega Utility Substation Special Exception Land Use Permit Application

Estates commented that the residents in New Dawn Estates and Vail Vista approve of this new site for Cienega Substation and lists stipulations for approval. At a neighborhood meeting on 8/26/08 (see Neighborhood Meeting Documentation within the Special Exception Land Use Permit application) TEP discussed the stipulations with the neighbors and agreed to the following conditions:

1. TEP has applied to Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) for a 35-foot Right-of-Way (ROW) No. 18-112941 for underground distribution facilities (feeders) on ASLD land adjacent to the west boundary of New Dawn Estates. Within the 35-foot ROW, TEP will try to maintain a 15-foot natural buffer on the east side adjacent to neighbors. However, there will be a few areas within the 35-foot easement that will contain manholes for access to the underground system, which may make the 15-foot buffer unattainable. The remaining 20 feet on the west side of the ROW will be cleared to install underground feeders, and will be revegetated to ASLD's ROW requirements and City of Tucson's NPPO standards.
2. There will be construction traffic within the ROW during installation, but there will be no other routine traffic once the cables have been installed but for periodic operation and maintenance. The ROW will be gated to restrict public access.
3. TEP will install galvanized steel poles for the Vail Area project to respond to neighbors' expressed preference.
4. TEP will proceed with the construction process to minimize the amount of time and impact to land and vegetation.
5. TEP will follow a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) during construction.
6. TEP has withdrawn the SE-08-05 application for the original substation site east of Colossal Cave Road.

Neighborhood representatives reviewed a draft of this new application and provided comments prior to submitting the application to the City of Tucson. On October 20, 2008 an email was received from Nan Cowley representing New Dawn/Vail Vista residents. After her review, she found the application satisfactory to all the neighborhood concerns. This email has been provided within the Special Exception Land Use Permit application as Appendix E: Neighborhood Correspondence.

*Special Exception Land Use Permit TEP Cienega substation
Supplemental site information TEP-12*

*The Planning Center
110 S Churel Ave Suite 6320
Tucson, Arizona 85701
Telephone (520) 623-6146*

ORIGINAL

Arizona Corporation Commission- Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 - Case #1.

Public Comment

My name is James Webb and I wrote previously but I feel compelled to write again.

As I mentioned in a previous letter, I am the Manufacturing and Process Engineer at Sargent Controls and Aerospace in Marana Arizona and have a masters in Research and Development Technology. Typical engineering practice is to only operate from fully "released" documents. A released document is a document that has been approved by multiple parties, ie engineering, quality, manufacturing, the customer and it is marked with a revision letter so future changes can be tracked. This serves multiple functions:

1. Full disclosure between all parties.
2. A completed design so that a final product is made that meets everyone's expectations.
3. To ensure that the data, information and designs presented are the same that all parties have agreed upon and signed off on.
4. Process control
5. Provides a means to correct mistakes and misinformation
6. Finally and most important- accountability.

I made the same statements when I spoke in front of the Commissioners on August 18th 2008. From what I have observed of TEP and UNS Electric in these past two Vail area line site cases it is not their habit to follow the above mentioned practices. Statements are made and documents are often presented without dates, page numbers and reference data. This wastes time and makes for an unclear case. One example is the statement about under building on existing transmission lines. If it is too expensive have the company provide a detailed cost analysis to support this statement. I know from experience, incomplete engineering will only get worse and should not be rewarded.

There is no reason this hearing had to continue past three days. There is no reason my wife had to waste our family's very limited resources. I am tired of watching her get incomplete data requests or data requests without documentation returned from TEP/UNS Electric. My wife spends a large portion of time doing independent research on the internet, at the library and on the phone which means less time for our family.

She is the bleeding heart liberal in our family and I am the conservative. I do not usually mind her activism but when there are reasonable solutions without these extremes I get tired of it. There is no reason she had to continue to exacerbate a neurological condition she has that flares up when she has excessive lack of sleep and low blood sugar. She is enough of a pain in the rear when she feels well. My very limited patience has nearly reached the end.

TEP/UNS Electric did not do conscientiousness public outreach in the Vail/Corona area. The evidence is very clear. The companies have admitted it. The companies had an opportunity on their own to correct their outreach efforts in the Vail/Corona area after the Cienega case and choose not to do so. Now it is time for the Committee or the Commission to take over and force the issue.

Thank you for your time,
Dated this 19th day of June 2009

James Webb
17451 E. Hilton Ranch Rd
Vail, AZ 85641

Arizona Corporation Commission
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Arizona Corporation Commission- Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 - Case #144 - Vail to Valencia

Public Comment

Dear Chairman Foreman and Members of the Members of the Committee,

My name is J.J. Lamb and I write today to give you some insight into the delicate workings of historic preservation and building community partnerships.

