

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 8/14/2024

Category Public

Heard About Mailing

Address [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Phone [REDACTED]

Concern Topics Location/website/mailings

Neighborhood Apache Road

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

We received your brochure regarding Black Mountain Expansion Project. After review we believe we received this brochure because of our property's close proximity to this new proposed project. Our property is located on [REDACTED] on your map.
-Should we expect some impact to our property or, is this for information purposes only?
-As you move through this process will your progress be documented on your website for us to review.
- can we anticipate receiving more mail regard this project?

Response Notes

Thank you for your question. You are absolutely correct. UniSource sent out information to all property owners and residents within a 3-mile radius of our project study area. As a property owner within the area under study for this project you received that information. We are not considering any routes for the proposed transmission line outside the study area boundary. Since your property is not located within the study area, there will be no impact to your property.

We will continue to keep you informed as the project progresses by sending additional information by mail. We'll also add your email address to an email distribution list so that we can provide you updates electronically. And yes, we will continuously update the project webpage at <https://www.uesaz.com/black-mountain/>

We hope you continue to stay engaged in the project as details of the project become more defined. In addition, a public open house will be held on August 22nd from 5:30-7:30pm at the Mohave Community College - Beale Street Center. We hope you can join us.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 8/19/2024

Category Public

Heard About Mailing

Address

Email

Phone [REDACTED]

Concern Topics Powerlines

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Clark, Good morning, this is [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. In regards to the letter that I got about the powerline going through the property. I have a simple question. I know that my partner, they talked to you already, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I just have another question. Give me a call [REDACTED]. Thanks.

Response Notes

[REDACTED] wanted to know if the line would be underground? I explained that it would not be and that all of our high voltage lines are overhead. He asked if an overhead line would affect his ability to use the property? I asked what he had planned for the area and he shared it would be industrial uses. I shared that it would be within the area of the easement, which would be 125' wide. I shared that there are uses that would be compatible beneath a line. I shared that based on the location of his properties, the line would most likely not affect him directly because we generally try to identify the shortest, least costly, path. Going through his properties would cause the line to go further east and south. He asked if I could send him a map showing the location of his properties relative to the proposed project. I shared that I would have a map to him by the end of the day with his properties highlighted. Sent map by text on 8/19/2024.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 8/22/2024

Category Agency

Heard About

Address

Email [REDACTED]

Phone

Concern Topics Endangered Species

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Inquired about endangered species within the project range and what is the plan of action

Response Notes

Research has been conducted and currently assessing factors. Team will follow up if issues appear.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 8/22/2024

Category Agency

Heard About

Address

Email

Phone

Concern Topics Preliminary Analysis

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Preliminary analysis, or any hurdles, for the injection point onto the grid?

Response Notes

Currently importing the capacity, goal is to generate, so the load won't change. But still early in that part of the process.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 8/22/2024

Category Agency

Heard About

Address

Email [REDACTED]

Phone [REDACTED]

Concern Topics Communication

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

[REDACTED] recommends using the government to government toolkit. Protocols for reaching out to the Tribes. Fort Mohave- Linda POC for cultural resources. Recommend to reach out individually and separately from agency meetings. <https://sites.google.com/view/az-consultation-toolkit/home>

Response Notes

UNSE will provide a copy of the Class I report to SHPO and Tribes when complete. UNSE will review the suggested information and reach out to the Tribes.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 8/21/2024

Category Public

Heard About

Address

Email [REDACTED]

Phone

Concern Topics water quality

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Permits for water quality to ensure no heavy metals are in the water in the pond.

Response Notes

The existing Black Mountain Generating Station Evaporation Pond is permitted by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) under the Aquifer Protection Program (APP). As required by the permit, an initial characterization sample was collected from the wastewater discharge to the pond. The sample analysis did not detect heavy metals (arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, mercury, or selenium) above the laboratory detection limits. ADEQ does not require routine sampling of the wastewater. If a new pond were included in the expansion of the generating station, it would follow the same process for permitting.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 8/21/2024

Category Public

Heard About

Address

Email [REDACTED]

Phone

Concern Topics Wildlife

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Water quality issues for wildlife. Will nets be needed to cover the ponds to protect passerine birds, migrating birds, federally protected birds of prey, and small game like coyotes, foxes, and rabbits?

Response Notes

The evaporation pond does not pose any risk to wildlife as a result of water quality issues, please see response to question #1. The existing evaporation pond has been in place since the original generating station was placed in service in 2008 and did not require any wildlife netting, and has in fact been observed to be used by migrating birds. If a new evaporation pond is determined necessary, due to the potential expansion, it would be very similar to the existing pond and would not require any sort of netting to protect wildlife. As we conduct further research, including completion of a biological evaluation, UniSource will consider mitigation measures to incorporate into the project design to minimize impacts to wildlife

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 8/21/2024

Category Public

Heard About

Address

Email [REDACTED]

Phone

Concern Topics Rates

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Any idea does this project going to be a cost saving to the rate payers? If so how much?

