

Santa Cruz Reliability South Project

Public comments May-April, 2025

Comment No. 001 4/16/2025

I had spoken with our previous Santa Cruz County Supervisor Bruce Bracker recently, he thought that perhaps the section of Gasline was further up, crossing at Josephine Canyon, missing our area. I am hoping you can clarify if that is the case. In which case we can avoid the tempest in the cattle tank! Or if you could please confirm our properties are being considered. Attached is an outline of [XXX property] in red. XXX acres. We also own several other parcels that are contiguous with the ranch. Which makes it just under two square miles. These additional parcels are also going to be part of the conservation easement. The ranch is currently AG and has been ranched for 7 generations same family. There are also third generation bee hives. There are a few dirt trails and the original small cattle facility, two cattle stock water tanks, everything else has never been disturbed, the conservation will also make sure this continues, and as much of the ranch remains as it has always been for generations to come. There is also no electricity on the ranch, and we will have a dark sky clause within the conservation easement to ensure the dark sky views on the West side are protected. Hence a transmission running through the ranch as well as directly in front of our home of the last 22 years would jeopardize our decision to continue with the conservation easement. I have attached an image from the previous time the transmission line was being considered in our area, these are just a few of the homes that would be impacted in our subdivisions by the transmission line following the gasline. The gasline runs through front and back yards. With a 100' safety setback from the gasline, that would have put the transmission line right against houses or on top of them. It was determined that there was not enough space to run a transmission line next to the gasline. The Gasline is also on our property where our home is, in the XXX and XXX Subdivision. The Regulator station is on our neighbors property. I believe the 2nd gasline Kinder Morgan runs parallel to the UNS line partly on lot 1. Here are the parcel number to make it easier for you to identify. XXX-XX-XXXX, XXX-XX-XXXX, XXX-XX-XXXX, XXX-XX-XXXX (Home), XXX-XX-XXXX (Lot 1 adjacent to our home), XXX-XX-XXXX (Ranch), XXX-XX-XXXX (Ranch). Please let me know if we can provide any other information. As stated previously and is the sentiment in Tubac, running the transmission line on the East side, preferably adapting the current poles as not to waste resources is the preferred option, this would have the least amount of environmental impact.

Response:

No response needed.

Comment No. 002 4/24/2025

I have questions about the Santa Cruz Reliability Project. Your notice states that Unisource plans to connect at the Gateway substation. Has that been built? If so, what is the street address? If not, will rate payers pay for it to be constructed? Also, how is the current electric line from Amado to Nogales inspected. Is it done visually? A person who lives very close to it in Tubac said at a local meeting that no trucks use the maintenance road and that it's badly eroded in some places and not usable. So are the poles and line inspected? How often and in what manner?

Response: 5/4/2025

The Gateway Substation will be constructed as part of this project. The site was acquired previously with the anticipation of building a substation. The address is 1445 W Calle Plata, Nogales, AZ 85621. And yes, UniSource recovers investments in needed infrastructure through the rates that customers pay. The

current transmission line that serves Santa Cruz County is inspected annually. This is a visual analysis conducted by a company Troubleman. The inspections primarily utilize a Jeep Wrangler Rubicon which anecdotally from experience is one of the most impressive off-road vehicles I have witnessed. Despite the impressive nature of the wrangler, there is a section of the line, about 20 structures, that requires helicopter inspection due to the state of the access road. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/. Additionally, you are invited to upcoming public open house meetings to learn more about the project and provide input.

Comment No. 003 4/25/2025

When I meet with the Citizens Council Board this week they stressed a couple of things: 1.) have both the open house where people can go table to table as well as a presentation and Q&A time. 2.) Record the comments during the Q & A so the information makes it to the Corporation Commission and 3.) it was felt that it would be a conflict of interest if the Council co-sponsored the event or my doing any facilitating the event as it's likely we may eventually be taking a position on the siting. The Council is very comfortable with our welcoming you and sharing our commitment that all voices are heard. When we talk we can explore some ways we can assist in the conversation so it does stay civil. Thank you for reaching out and I look forward to our talking.

Response: 4/25/2025

To address the list in order...In our forthcoming newsletter, we have committed to the Tubac open house with a presentation starting at 2pm. The Rio Rico High School evening open house will be just an open house format, no presentation. All comments, questions, concerns will be documented at both events. This documentation will go directly into Exhibit J of the CEC application for review by the Line Siting Committee and the Arizona Corporation Commission. I totally understand the SCVCC concerns with the perception of a conflict of interest and fully support the decision not to facilitate the Q&A portion of the meeting. Because the details of facilitating the Q&A was to be the subject of the proposed meeting, our meeting in advance of the open house is no longer necessary. Thank you for your commitment to your community and helping to ensure everyone's voice is heard.

Comment No. 004 4/28/2025

Thank you for informing and including the National Park Service about the Santa Cruz Reliability Project. We have been invited to a couple meetings in May and plan to attend them.

Response: 4/28/2025

Excellent, I'm very glad to hear that you'll be able to participate. These meetings are for two different phases of the same project. I'm managing the north piece of the project, and I'm copying Chris Ortiz y Pino who is managing the south piece of the project. In our meetings we hope to be able to provide a general update on what's happening with the project. And most importantly, we hope to be able to learn information from agencies with management responsibilities in the area, and other stakeholders, important information that can influence the siting process so that we can identify the best route for this new transmission line, with the least impact on the environment, land uses, and the communities. If after the upcoming meetings, on either project, you feel it would be helpful to meet to go over specific concerns we'd be happy to do so. We appreciate your willingness to spend some of your valuable time assisting us with this important energy project.

Comment No. 005 4/28/2025

As a resident of Tubac I would strongly suggest you place the new power line on the east side where poles already exist. It will have the least impact on the environment and be the lowest cost solution since current utility poles on the east side already have the ability to carry the new line and also has an existing easement and service road. As for the need for a new diverse line, I do not see the need for that based on the few power outages that might occur in the future based on a failure of the new 138 kV line.

Response: 4/29/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/. Additionally, you are invited to upcoming public open house meetings to learn more about the project and provide input.