Nearly three years ago, Elizabeth Webb and I began conversations with Cal Baker, another history buff, about the buildings near Kolb Rd. and I-10 located in the Vail to Valencia Project study area in regard to the 2008 Pima County Bond. I have included a letter written by Mr. Baker and a few photographs.

Two years ago, during a meeting to discuss historic preservation with our District 4 Supervisor Ray Carroll, Rita Ranch resident Mary Ann Cleveland, Elizabeth, an owner of an historic property who for privacy reasons shall remain nameless and I discussed various projects in our region and how they could fit into an overall plan. These buildings were discussed then as well.

We believe a Vail pioneer lived in one of the buildings as a boy when it was located in Vail, AZ in the forties.

More than a year ago, I spoke in front of the Line Siting Committee and asked to be added to the company stakeholder list for future projects. We were not. It should have come as no surprise to TEP/UNS Electric or its environmental planning group that the Vail Preservation Society has identified boundaries west to Wilmot Rd. Our boundaries were identified over two years ago in our strategic plan.

We have been working diligently with other companies to create community connections through local history.

I do not have any expectations about these buildings. I write only to point out they are in the project study area. It is also important to note today's idea of community is different than it was previously. Objects and buildings were moved in an interesting concept of recycling. Perceived boundaries were once much more expansive as were the boundaries of our founders' ranches-their "Empires".

Thank you,
Dated this 19th day of June 2009

J.J. Lamb

J.J. Lamb
2954 E Cardenas Dr
Vail, AZ 85641
(520)419-4428

Arizona Corporation Commission

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Letter written by Calvin Baker, superintendent of the Vail Unified School District to members of the Governing Board & co-directors of the Vail Preservation Society on November 19th 2006 during 2008 Bond discussions about the historical significance of the aging buildings located between Kolb and Rita Rd, south of Interstate-10. This is in the Vail to Valencia study area.

Save Esmond Station

From: **Calvin Baker** (bakerc@vail.k12.az.us)
Sent: Sun 11/19/06 4:23 PM
To: E Webb (rinconvalleyis@hotmail.com)
Jim Coulter (coulterj@vail.k12.az.us); Margaret Burkholder (burkholderm@vail.k12.az.us); Deb King (Debkingvail@aol.com); Anne Gibson (gibsona@mindspring.com); Randy Kinkade (whatrukidn@yahoo.com); John Carruth (carruthj@vail.k12.az.us); Lu Ann Posey (poseyl@vail.k12.az.us); Al Flores (floresa@vail.k12.az.us)

Elizabeth,

I am writing to confirm our recent conversation regarding the importance of saving/restoring Esmond Station.

When the railroad first came through Southern Arizona in the early 1880's, a series of train stations were established along with it. Due to the technology of railroads and the nature of life at that time, one of these stations occurred every 10 to 20 miles along the track. Each station had a foreman's residence. Each station also usually included a depot and housing (either houses or a dormitory) for other railroad workers. Most of the stations had a water tower as well as some kind of warehousing facility.

In the mid-1900's railroad technology and life had changed to the point where these small stations were no longer necessary. In order to decrease assets, and thus property tax liability, the railroad eliminated the buildings from the property they owned. In brief, the stations disappeared.

Esmond Station was the exception. It was abandoned by the railroad in an earlier time period, when the track it was located on was also abandoned. The foreman's house remained, as well as a warehouse structure. The land it is located on became State Trust Land and a local ranching family occupied the foreman's house and made use of some of the other structures.

In addition to its unusual state of preservation, Esmond Station has another important claim to notoriety. In 1903 the worst train wreck in Arizona History occurred just northwest of Esmond Station (specifically the site of the current Fry's parking lot at Rita Road and Houghton Road). Reportedly, the wreck was caused by orders that were mishandled at Esmond Station. Restoration of the Esmond Station was on the 2004 bond list. In fact, the planned restoration of Esmond Station and the plans for an adjacent regional park and railroad bed trail system is one of the primary reasons why the Vail School District chose the current, adjacent site for Empire High School — just south of the Esmond Station. The school itself was given an historical name ("Empire" after the "Empire Ranch" that was active during the same time period Esmond Station was active).

Unfortunately, just prior to the 2004 bond, the foreman's house at Empire caught fire and burned. The fire was most likely set by vandals. With no historic house on site, the project seemingly lost appeal and was taken off the list.

The opportunity still exists, however, to save and restore this historical site. **A number of the distinctively designed foreman's houses do still exist. They are located just south and east of Kolb and I-10.** At least one of these houses could be purchased, moved to the Esmond site and restored. This project should not be delayed any further.

