Santa Cruz Reliability
P.O. Box 711
Mail Stop CB200
Tucson, AZ 85701-0711

Santa Cruz Reliability Project North

Please Join Us

Public Open House

Thursday, March 20, 2025 9-11 a.m.
Hosted by the Green Valley Coordinating Council
Green Valley Recreation East Center
7 S Abrego Drive
Green Valley, AZ 85614

Thursday, March 20, 2025 5-7 p.m.
Sopori Elementary School
5000 W Arivaca Rd
Amado, AZ 85645

Complimentary refreshments will be provided

More Information
uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-north

¡Acompáñenos!

Aviso de Reunión Abierta Pública

Jueves 20 de Marzo de 2025 9-11 a.m.
Alojado por el Consejo Coordinador de Green Valley
Green Valley Recreation East Center
7 S Abrego Drive
Green Valley, AZ 85614

Jueves 20 de Marzo de 2025 5-7 p.m.
Escuela Primaria Sopori
5000 W Arivaca Rd
Amado, AZ 85645

Refrescos de cortesía será servido

Más información
uesaz.com/proyecto-de-confiabilidad-de-santa-cruz-norte

UniSource Continues Work on Plans for New Transmission Facilities to Support Community Resiliency

UniSource Energy Services has expanded its study area and has identified draft preliminary route segments for a project designed to help strengthen the reliability and resiliency of the electric transmission system serving Santa Cruz County.

UniSource is proposing to build a new 138 kilovolt transmission line to connect its Kantor Substation in Santa Cruz County to the regional electric grid in Pima County, while also performing upgrades to expand the substation's capacity and accommodate operations and maintenance requirements.

This upgrade, the Santa Cruz Reliability Project North, is the first of three phases in a project designed to improve transmission service in the area. The project would provide UniSource with another way to deliver power to the substations that serve residents, businesses, service providers and other customers in Santa Cruz County, reducing the potential for a widespread, sustained outage.

UniSource will continue to seek public input and will consider multiple options before recommending transmission line routes for this phase of the project. Any final route is subject to approval by the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee and the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) before it can be constructed.

Project Benefits

The project would provide several benefits to customers in the area. The project is designed to:

- Improve the reliability and resiliency of the electrical transmission system serving Santa Cruz County.
- Reduce the frequency and duration of outages affecting residents, businesses and industries, including hospitals, schools, ports of entry and federal facilities.
- Expand energy capacity in the area to meet current and future energy needs without impacting service to existing customers.
- Support maintenance and other upgrades by allowing UniSource to perform work without interrupting system operations.

Project Updates

UniSource initiated a comprehensive planning and siting study in early 2024 to evaluate potential transmission line routes for this phase of the project. Public input, as well as environmental resources and land uses, are incorporated to help guide this effort.

UniSource originally considered a transmission line connecting the Kantor Substation to Tucson Electric Power's Canoa Ranch Substation in Pima County. After discussions with interested parties, we have identified several additional potential points of interconnection as shown on the map included in this newsletter.

"We'll continue to examine this area in detail to identify opportunities where a new line might be constructed, as well as areas of constraint where challenges to construct a new line exist," said Clark Bryner, Manager of Siting, Outreach and Engagement.

The draft preliminary segments, shown on the map, correspond with opportunities that were identified and determined to be areas feasible for the construction of a transmission line. These segments are subject to further review. Public input is an important part of our planning process. Please review the project study area and the draft preliminary segments and provide your comments on:

- Areas we should avoid and why they are not compatible with a new power transmission line.
- Areas we should consider, and the reasons why they would be suitable for a new transmission line.
- Additional evaluation criteria representing your values or those of your community that we should consider. See the graphic titled "Evaluation Criteria" on the cover for more details.

Using your feedback and through further study, UniSource will work to identify potential routes that are most suitable for this project. You will have additional opportunities to comment on a refined list of segments later this year.

We encourage area residents and other interested parties to share their comments using one of the public participation methods listed in this newsletter.

Evaluation Criteria

We welcome your comments about evaluation criteria we'll consider throughout the route selection process. Are there additional criteria we should consider? Current criteria include:

- Cost and potential impact on customer rates
- Impact on existing and planned land uses
- Impact on fish, wildlife, and plants, including special status species and their habitat
- Proximity to sensitive noise receptors (schools, hospitals, assisted living and daycare facilities)
- Proximity to licensed communication sites
- Impact on designated scenic areas
- Impact on historic and archaeological sites
- Overall environmental impact
- Ability to construct, and operate and maintain facilities
- Compliance with state, county or city ordinances

Santa Cruz Reliability Project North

Required Approvals and Timeline

Under state law, the ACC must approve a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (CEC) before we can build the proposed transmission line along an approved route. We plan to file a CEC application in fall 2025 with the ACC. The application will then be reviewed by the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee in a formal hearing that allows neighbors and others to provide comments.

Public Participation

UniSource invites the public to attend one of two open house meetings listed on the front of this newsletter to learn more about the project, ask questions and submit comments. You can also share your input by using the methods listed here:

Fill out an online comment form at:
uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-north

Email comments to:
scrnorth@uesaz.com

Call:
(520) 917-6635 and leave a voicemail message

Mail a letter with comments to:
ATTN: Santa Cruz Reliability
P.O. Box 711
Mail Stop CB200
Tucson, AZ 85701-0711

An interactive map is posted on our website.

UniSource Planea Nuevas Instalaciones de Transmisión para Apoyar la Resiliencia Comunitaria

UniSource Energy Services está desarrollando el Proyecto de Confiabilidad de Santa Cruz (SCR) Norte para mejorar la confiabilidad y resiliencia del suministro eléctrico en el condado de Santa Cruz, mediante una conexión nueva en la red eléctrica regional y la subestacion Kantor con una línea de transmisión de 138 kilovoltios. Este Proyecto reducirá la duración y frecuencia de los cortes de energía, facilitando el suministro desde multiples direcciones y preparando el sistema para las demandas futuras sin afectar a los clientes existentes.

Se valora enormemente la participación pública para la selección de la ruta de la línea de transmisión, teniendo en cuenta el impacto ambiental, los costos y la proximidad a áreas sensibles. Animamos a la comunidad a compartir sus opiniones y comentarios a través de varias vías: asistiendo a la reunión pública abierta, cuyos detalles se encuentran en este boletín; enviando comentarios al correo electrónico scrnorth@uesaz.com; llamando al 1-833-310-1669; o enviando comentarios porcorreo postal. Este esfuerzo marca el inicio de un plan de tres fases para mejorar el sistema de transmisión de alta tensión en el área, pendiente de aprobación regulatoria.