Comment No. 006 4/29/2025

Thank you for visiting our home and Alegria Canyon Ranch, to see first hand our concerns and listening. Please let us know if we can provide any further information. I understand that the El Paso Gas line "utility corridor" is being considered, and it is part of the due diligence requirement to consider utility easements. If constructed on the WEST side (hopefully this is not the case) following the El Paso Gas line this is my understanding from our meeting :New monopoles would be 75 to 90' feet tall, span of 600 to 1000', 5 to 9 poles per mile. Unisource/TEP does not currently have a transmission line easement. The easements would need to be procured, or last resort condemn land for the easement. The easement width would be 100' it has to accommodate the sway of the wire only, not the poles falling down. The service roads would be approximately 16' , the service roads can also go to each pole, not just under the wire. The wires can possibly criss cross across the gas line. It requires a different permit/easement. The 100' transmission line easement would possibly be adjacent to the current gas line easement. As you know our family is currently in the process of placing a conservation easement on Alegria Canyon Ranch, a historic seven generation cattle ranch (almost 2 square miles of Tubac), a 138(kV) transmission line will impact this. The conservation easement would be considered as part of the process. We are asking that the new transmission line be located with the current 138(kV) transmission line is located on the EAST side. The monopoles can accommodate a 2nd 138(kV) transmission line, back in approx. 2010 when the East side line was designed it was anticipated that these monopoles would indeed at some point in the future carry a second transmission line. The EAST side monopoles and service roads are already constructed and in use. You stated at the Santa Cruz Valley Citizen Council meeting April, 14, 2025 and our meeting that indeed the EAST side monopoles could accommodate a 2nd 138(kV) transmission line. I hope we can protect the WEST side and other locations, and support using the already constructed and in use EAST side monopoles and service roads, adding one addition 138(kV) transmission line. It is the best option for the new 138(kV) transmission line, having the least impact on the environment, using less resources, reducing the cost for the UNS customers. Protecting our WEST side historic open vistas and ranch land, as well as avoiding the additional safety issues faced on the West side. Once again thank you, you have been so very helpful, and we are grateful you are listening to our concerns.

Response:

No response needed.

Comment No. 007 4/30/2025

We are building a custom home at XXX. We strongly oppose constructing the El Paso Gas Line "utility corridor" near our home on the West Side. Unisource has confirmed that the already existing 138(kV) transmission line on the East side of Tubac could accommodate a 2nd 138 (kV) transmission line for the redundancy. This is the best option that will have the least impact on the environment, use less resources, reduce the cost for UNS customers and PROTECT our WEST side historic open vistas land. This would have significant impact on our Property Value and the safety issues we have with placing a 138 (kV) transmission line so close to over 2 ACTIVE MAJOR GAS PIPELINES.

Response: 5/7/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I received your letter in the mail yesterday copying your comments received via the online comment form and by direct email to me on April 30th. I want to emphasize emphatically that there are no planned routes set for the proposed transmission line. We are at the very beginning of the line siting process in which all opportunities are considered. The process is intended to look at every potential opportunity and then through suitability and compatibility analyses looking at environmental, cultural, economic, and other criteria including Public Health, Welfare, and Safety (e.g., wildfire risk), to winnow down the possibilities until a route is determined. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 008 4/30/2025

We are in the process of building our custom home (Owner Build) on XXXX in Tubac. We strongly oppose installing a second 138 (kV) transmission line that would be very close to our home. Our area does not have any above ground utility poles so as to preserve the land and the vistas. . We bought this land, and our building our custom home, because it is rural, quiet and beautiful. This would have a huge, irreparable impact on our property value and we have safety concerns with placing a 138 (kV) transmission line so close to or over 2 active Major Gas Pipeline!! This project would have New Monopoles that would be 75' to 90' tall; span 600 to 1000'; 5 to 9 poles per mile with Service Roads to each Pole and lines spanning over a huge wash and over or close to 2 very Active Gas Lines. We can't even begin to fathom the devastating impact this would have on us and our neighbors.. What is troubling is that Unisource confirmed at the Santa Cruz Valley Citizen Council Meeting on April 14, 2025 that the already existing transmission line located on the East Side of Tubac can accommodate a 2nd 138 (kV) line!!! In fact, it was designed so that the monopolies could in fact accommodate a 2nd 138 (Kv) transmission line anticipating that it would be needed in the future.. And yet there is no disclosure to us as Tubac Residents and Taxpayers as to why the West Side is even being considered. Adding the additional transmission line to the Existing line on the East Side would be the best option, have the least impact on the environment, use less resources, reducing the cost for the UNS customers, PROTECT our WEST side historic open vistas and land; our property value and keep us safe.

Response: 4/30/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. Your comment form

submission and your email were received. As mentioned at the Santa Cruz Valley Citizens Council meeting earlier this month, UniSource must look at all possible options as part of the line siting process. This is a comprehensive siting analysis that must carefully consider all options the good, the bad, and the ugly in order to justify the routes that will be eventually proposed to the Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee in UniSource's application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility. I want to emphasize that no route decisions have been made at this point in time. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 009 4/30/2025

We are in the process of building our custom home (Owner Build) on XXX in Tubac. We strongly oppose installing a second 138 (kV) transmission line that would be very close to our home. Our area does not have any above ground utility poles so as to preserve the land and the vistas. . We bought this land, and our building our custom home, because it is rural, quiet and beautiful. This would have a huge, irreparable impact on our property value and we have safety concerns with placing a 138 (kV) transmission line so close to or over 2 active Major Gas Pipeline!! This project would have New Monopoles that would be 75' to 90' tall; span 600 to 1000'; 5 to 9 poles per mile with Service Roads to each Pole and lines spanning over a huge wash and over or close to 2 very Active Gas Lines. We can't even begin to fathom the devastating impact this would have on us and our neighbors.. What is troubling is that Unisource confirmed at the Santa Cruz Valley Citizen Council Meeting on April 14, 2025 that the already existing transmission line located on the East Side of Tubac can accommodate a 2nd 138 (kV) line!!! In fact, it was designed so that the monopolies could in fact accommodate a 2nd 138 (Kv) transmission line anticipating that it would be needed in the future.. And yet there is no disclosure to us as Tubac Residents and Taxpayers as to why the West Side is even being considered. Adding the additional transmission line to the Existing line on the East Side would be the best option, have the least impact on the environment, use less resources, reducing the cost for the UNS customers, PROTECT our WEST side historic open vistas and land; our property value and keep us safe.