Response Notes

It's too early to say. However, UniSource's 2023 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) describes our plans for developing new energy resources that will support affordable, reliable service while reducing market exposure to high priced summer capacity purchases. By expanding our own generating resources, we hope to reduce our reliance on purchasing energy on the open market, which is subject to energy scarcity, price volatility and higher costs for customers.

The rates our customers pay are based on the costs of providing service, including investments in generating resources. Before any costs are incorporated into our rates, they must be reviewed and approved by the ACC. Information about our recently approved electric rates can be found at <https://www.uesaz.com/new-rates/>.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 8/26/2024

Category Public

Heard About

Address

Email [REDACTED]

Phone

Concern Topics Rates

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

How will this expansion affect energy rates?

Response Notes

It's too early to say. However, UniSource's 2023 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) describes our plans for developing new energy resources that will support affordable, reliable service while reducing market exposure to high priced summer capacity purchases.

The rates our customers pay are based on the costs of providing service, including investments in generating resources. Before any costs are incorporated into our rates, they must be reviewed and approved by the ACC. Information about our recently approved electric rates can be found at <https://www.uesaz.com/new-rates/>

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 8/26/2024

Category Public

Heard About

Address

Email [REDACTED]

Phone

Concern Topics Rates

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Can local residents be guaranteed a reduction in their energy cost since it's being generated locally?

Response Notes

Please see previous answer. By expanding our own generating resources, we hope to reduce our reliance on purchasing energy on the open market, which is subject to energy scarcity, price volatility and higher costs for customers.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 8/26/2024

Category Public

Heard About

Address

Email [REDACTED]

Phone

Concern Topics Rates

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Would Unisource consider a discount for residents in Golden Valley due to the energy being generated locally?

Response Notes

See previous answers. Customers who are signed up for the same pricing plan pay the same rates, regardless of location. For example, residential customers in Lake Havasu City, Kingman and Nogales who are signed up for our Basic pricing plan all pay the same rates. Any reduction in the cost to provide service would be realized by all our customers and not limited to a specific geographic area.

We hope you continue to stay engaged in the project as details of the project become more defined. Please check the project webpage for the latest updates at <https://www.uesaz.com/black-mountain/>

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 9/4/2024

Category Tribal

Heard About

Address [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Phone [REDACTED]

Concern Topics

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

The Colorado River Indian Tribes' Tribal Historic Preservation Office ("CRIT THPO") has received your letter dated September 3, 2024, regarding the Black Mountain Generating Station Expansion Project.

As a preliminary matter, the Colorado River Indian Tribes are a federally recognized Indian tribe comprised of over 4,200 members belonging to the Mohave, Chemehuevi, Hopi and Navajo Tribes. The almost 300,000-acre Colorado River Indian Reservation sits astride the Colorado River between Blythe, California and Parker, Arizona. The ancestral homelands of the Tribe's members, however, extend far beyond the Reservation boundaries. Significant portions of public and private lands in California, Arizona and Nevada were occupied by the ancestors of the Colorado River Indian Tribes' Mohave and Chemehuevi members since time immemorial. These landscapes remain imbued with substantial cultural, spiritual and religious significance for the Tribes' current members and future generations. For this reason, we have a strong interest in ensuring that potential cultural resource impacts are adequately considered and mitigated.

In particular, the Colorado River Indian Tribes are concerned about the removal of artifacts from this area and corresponding destruction of the Tribes' footprint on this landscape. As such, the Tribes request that all prehistoric cultural resources, including both known and yet-to-be-discovered sites, be avoided if feasible. If avoidance of the site is infeasible, then the Tribes request that the resources be left in-situ or reburied in a nearby area, after consultation. This language should be incorporated into enforceable mitigation measures.

Response Notes

Thank you for your prompt response, we would be happy to suggest the language you've provided be incorporated as resource protection measures adopted into the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility approved by the Arizona Corporation Commission, which is enforceable.

As you've stated, should additional concerns arise, I appreciate that you will reach out to discuss.

Thank you

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 9/3/2024

Category Tribal

Heard About

Address

Email [REDACTED]

Phone

Concern Topics Consultation

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Thank [REDACTED] for the information about the EXPANSION OF THE BLACK MOUNTAIN GENERATING STATION, SW of Kingman. Please be informed the Yavapai-Apache Nation (YAN) of Camp Verde has NO initial concerns or comments at this time, but we would like to kept in the loop as the project moves forward.

Response Notes

[REDACTED]

UNS Electric, Inc. (UNSE), a subsidiary of UniSource Energy Services, is working to establish greater energy independence and security for customers to reduce our reliance on the regional energy market, where resources are increasingly scarce. As a result, UNSE is considering the expansion of the Black Mountain Generating Station, located about 15 miles southwest of Kingman in Mohave County.

On behalf of UNSE, please see the attached informal consultation request letter for additional details and a map of the project area.

If you have any initial concerns with the project, can you please let us know within 30 days.

