



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

# Santa Cruz Reliability Project North



## Please Join Us

### Public Open House

Tuesday, May 20, 2025 9-11 a.m.  
*Hosted by the Green Valley Council*  
Green Valley Recreation Center Las Campanas Center  
565 W Bell Tower Drive  
Green Valley, AZ 85614

Tuesday, May 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](https://uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-north)



## ¡Acompáñenos!

### Aviso de Reunión Abierta Pública

Martes, 20 de Mayo de 2025 9-11 a.m.  
*Alojado po el Consejo de Green Valley*  
Green Valley Recreation Center Las Campanas Center  
565 W Bell Tower Drive  
Green Valley, AZ 85614

Martes 20 de Mayo 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](https://uesaz.com/proyecto-de-confiabilidad-de-santa-cruz-norte)



Energy Grid Update  
Santa Cruz Reliability Project North  
May 2025



# UniSource Eliminates More than 100 Route Segments From Consideration for New Transmission Facilities

Guided by community input, UniSource Energy Services has eliminated some preliminary route segments under consideration for a new transmission line 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.
- Strengthen the regional electric grid.

- 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

In 2024, UniSource initiated a comprehensive planning and siting study to evaluate potential transmission line routes for this phase of the project. Public input, as well as environmental resources and land uses, helped guide this effort. In March, UniSource presented 177 preliminary route segments in the study area to the public for review.

UniSource recently performed a comprehensive suitability assessment that considered additional input from the community, as well as environmental and land use considerations such as proximity to residential properties, impacts to mountain views, public health, welfare, and safety. As a result of the assessment, UniSource removed 106 segments from consideration. The included map shows eliminated segments and the 71 segments that remain under consideration. An interactive map is also available on the project webpage.

*"In the coming months, UniSource will conduct further, more detailed analysis of each segment still under consideration. As we continue to receive and evaluate public input, we'll eliminate additional segments and work toward identifying alternative transmission line routes."*

-Clark Bryner

## 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
- Proximity to residential areas
- 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 mountain views from residential 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
- Public health, welfare, and safety



# 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

Your input is very important to this process. Public feedback on evaluation criteria and specific segments continues to influence the design of this project.

We invite you to participate in our public open houses on May 20 where you can learn more and share your comments. Find meeting details on the cover of this newsletter. We anticipate hosting more public meetings later this year.

**Fill out an online comment form at:**  
[uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-north](https://uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-north)

**Email comments to:**  
[scrnorth@uesaz.com](mailto:scrnorth@uesaz.com)

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

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

An interactive map is posted on our webpage.

## 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](mailto:scrnorth@uesaz.com); llamando al 1-833-310-1669; o enviando comentarios por correo 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.