Response:

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. We are at the very beginning of the line siting process in which all opportunities are considered. The process is intended to look at every potential opportunity and then through suitability and compatibility analyses looking at environmental, cultural, economic, and other criteria including public input, winnow down the possibilities until a route is determined.

Comment No. 010 5/1/2025

Looks like east of I-19 to me.

Response: 5/4/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the

latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 011 5/1/2025

Why would we not use the existing transmission lines that are on the east side of I-19? The infrastructure is already there and I understand they were built with another line in mind. This makes no sense to me. I spent \$700,000 on a house in the west side of Tubac that has unfiltered views of the Santa Rita Mountains. This home is to provide our nest egg for retirement in 15 years and having power lines in the backyard is not acceptable.

Response: 7/11/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. I apologize for the slow response. We received your comment over two months ago, but failed to send a response. I want to acknowledge receipt of your comment and inform you that your concerns have been noted for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. Use of the existing line east of I-19 is certainly one of the options being considered. In an effort to be thorough, UniSource is undergoing a comprehensive siting process that looks at all possibilities in order to determine the best route for the new transmission line. We're still early in the process, and no route has been selected. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/.

Comment No. 012 5/1/2025

I live at XXXX and own XX acres and am totally against the power lines going in on the west side of route 19. I do hope there is an alternative to such intrusion.

Response: 5/4/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/.

Comment No. 013 5/2/2025

Very disturbed about this "reliability" project. Why not strengthen the already existing line running along the East side of I 19???

Response: 5/4/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. Phase II of this project entails upgrading a 27.5-mile segment of UniSource's existing 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission line

serving customers in Santa Cruz County. However, because all of Santa Cruz County is served by this single line, it cannot be taken out of service without an alternate source of power. The purpose of the Santa Cruz Reliability Project is to provide this alternate source of power thereby creating a redundant and more reliable energy system. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 014 5/2/2025

My name is XXXX, and I live in Rio Rico and I'm calling to see if there's any way to get a more detailed map to see exactly where these lines would be coming through our neighborhoods I am planning to attend one of the meetings on the 13th but if there is any reference or website that I could go to in the meantime my number is XXX-XXX-XXXX thank you.

Response: 5/6/2025

I spoke with XXX and let her know that the interactive web map would be published in advance of the upcoming public open houses. She indicated concern about the risk of wildfires associated with power lines. I let her know that the inherent design of the transmission line on taller steel structures reduces wildfire risks. She said that she would likely attend the meeting in Tubac.

Comment No. 015 5/3/2025

The Board of Directors of the Association would like to stay informed about this project as it effects our neighborhood of 58.

Response: 5/4/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. The email address XXXXX@XXXXX.XXX has been added to our email distribution list. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 016 5/6/2025

Hi my name is XXXX address is XXXX in XXXX I just received a newsletter from you guys regarding the plan down at Rio Rico I no longer own property down there I sold it last November so if you guys can just take me off your mailing list that would be terrific because I wouldn't have any input regarding anything down there because I'm no longer the property owner if you have any questions you can call me back at XXX-XXX-XXXX but at this point yeah if you can just pick me off any of your contact list that would be wonderful thank you bye bye.

Response:

No return call needed.

Comment No. 017 5/7/2025

I had previously sent my response but would like to provide additional comments to support my opposition of considering Alegria Road in Tubac as a possible location for the new transmission line. We have been building our home at XXX and there are other reasons to consider. We have had wind gusts up to and over 50 miles per hour coupled with the ever increasing threat and potential of wild fires given the weather pattern changes and lack of rainfall. We are very vulnerable to these elements. There is also the EMF issues (electromagnetic fields) generated by a transmission line.

Response: 5/7/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I received your letter in the mail yesterday copying your comments received via the online comment form and by direct email to me on April 30th. I want to emphasize emphatically that there are no planned routes set for the proposed transmission line. We are at the very beginning of the line siting process in which all opportunities are considered. The process is intended to look at every potential opportunity and then through suitability and compatibility analyses looking at environmental, cultural, economic, and other criteria including Public Health, Welfare, and Safety (e.g., wildfire risk), to winnow down the possibilities until a route is determined. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 018 5/7/2025

I am writing to express our opposition to the proposed new route of the single- circuit 138 kV transmission line to interconnect Kantor Substation to the Proposed Gateway Substation. With an existing transmission line available (east of I-19) that would accommodate the new lines I fail to understand Unisource's logic in their proposed location of a new line. The ecological and environmental disruption of this land should not be allowed, especially when there is an existing line. Please use common sense and utilize the existing route east of I-19. Save the environment, minimize the cost that Unisource customers will have to absorb, and I do not want to get into the possibility of low frequency radiation exposure.

Response: 5/7/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I want to emphasize emphatically that there are no planned routes set for the proposed transmission line. We are at the very beginning of the line siting process in which all opportunities are considered. The process is intended to look at every potential opportunity and then through suitability and compatibility analyses looking at environmental, cultural, economic, and other criteria including public input, winnow down the possibilities until a route is determined. The first of several public open houses where we will seek the community's feedback is set for next week. I look forward to the opportunity to describe the process and receive your feedback. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 019 5/8/2025

My big concern about these huge powerlines are that they can cause fires (just look at Southern California.). Also my insurance most likely will go up. Putting the line underground does cost more but we know South 34 can afford this as the government has given them a large amount of money. Thank you for asking the citizens about our concerns.

