



C/O Sonoran Land Resources
 Attn: Black Mountain Expansion Project
 P.O. Box 18873
 Tucson, Arizona 85731

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Energy Grid Update

Black Mountain Expansion Project

October 2024



UniSource Weighs Customer Feedback, Analysis to Identify Alternative Routes

UniSource performed a detailed compatibility analysis and considered valuable input from customers to identify several potential alternative routes for a planned transmission line that would support greater energy independence and security for Mohave County.

UniSource is considering the expansion of the Black Mountain Generating Station, a natural gas-fired plant located about 15 miles southwest of Kingman in Mohave County. The project would include four new 50-megawatt (MW) natural gas-fired turbines equipped with state-of-the-art emission controls and a two-mile, 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the expanded generating station to the Griffith Substation.

Under state law, UniSource must secure a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (CEC) to build the transmission line. UniSource expects to file a CEC application with the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) later this year. The Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee would then review UniSource's CEC application in a public hearing that allows residents and other interested parties to participate. The ACC must ultimately approve the CEC before UniSource can begin construction. UniSource anticipates a hearing before the Committee in early 2025.

The expansion of Black Mountain Generating Station would reduce Mohave County's reliance on the regional wholesale energy market, where resources are growing scarce. Peak summer usage exceeds UniSource's current generating capacity by more than 200 MW. Producing more of its own power locally would help UniSource ensure energy availability while reducing customers' exposure to volatile wholesale energy pricing.

The new transmission line will be built using self-weathering steel monopoles with span lengths of 700-1,000 feet. Taller structures may be required at road or electric line crossings.



Example of 230-kV Transmission Line, as described.

UniSource continues work on a comprehensive siting study designed to determine potential routes for the new transmission line.

In August 2024, UniSource shared 39 potential transmission line route segments with the public and local agencies to gather input. Based on this feedback, additional study and the completion of a suitability

Black Mountain Expansion Project



Please Join Us Public Open House

Wednesday, October 23, 2024 | 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Mohave Community College | Beale Street Center
 309 E. Beale St | Kingman, AZ

uesaz.com/black-mountain



A new link to expanded energy resources

UniSource is planning a new transmission line for its proposed Black Mountain Expansion Project, which would support energy independence and reliability for Mohave County residents and businesses.

assessment, 20 preliminary route segments were removed from consideration. After remaining route segments were subjected to a compatibility analysis, UniSource combined the segments in various ways to form three alternative transmission line routes (see included map).

Residents and other interested parties are now encouraged to provide additional feedback during this "concept evaluation" phase of the siting study as described here.

The map on the next page depicts the project study area for the transmission line and proposed alternative transmission line routes. All alternative routes are within public road right-of-way or along private land parcel boundaries.

UniSource welcomes your comments about the proposed alternative routes and any other information we should consider in selecting a preferred transmission line route.

New generating facilities also would require a Title V, Class I permit from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. UniSource's application for this permit is under review. Public comment for the permit is anticipated to open in late 2024.

Open House and Public Participation

UniSource invites you to attend a public open house meeting on October 23, 2024, as described on the cover of this newsletter. UniSource representatives will present information and answer questions about the project. Residents, property owners, businesses and other stakeholders are encouraged to share their comments at the meeting or by using one of these methods:

- Filling out an online comment form at uesaz.com/black-mountain/
- Sending comments via email blackmountain@uesaz.com
- Calling 1-928-681-6500 and leaving a voicemail message
- Mailing a letter with comments to:

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To request a printed copy of the previous newsletter, please use the contact information above.

Siting Study Phase Terminology

- **Suitability Assessment:** Identifies factors to consider in the analysis including those required by law and identified by the public and local agencies, collects data, and creates composite suitability models through which preliminary route segments can be evaluated for higher or lower levels of suitability.
- **Compatibility Analysis:** Eliminates unsuitable route segments, assesses remaining route segments for compatibility with respect to the factors considered and public and agency feedback to determine the environmental compatibility of the project. Subject matter experts review and score the route segments using research and studies that had been conducted, familiarity gained through field visits, and cumulative experience.
- **Concept Evaluation:** Shares the results of the siting effort in the form of the final proposed routes and seeks additional public and agency feedback to determine if the results address the input received to date. At this phase, comments inform the project team if the process produced a reasonable result, or if there is need to step back and revisit an earlier phase of the process.

UniSource Energy Services está considerando la expansión de la estación generadora Black Mountain, ubicada a unas 15 millas al suroeste de Kingman en el condado de Mohave. El proyecto incluiría la adición de cuatro turbinas de gas natural de 50 megavatios (MW) equipadas con controles de emisiones de última tecnología y la construcción de una línea de transmisión de aproximadamente 2 millas y 230 kilovoltios (kV) para conectar la estación generadora a la Subestación Griffith. Para obtener más información sobre el proyecto o solicitar este boletín en español, contáctenos llamando al 1-928-681-6500 o enviando un correo electrónico a blackmountain@uesaz.com. Una versión en español de este boletín se publicará en nuestro sitio web.

