

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 [REDACTED]

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]

Address

Comment Date 8/19/2024

Email

Category Public

Phone [REDACTED]

Heard About Mailing

Concern Topics Powerlines

Neighborhood

Issues/ Phone Message/ Comments

[REDACTED] Good morning, this is [REDACTED] from [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]. 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 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 8/21/2024

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

Catagory 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/new-rates/>.