Response: 5/9/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. Every electric utility has different considerations based on the location of its facilities. UniSource has a different risk profile compared to utilities like those in California, for example, that operate distribution equipment in heavily forested areas. Distribution equipment is generally lower to the ground, has more mechanical/physical components susceptible to damage and is affixed to distribution structures that are less resilient than transmission structures. Transmission structures are made of steel making them less prone to damage and they are taller than distribution structures, allowing greater clearances from vegetation. The Santa Cruz Reliability (SCR) Project as a whole is not related to the S32 Hermosa Mine. This project is not for the mine. It will not be paid for by the mine. There is misleading information on this topic propagating through the community. The SCR Project is designed to strengthen the reliability and resiliency of the electric transmission system serving Santa Cruz County by adding a second transmission line. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 020 5/8/2025

The quickest, least costly, and least environmentally damaging option is to install a second transmission line on the existing monopoles on the east side. Unclear is why the west side is being considered, as it would require additional time for environmental review and construction of service roads and monopoles. More importantly, the construction and use of new roads would cause unnecessary environmental damage, wildlife disturbance, and fragmentation of natural wildlife habitat.

Response: 5/9/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I want to emphasize that there are no planned routes set for the proposed transmission line. We are at the very beginning of the line siting process in which all opportunities are considered. The process is intended to look at every potential opportunity and then through suitability and compatibility analyses looking at environmental, cultural, economic, and other criteria including public input, winnow down the possibilities until a route is determined. The first of several public open houses where we will seek the community's feedback is set for next week. I look forward to the opportunity to describe the process and receive your feedback. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 021 5/11/2025

I am 100% on board with this project. UESAZ has done well over the years to improve reliability, but there are still instances where power is lost briefly for unknown reasons. Many of us work from home in this era. When power goes down, however briefly, it takes several minutes to reconnect. These outages can occur during critical meetings or time sensitive activities.

While I appreciate this may have impacts on historical activities like ranching, I believe this would be minimal and we must look to progress as a community. More reliable power is necessary for this to occur. While our neighbors in Tubac may be against this, with all due respect, many of them are retired and already have their money. Many more of us are trying to raise families and would like our community to advance so our children may have better opportunities in the future.

Response: 5/12/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 022 5/12/2025

How are community members being informed of open houses happening this week? Also, are you able to provide the shapefile for the interactive maps for the projects? I can integrate our layers into these to show the overlap in our comment. I can share with our NPS colleagues over at Tumacocari as well. Copying the superintendent here.

Response: 5/12/2025

Thank you both for participating in the briefing this morning on the "South" phase of the Santa Cruz Reliability Project. Community members have been informed about the open houses scheduled for May 13th and 20th through a number of methods including: 1) newsletters sent to all landowners, residents, and businesses within 1 mile of the project study areas; 2) email; 3) newspaper advertisements; 4) radio advertisements; 5) social media; 6) street signs; and 7) flyers posted in public spaces. Attached are the requested layers, as KMZ files of the layers that are available on the interactive maps of the respective project phases. I know you requested as a shapefile, which I am happy to provide if that's what works for you, but I thought I'd start with the KMZ's because I already had them in that format. Or if you use ArcGIS Pro, I could provide as a map package to preserve the symbology.

Comment No. 023 5/12/2025

Hello, this is XXX. I am a rancher, ranching in Amado north or east of where the power line proposed power lines going in. Can you call me back? I have a couple of questions regarding this, especially a request and the request if I don't speak to you in the other meetings tomorrow if there's any way we could, they could fence the road that the transmission line is on uh I would greatly help. XXX, my number XXX-XXX-XXXX thank you take care

Response: 5/13/2025

XXX called to say that he was pleased to hear of the new transmission line project coming into and out of the Kantor Substation. He runs a cattle ranch across State land in the area and had a request that as we build the new line if we could install fencing along easement. This would help him keep cattle from straying off his property. I let XXX know that we are still in the siting process and have not determined the route for the line so that we do not know where any such fencing would go. I also let him know that UNSE typically does not install fencing for our easements. If we cross fenced property boundaries, we would install gates. He said he would like to put his request in writing and followed up with an email.

Comment No. 024 5/13/2025

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your efforts to provide additional service to our community and County. First, I have some questions.

What earthquake standards were used to engineer the existing pole line along the current eastern alignment? Were there any mitigation requirements for existing roadways. I ask because the roads that were constructed were often done in such a manner that caused massive erosion. That erosion made many existing roads unusable for residents and visitors to east of the railroad and river to flee should an accident, fire, or flood happen. There is current and historical data for these incidents.

With this in mind, I offer these recommendations:

Use the existing pole line as it has already been engineered, with brackets in place, to accommodate a doubling of lines. I understand that you would like to have a loop system in place, and I do see the logic, but I also know that the problem is not with the actual transmission lines themselves. The issue of power disruption is generally due to a problem with the transformers and switching equipment. I would like to see you use the existing footprint not only to avoid another large and very visible landscape element (not natural) but also for it to be done with better road construction. This can be viewed as a benefit to our communities for a safer and alternative exit path should an emergency occur.

Consider also the issue of Human Nature. Trust is not natural. You must earn trust. That is more difficult than any amount of engineering. People want to know that you really do care about them. They need incentives, options, like the ones you are offering. I believe that the option for placing the lines on the west side is simply the path of least resistance regarding actual construction and maintenance. But and that is a big but, the will of the people can and often will make your life miserable.

I will have additional comments as the project progresses.