The mud adobe warehouse structure at Esmond Station was likely built in the 1800's. While it is badly damaged, most of it is still standing. The State Land Department did have it fenced in to protect it, but vandals have broken the fence. The wooden roof is ready to suffer the same fate as the foreman's house and much of the adobe is exposed to the weather. All of it is exposed to vandals. The foreman's houses by Kolb & I-10 also appear to be deteriorating rapidly. A fleeting opportunity exists to save and remember this critical part of Arizona History. The site could be part of the regional park, a feature of the trail system and a historical location to be studied by students from Empire and other local schools.

Attached please find the following picture:

1.. Site of the burnt foreman's house at Esmond.

If we do not act soon, the remaining pieces of these historical treasures will be gone forever.

Calvin Baker



Calvin Baker Photo- Burned Foreman House at Esmond Station



Photo taken June 2009 Kolb/I-10
Foreman Houses



This was the section foreman house where we lived. *[in Vail]* It was located on the north side of the north railroad tracks (about where the fiber optic facility is located). You can still see part of the house foundation. The photo is oriented to the west/northwest. You can also see a portion of the Trotter sister's house in the background. The handsome guy on the white donkey is Bill Allen and Billy Joe Henly on the darker donkey. He was a friend from Coolidge staying for a few days. —*Vail Pioneer Max "Bill" Allen*

We believe this is the same house now located in the vicinity of the proposed project. East of Kolb Rd, West of Rita Rd, South of I-10 —Photo taken June 2009



ORIGINAL

Arizona Corporation Commission- Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144 - Case #144 - Vail

47

Public Comment

Dear Chairman Foreman and Members of the Members of the Committee,

I am writing regarding the cost and use of resources to generate documents to forward to the ACC. Personally, to date I have incurred as a volunteer helper in the Vail area the following costs for Case 144.

\$340.00 (2 black toners for hp3050 and hp2600 color) in toner costs

\$43.00 for a case of paper

Miscellaneous costs for 14 three ring binders (although I donated used ones in attempt at going green), stickers, folders, staples, paper clips, etc.

I am an office manager who works out of a home office half time so I have learned to be very frugal. I clip coupons and watch specials so these costs might actually be higher in the "real world"

My actual volunteer time to print, collate, staple and bind these documents is well over 40 hours. Mistakes are made when individuals who work during the day spend excessive hours doing tedious busy work well into the night. A much more professional presentation could be done on a CD, DVD or Flash but for the cost of having to print 26 copies of such a presentation.

It would be more cost effective to allow the transmission of documents via cd or upload to an ftp site at Docket Control. It would also be better for the environment. It would also make documents at Docket Control accessible to the public. Some of the files sizes are oversized and some members of the public cannot view them.

I write to you with the hopes that **some time in the future** this voluminous 26 paper copy process might change. I understand there is nothing that can be done for this case. **If there is someone the community can write to, some process we can get involved with to help affect change, please let me know when this case is done.**

Thank you for listening,
Dated this 18th day of June 2009


Kim Rego
PO Box 786
Vail, AZ 85641-0786
www.azhighway83.com
info@azhighway83.com

Arizona Corporation Commission

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Board of Supervisors

Santa Cruz County

MANUEL RUIZ
District 1
RUDY MOLERA
District 2
JOHN MAYNARD
District 3

June 24, 2009

The Honorable Kristin Mayes
Chairwoman
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington, Second Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: Vail to Valencia Transmission Line Upgrade- Docket No. L0000f-09-0190-00144, Case 144

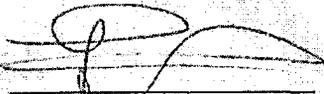
Dear Chairwoman Mayes:

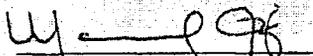
We, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, would like to thank you and the other Commissioners for holding hearings on the proposed Unisource transmission line upgrades (referenced above) in Santa Cruz County.

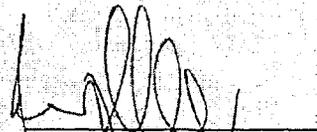
Given today's economic conditions, the cost to travel to Phoenix and attend such hearings is financially impossible for many of our residents. We received many positive comments from citizens who attended these hearings, however, many were disappointed to learn that an actual decision would not be made at the conclusion of the hearings and were even more upset when they were told that Commission action on this item would take place at a subsequent meeting that would be held in Phoenix. Several citizens have approached the Board of Supervisors seeking our support in requesting that the Commission hold such a meeting in Santa Cruz County or at the very least, in Tucson to allow residents from the County to attend.

Therefore, we the Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors do hereby formally request that the Arizona Corporation Commission give consideration to acting upon the above referenced item at a meeting to be held in Santa Cruz County.

Sincerely,


John Maynard
Chairman


Manuel Ruiz
Vice-Chairman


Rudy Molera
Supervisor

This filing has been mailed to all parties in the Service List below.

Respectfully submitted on this 13th day of May 2009

ELIZABETH BUCHROEDER

By 

Elizabeth Buchroeder-Webb
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