Please reach out with any questions

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 8/29/2024

Category Public

Heard About Mailing

Address

Email

Phone [REDACTED]

Concern Topics Location

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Hello, good afternoon my name is [REDACTED] I'm one of the property owners in Kingman, Arizona. I received this pamphlet there was a meeting, public open house, on Thursday, August 22 because unfortunately I could not attend. I have some questions if someone will please get back with me my cell number is [REDACTED]

Response Notes

Ray asked for a brief overview of the project, which was provided. He then asked how it would affect his properties. I told him that I wasn't sure which properties were his, but if he would provide them, we would take a look. He asked that I text him my email address so that he could send the property APNs. I texted him my email address and he responded to confirm receipt.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 9/24/2024

Category Public

Heard About Other

Address [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Phone

Concern Topics

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Do it. Build the plant.

Response Notes

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 10/3/2024

Category Public

Heard About

Address N/A

Email [REDACTED]

Phone [REDACTED]

Concern Topics Rates

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

I am all in with this as long as it brings down the cost. I just cannot fathom having another \$400-\$500 Electric Bill!!!! Ridiculous.

Response Notes

Certainly, one of UniSource's goals is to provide both reliable and affordable service to our customers. Today, we buy much of our power from other providers on the regional energy market. We can provide electric service more reliably and more affordably with our own resources. By expanding our own generating capacity, we reduce the need to buy power from the market. New generating resources will reduce both energy purchase costs and the cost of delivering that purchased power across transmission facilities owned by other companies.

If you'd like to discuss potential ways to reduce your current bill, I'd be happy to put you in touch with a Customer Service Representative who can review your current usage and patterns and make recommendations.

We hope you continue to stay engaged in the project. Please check the project webpage for the latest updates at <https://www.uesaz.com/black-mountain/>.

Thank you!

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 10/10/2024

Category Agency

Heard About

Address N/A

Email [REDACTED]

Phone [REDACTED]

Concern Topics Alternative routes

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

I think Alternative Route 1 is probably the best, it looks the shortest and makes it around the plant to the East side of the switchyard utilizing existing right-of-ways.

Response Notes

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope all is well. I am following up on the discussion from our meeting with the Griffith Plant.

Do you have some feedback on our line mapping plans for lines to move our power from BMGS to the Griffith Plant area.

If you have this information available, you can send it Clark and cc me if you like.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 10/16/2024

Category Public

Heard About

Address N/A

Email [REDACTED]

Phone

Concern Topics Renewable energy

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

I support black mountain. Environmentalists want renewable energy.

In California, some walmarts have rooftop solar. Redding ca has rooftop solar on walmart, public library and police station. Redding airport and the community college have solar fields, like south of Boulder city nv.

It may not be economical, but an offer to put in some solar may be necessary.

Response Notes

Thank you for your comment in support of the proposed project. We will include this in our application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility that will be filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission later this year.

We hope you continue to stay engaged in the project. Please check the project webpage for the latest updates at <https://www.uesaz.com/black-mountain/>.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 10/22/2024

Category Agency

Heard About

Address

Email

Phone

Concern Topics

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Are you working with [REDACTED] group? Is WAPA an affected system?

Response Notes

Yes, UNSE is working with [REDACTED] group. UNSE has applied for an interconnection and is waiting on study results. UNSE's preliminary internal studies indicate that WAPA is an affected system.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 10/22/2024

Category Agency

Heard About

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Is the project located on State Lands

Address

Email

Phone

Concern Topics

Neighborhood

Response Notes

No, State Lands are adjacent to the project, on the east side of I-40

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 10/22/2024

Category Agency

Heard About

Address

Email

Phone

Concern Topics Transmission lines

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Does the project cross WAPA transmission lines?

Response Notes

No, all segments that crossed WAPA transmission lines were removed.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 10/22/2024

Category Agency

Heard About

Address

Email

Phone

Concern Topics Surveys

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Have cultural surveys been completed yet?

Response Notes

UNSE emailed the Class I report and Tribal Consultation Letters and responses several weeks ago. We will resend to you after the meeting for your review.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 10/22/2024

Category Agency

Heard About

Address

Email

Phone

Concern Topics LGIA Application

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Has an LGIA application been filed with WAPA?

Response Notes

Yes

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 10/22/2024

Category Agency

Heard About

Address

Email

Phone

Concern Topics Land ownership

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

What is the land ownership in the project area?

Response Notes

The land ownership was shown to the stakeholders using an ESRI Portal Map. Land ownership in the project area is entirely private. Adjacent lands are private, state, and BLM.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 10/22/2024

Category Agency

Heard About

Address

Email

Phone

Concern Topics Federal Nexus

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Is there a Federal Nexus associated with the project?

Response Notes

The air permit does require EPA review, however there is usually not an extensive NEPA process associated with that review, as it is approved at the State level (ADEQ). There are no federal lands or permits required for the project.

Black Mountain Expansion Project

Commentor [REDACTED]

Comment Date 10/22/2024

Category Agency

Heard About

Address

Email

Phone

Concern Topics WAPA system

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

Is their capacity on the WAPA system? Will system improvements be required?

Response Notes

UNSE is waiting on WAPA study results, however internal studies indicate that improvements will be required on UNSE and WAPA systems.