Response: 5/14/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I want you to know that I have forwarded your question regarding earthquake standard design for transmission line structures to our Civil Transmission Engineers. As soon as I hear back from them, I will provide you with the answer to your question. With respect to your question on the access roads, the short answer is no. The roads are not designed to a county standard. They are intended for construction access only and are not maintained with the intent of limiting unintended traffic and reducing overall maintenance costs. If

maintenance is required on the line, the access will be improved only where required to get equipment to the location of the maintenance. HOWEVER, if this has caused previously existing roads to become inaccessible due to erosion from the transmission line access road. This we agree, is not an acceptable situation that merits further investigation. I would like to take you up on your offer to visit these locations and see if we can find a solution. As to your other comments, I also agree, trust must be earned. In our line of work the best we can do is to provide honest and transparent information for what we are doing and how we are doing it. Process that can be counted on ensures that every resident throughout the study area is treated the same when it comes to the development of this project. I look forward to your continued engagement and the potential to see first-hand the impacts the access roads are having to your area. www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 025 5/13/2025

Message [No further text included, but the "Add to mailing list" option was selected]

Response: 5/14/2025

Good morning, Reid, I double checked this morning, and your email is on our distribution list. Would you be able to confirm that you received an email blast from us on the Project on May 1, at around 10am. If not, it may be worth looking through your spam or junk folders. If you do find it there, you can mark the email as safe, or forward to your primary inbox as a rule to ensure that future messages reach you effectively. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for all of your help yesterday. ~Chris

Comment No. 026 5/13/2025

This seems like an amazing amount of money for a company to invest in infrastructure. Which causes me to believe there is a much more profitable reason for this undertaking. Beyond this feeling of a more profitable reason, if this is in fact a due diligence exploration why are you willing to cause such angst and unease from the residents impacted?

How many complaints do you receive about the level of service you provide Santa Cruz county? I would like to know those figures.

Response: 5/14/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. The project is designed to strengthen the reliability and resiliency of the electric transmission system serving Santa Cruz County. To improve transmission service in the area reducing the potential for a widespread, sustained outage like the outage that occurred in February of 2023. This project is response to system reliability needs, not direct customer complaints. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 027 5/13/2025

No to west side gas line route.

Response: 5/14/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/ Your email has been added to the distribution list.

Comment No. 028 5/13/2025

Questions:

What is the current demand on the existing 138kv line?

Are the existing lines currently interconnected with Mexico?

If so does Unisource have plans to purchase or sell power to Mexico?

What is the possibility of building a new gas fired plant in or close to Nogales to create redundancy?

In the meeting today Chris repeated more than one that all of Santa Cruz county lost power when there was a break in the 138kV line, is this true? Are eastern and western Sant Cruz county supplied only by the Vail to Valencia line?

Will Unisource offer to purchase homes and businesses that may be affected by EMF from the new line?

How is the substation in Amado supplied with power, does it have a duel circuit , physically separated supply?

Thanks 🙏

Response: 5/14/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. To answer your questions in order: The current demand on the line is approximately 88 MW at peak during the summer. There are no UniSource transmission lines connected to Mexico. At this time, no new generation is planned to serve the Santa Cruz County service territory. Yes, in February of 2023 all of Santa Cruz County lost power during a sustained power outage that lasted approximately 16 hours. Link to Tucson.com news article. Yes, All of Santa Cruz County is served from the single Vail to Valencia Transmission line. No, UniSource does not purchase homes near their transmission lines. The substation in Amado is called the Kantor Substation. Today, the 138kV line powers this substation as well as a 46kV sub-transmission line. The 46kV line does not have sufficient capacity to serve as a redundancy to provide reliable power to the County. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 029 5/13/2025

As noted, the Arizona Land and Water Trust has three conservation properties within the Santa Cruz Reliability Project South area not currently shown on the interactive map. These are the Sopori Ranch, Sopori Farm and Middleton properties and I have included spatial data in the attached zip file. These properties are held for agricultural and open space conservation and do not allow for activities that negatively their conservation values including new or expanded transmission lines. Please let me and my team know if you have any issues accessing these or additional questions for us regarding our conservation properties.

Response: 5/14/2025

Thank you for providing the shapefiles. I was able to import them into our geodatabase and everything seems top working correctly . This information will be used as part of our upcoming suitability analysis. I understand the intent of conservation easements to protect land from development. Would it be possible to provide the easement language to better understand the constraints to our siting process? I understand that individual property owners desire for privacy in these contracts, so if there is template language common to all easements that would be helpful. Thank you again for your help and I look forward to future communications.

Comment No. 030 5/13/2025

As a westside resident of Tubac, I am against the new project being on the westside of uninterrupted views. I don't like the idea of it being near the gasline and our property values will drop!

Response:

No response needed.

Comment No. 031 5/13/2025

I don't like the idea of it being near the gasline and our property values will drop!

Response:

No response needed.

Comment No. 032 5/13/2025

Please do NOT Place any Transmission Live Near Peck Canyon Plateau Residential area

Response:

No response needed.

Comment No. 033 5/13/2025

We do Not Need additional INTRUSIVE power Transmission affecting our community, OUR Health and our property Values. Build on existing Easements.

Response:

No response needed.

Comment No. 034 5/14/2025

Again I ask to locate the new 138kV transmission line on the EAST side, using the existing monopoles and service roads. Land use patterns have already adapted to the existing Right of Way on the East side. I hope you will see the many constraints and safety concerns and eliminate the West side El Paso Gas Pipeline “utility corridor” as an option.

Response: 5/14/2025

As mentioned yesterday in the portion of the presentation regarding siting process and planning, now that we have had our first public meeting officially kicking off the project and informing the community about Opportunities and Constraints, we will be initiating phase 2 of the process. Which as you will recall is Data Inventory, where we conduct research and collect appropriate data. Cameron provide the necessary spatial files for the conservation easements held by the AZ land & Water trust including the Sopori Ranch. I assure you that they will be incorporated into the next step in the process – the Suitability Assessment.

Comment No. 035 5/14/2025

Where can we find the definitions for constraints and opportunities? I remember this being shared briefly on the slides, but I do not see these up or the definitions online.

Response: 5/14/2025

We will be posting the presentation provided during the open house meeting to the project webpage this week. The brief descriptions of Opportunities and Constraints is bulleted in those slides as you noted. In the meantime, please see the below more detailed descriptions of Opportunities and Constraints. Opportunities are areas within the study area where viable alternatives could be reasonably constructed based off initial desktop and on-site reviews. The primary rationale for identifying potential opportunities included utilizing existing infrastructure alignments to both minimize environmental impact while limiting impacts to residential communities, reduced costs, and streamline project development, such as existing transmission and distribution ROWs, road alignments (paved and unpaved), and other linear infrastructure (i.e. pipelines) and features (i.e. washes). where environmental impacts could be minimal. Constraints arise from residential density, environmental sensitivity, and existing infrastructure that at an early stage of the siting process potentially may limit the project's scope or necessitate complex mitigation strategies. The rationale for potential constraints identified included developed residential areas, particularly medium to high density developments and historically and culturally significant areas, environmentally sensitive lands, and infrastructure conflicts. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Comment No. 036 5/14/2025

Would the Arizona State Trust Land RESTRICTED AREAs be considered a “constraint” for the 138kV Transmission Line project Santa Cruz County.? I see that a large portion of the El Paso gas pipeline is located on the Arizona State Trust Land RESTRICTED AREA, in at least two separate locations and is an “Opportunity” location on the Unisource/TEP interactive map. (See attached maps showing Arizona State Trust Land RESTRICTED AREA)If it is a “constraint” please could you identify it and add it ASAP to the interactive and printed maps. Would Special permitting be required on Arizona State Trust Land to construct a new 138kV Transmission Line? If so has a permit request been submitted?

Response: 5/14/2025

We are in communication with the Arizona State Land Department and will be providing them with the Opportunities and Constraints we identified as part of phase 1. They have an opportunity to provide feedback and comment on the information. As far as the map designation area “Restricted Access” I would not assume that to be a constraint at this time. I assure you we will look into this and coordinate with the ASLD on the project throughout the process.

Comment No. 037 5/14/2025

As per our conversation yesterday at the Tubac Open House - I am glad you were able to connect with XXX, ALWT. Hopefully you will be able to update the interactive map and physical maps used at open houses etc.. showing their properties as official “constraints” ASAP. I was very surprised to see the Sopori Ranch, listed as an “opportunity”. I would consider this area a MAJOR constraint, please see links to the Sopori Ranch.

Response: 5/14/2025

As mentioned yesterday in the portion of the presentation regarding siting process and planning, now that we have had our first public meeting officially kicking off the project and informing the community about Opportunities and Constraints, we will be initiating phase 2 of the process. Which as you will recall is Data Inventory, where we conduct research and collect appropriate data. XXX provide the necessary spatial files for the conservation easements held by the AZ land & Water trust including the Sopori Ranch. I assure you that they will be incorporated into the next step in the process – the Suitability Assessment.

Comment No. 038 5/14/2025

I’m opposed to any transmission line route on the west side of Interstate 19 through Tubac. The reasons are that it may be horribly dangerous to have a line so close to two long-established underground gas lines, and that the natural environment will be permanently harmed. The transmission line can be constructed on the east side of Interstate 19 and there will be no danger of gas explosions since the gas line isn’t located there. The existing transmission line on the east side isn’t pleasant to look at but it is established. Building a new transmission line on the west side will result in large amounts of land being torn up by equipment and the killing of established and thriving plants and trees. It will negatively affect the wildlife that roams through the area such as mountain lions, bobcats, javelina, roadrunners, rabbits, and the hundreds of species of birds in the area. Studies have shown that the sound of construction and the future equipment needed to maintain the transmission line will harm or kill wild animals. Migrating birds will also fly into the new transmission line and be killed. The line is proposed to travel through Coronado National Forest land, which is opposite to the long-held idea of protecting forest lands throughout the United States from development. There is no need to build the transmission line on the west side. It will benefit current and future residents and the environment to build it on

the east side of Interstate 19.

Response: 5/14/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 039 5/14/2025

I would like to make a public records request for the complete application for special use authorization from the US Forest Service, which Unisource/TEP has applied for. Please let me know how I make an official public records request. Is there a link etc. to access this information? I would also like to make a public records request for the application for the \$75 million Federal grant. Please let me know how I make an official public records request. Is there a link etc. to access this information?

Response: 5/21/2025

At this time, neither the SUP application nor the grant application to the DOE have been made public. You may proceed with a FOIA request with the Forest and the Department of Energy as you see fit.

Comment No. 040 5/14/2025

Santa Cruz Reliability Project Open House Tubac May 13, 2025 comments and questions to be recorded into the record verbatim - My name is XXX. My husband, XXX, and I have lived in Tubac for 22 years. First, thank you, Clark and Chris, for coming to visit Alegria Canyon Ranch and our Cerro Pelon neighborhood on Tubac's WEST side to see firsthand our concerns. We understand the El Paso Gas line "utility corridor" is being considered as a possible location, and it is part of your due diligence requirement to consider utility easements. We are asking that the new 138kV transmission line be located on the EAST side, on the monopoles that are already constructed and can accommodate a 2nd 138kV line. Also, that the El Paso Gas Pipeline "utility corridor" be eliminated as an option. Why? As you know, our family is currently in the process of protecting Alegria Canyon Ranch, almost 2 square miles of Tubac, through a conservation easement. The magnificent historic open vistas would be destroyed. There would be a significant impact on a seven-generation ranching operation, the wildlife, loss of habitat, and fragmentation of an area of significant ecological and historical value. Ground disturbance and clearing for service roads will leave visual scars that will be seen for miles. We understand conservation easements are considered, and we thank you for listening and identifying Alegria Canyon Ranch as an official CONSTRAINT. A 138 kV transmission line with monopoles 75 to 90' tall, spans of 600 to 1000', 5 to 9 poles per mile on the West side would be a visual encumbrance, destroying historic open vistas. These vistas can NEVER be replaced once destroyed. Santa Cruz County Comprehensive Plan is very clear and aims to protect open vistas and our agricultural heritage. Why destroy when there is a clearly alternative on the East side? COST - what is the cost difference between new construction and using the existing EAST side infrastructure? Why should Unisource customers and taxpayers have to pay an incredible amount more for new construction when back in 2010 it was anticipated and the EAST side was designed to carry a second transmission line? In fact, you confirmed at the April 14th Citizen's Council presentation that indeed that was the case. Please consider the waste of resources, cost of procuring easements, and possibly having to condemn property. Loss of property value: Properties near transmission lines experience a decrease in property value due to the safety, visual, and

aesthetic impact of the lines. There is no question this will have a negative impact on our homes and the real estate business on the West side. SAFETY. Increased risk of FIRE. (Example: the California fires caused by faulty downed transmission lines.) Transmission lines increase the risk of wildfires. Why increase the risk two fold? I'm sure our Fire Chief will be addressing safety concerns. Maintaining one location on the EAST side, which has much easier access, seems a much safer and logical choice. Why place a high-voltage transmission line feet away from two high-pressure gas pipe lines and regulator stations, possibly criss crossing over the gas pipelines? Electromagnetic field (EMF) interference effect, possible corrosion of gas pipes, safety hazards. It makes no sense at all that this is even being considered as an option, given the recent fires in California that are now opting to bury power lines. Why put our entire WEST side community at unnecessary risk? Border Safety will be jeopardized, and illegal activities will increase on the WEST side - the monopoles and wires would be a visual beacon, and service roads easy pathways through the WEST side, greatly increasing illegal traffic through our west side residential subdivisions. People, drug, and gun trafficking given an easy path to follow. This would require additional patrols and increased border patrol protection from an already overtaxed government agency. This is already an issue on the EAST side; why repeat that on the West side? Then there is the question of why we need a second line? Reliability? I think not! To my knowledge, there have been very few outages; issues have been caused mainly by substations, not transmission lines. Perhaps protecting substations and turning on back up sources sooner should be a priority. There has not been a significant growth in population warranting a second line. One has to ask the question WHY. At the April 14th Citizens Council presentation, you stated that the South 32 Hermosa mine will be receiving 50% of all power coming into Santa Cruz County when fully operational. Should this then be considered a merchant line? Destroying the West side to me is not an option, to provide the electrical infrastructure for an Australian foreign corporation that is registered in Nevada, which is already destroying so much of our beautiful county. Unisource ratepayers should not pay for ANY costs to construct, operate, or maintain electricity demands for South32 Hermosa. The obvious choice is to locate the new 138kV transmission line on the EAST side, using the existing monopoles and service roads. Land use patterns have already adapted to the existing Right of Way on the East side. We hope you will see the many constraints and eliminate the West side El Paso Gas Pipeline "utility corridor" as an option. This option is supported by our Supervisor John Fanning, the Calabasas Alliance 1000+ members, Santa Cruz Valley Citizens Council 400+ members, our long-time real estate agents, and at least 5 west side HOAs. Thank you for listening to our concerns. The choice is clear: NO WEST SIDE!

Response: 5/21/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I want to assure you that the next phases of the Line Siting process will take a very close look at all pertinent land use planning documents and best available data to ensure route segments that carry forward are suitable. In response to your question on Cost, what is the cost difference between new construction and using the existing EAST side infrastructure? We do not have detailed information at this time. A high-level estimate is approximately \$2 Million dollars per mile for new construction. I do not have a cost estimate for utilizing the existing infrastructure to add a second circuit. That analysis will be completed in later stages of the project. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 041 5/16/2025

Thanks for responding to my question. Please reread my message to you. I get it, the transmission line route from Kantor to Valencia has not been determined. What I want to know is how will UniSource is going to deliver the additional 138Kv power to the Kantor substation? Will there be separate set of poles from Vale or is the additional transmission line going to be added to the current poles serving the Kantor substation from Vale.

Response: 5/21/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. How the power will be delivered from the Kantor Substation to the Valencia Substation? In phase 1 of the Santa Cruz Reliability Project, UNSE is presently working through the line siting process to find the best route in which to deliver a 2nd 138kV transmission line to the Kantor substation. There are currently 2 interconnection options still on the table, Interconnection Option A, originates at an existing substation at the north end of the Historic Canoa Ranch property. Interconnection Option B would tap into in existing transmission line southeast of the Freeport McMoRan mine with a switchyard. The routing from either interconnection point is still working through the process. However the terminal point of that new transmission line will be the Kantor Substation. I would like to know how the new 138kV transmission line will be delivered from Vail to Kantor. The Vail to Kantor 138kV Transmission line exists today. It is the single, radial line that delivers power to all of Santa Cruz County. Phase 2 of the Santa Cruz Reliability Project will rebuild the line in order to increase the power delivery capacity of the line. This phase of the project can only be completed once Phase 1 of the project has been put into service. Will the transmission line be on a new set of poles or will it be attached to the current poles? Phase 1 of the project will be a new line construction. Phase 3 of the project is still a question that we seek to answer as part of the line siting process. There is an option to attach a 2nd circuit onto the existing poles. Further analysis and completion of the process along with more community feedback will help to determine the best way to proceed. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 042 5/16/2025

Thanks for explaining the proposed reliability transmission line project for Santa Cruz County. I agree it would be a worth while project that would improve the delivery of electric power to the county. I support the proposal. The big question is how the power will be delivered from the Kantor Substation to the Valencia Substation? I would like to know how the new 138kV transmission line will be delivered from Vail to Kantor. Will the transmission line be on a new set of poles or will it be attached to the current poles? Thank you in advance for responding.

Response: 5/16/2025

Thank you for asking your question. How we get the power from Kantor to Valencia is EXACTLY the question UniSource is trying to answer through the siting study we just started. Since we've just begun the study, at this point all options are on the table for consideration and further study, including use of the existing transmission poles to attach a second circuit, or constructing a new set of poles in the same corridor as the existing transmission line, or constructing a new set of poles in a geographically distinct location. We'll note your question and our response in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope to see you again and hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the

Comment No. 043 5/17/2025

Here are my comments regarding the Santa Cruz Reliability Project public meeting at the Tubac Community Center. 1) I am not convinced of the need for this project. Your presenter called the 2023 outage a "perfect storm" of Unisource issues and not a common occurrence. In addition it was stated that the mine has nothing to do with any future requirements. I asked a Unisource employee whether "no action" was a possible alternative and was told that barring various committee hearing issues, that "no action" was not possible. I wish that our input had been asked before this decision was made. If the edict of 2012 was lifted and only one significant outage has occurred since then, why would we want to pay for something we do not think we need and that might devalue our property and peacefulness? At the meeting, it would have been better public relations to be able to ask questions after the presentation also. I am mindful of your other meeting in Rio Rico, hopefully poorly planned on your part and not deliberate; but I have been at development presentations where "we will stay until the last question is answered" was the philosophy rather than announcing that "you would not answer any questions because you could not answer them all." 2) There is no "best case scenario" for the siting. I will not comment on the possible placement on the west side of I-19 as I am sure you will hear from those residents. At the meeting it was stated that placing additional lines on existing poles did not accomplish what you were hoping for; although I have noticed multiple lines near the Green Valley and Sahuarita poles. I very strongly hope that if you decide to put up additional poles on the east side of I-19, with accompanying roads, disruption of the environment, etc., that they will be placed further east of the existing lines. Placing new poles between I-19 and the existing pole line will destroy views and harm property values. Contrary to my neighbor's thought that better road construction could be a benefit to the community (for emergency exit), I strongly disagree. I do not wish to look at roads anymore than power equipment and I bought my property accordingly. 3) My hope or suggestion would be to start again with some "out of the box" thinking on how to solve the problems caused by a long term shortage. Residents such as myself rely on electricity for our water and we have made plans and expectations accordingly; as should businesses provide for their own needs. Surely the money spent on the SCRPS-South could be better spent on providing different ways to provide energy to fuel pumps, hospitals, schools, special individual needs, and other public safety concerns during "rare perfect storm" outages. How to do that might be a better question than where to place additional lines that much of the population does not want "in their backyard" nor think that we need. I have previously been impressed with Unisource's public relations and hope that this project will not change that impression.

Response:

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. Phase II of this project entails upgrading a 27.5-mile segment of UniSource's existing 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission line serving customers in Santa Cruz County. However, because all of Santa Cruz County is served by this single line, it cannot be taken out of service without an alternate source of power. The purpose of the Santa Cruz Reliability Project is to provide this alternate source of power thereby creating a redundant and more reliable energy system.

Comment No. 044 5/17/2025

Here are my comments regarding the Santa Cruz Reliability Project public meeting at the Tubac Community Center. 1) I am not convinced of the need for this project. Your presenter called the 2023 outage a "perfect storm" of Unisource issues and not a common occurrence. In addition it was stated that the mine has nothing to do with any future requirements. I asked a Unisource employee whether "no action" was a possible alternative and was told that barring various committee hearing issues, that "no action" was not possible. I wish that our input had been asked before this decision was made. If the edict of 2012 was lifted and only one significant outage has occurred since then, why would we want to pay for something we do not think we need and that might devalue our property and peacefulness? At the meeting, it would have been better public relations to be able to ask questions after the presentation also. I am mindful of your other meeting in Rio Rico, hopefully poorly planned on your part and not deliberate; but I have been at development presentations where "we will stay until the last question is answered" was the philosophy rather than announcing that "you would not answer any questions because you could not answer them all." 2) There is no "best case scenario" for the siting. I will not comment on the possible placement on the west side of I-19 as I am sure you will hear from those residents. At the meeting it was stated that placing additional lines on existing poles did not accomplish what you were hoping for; although I have noticed multiple lines near the Green Valley and Sahuarita poles. I very strongly hope that if you decide to put up additional poles on the east side of I-19, with accompanying roads, disruption of the environment, etc., that they will be placed further east of the existing lines. Placing new poles between I-19 and the existing pole line will destroy views and harm property values. Contrary to my neighbor's thought that better road construction could be a benefit to the community (for emergency exit), I strongly disagree. I do not wish to look at roads anymore than power equipment and I bought my property accordingly. 3) My hope or suggestion would be to start again with some "out of the box" thinking on how to solve the problems caused by a long term shortage. Residents such as myself rely on electricity for our water and we have made plans and expectations accordingly; as should businesses provide for their own needs. Surely the money spent on the SCRP-South could be better spent on providing different ways to provide energy to fuel pumps, hospitals, schools, special individual needs, and other public safety concerns during "rare perfect storm" outages. How to do that might be a better question than where to place additional lines that much of the population does not want "in their backyard" nor think that we need. I have previously been impressed with Unisource's public relations and hope that this project will not change that impression. Thank you

Response:

No response needed.

Comment No. 045 5/17/2025

I am the owner of XXX (operating company) for land titles owned by XXX. These high voltage lines need to stay away from where people live and livestock facilities. They have been proven to effect the fertility and health of livestock and people with constant exposure. Chavez Siding is not an option in my view! I would agree to it crossing on the furthest north property line we hold. There is no housing, people, roads, or very little livestock activity there. No where else on my property!

Response: 5/21/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 046 5/18/2025

Our 50 year old community consists of 58 parcel properties and we are not not in favor of the lines being run west of the freeway due to adverse impacts on our views, property values and health concerns regarding the distance and time spent around power lines.

Respectively,
Board of Directors
Aliso Springs Property Owners Association

Response: 5/21/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 047 5/19/2025

1. Why are areas of low to very low slope or low to very low residential density not considered Opportunities? Locating the transmission line in those areas would likely be more cost effective than placement in rugged terrain or adjacent to or through densely populated residential areas. 2. Why is the existing El Paso natural gas line Right-Of-Way listed as an Opportunity but not as a Constraint? Building electrical power transmission line pole/pylon foundations on top of a natural gas pipeline or within that ROW seems a practice that cries out to be prohibited. The potential of a catastrophic gas fire/explosion or even future construction or repair of the pipeline would not be compatible with a power transmission line inside the ROW. 3. All the following listed Opportunities—2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32—are existing paved and unpaved roads with various lengths and connections. Since electrical power transmission line poles/pylons require foundations, it might be assumed UniS would avoid placing such foundations and consequent poles/pylons in the middle of an existing road, paved or not. Therefore, such access roads should also be considered Constraints as they limit the location of poles/pylons. The UniS planning team might consider collapsing all of the above listed elements into two general categories of Opportunities and Constraints labeled “Access Roads” while not deleting their individual identifying characteristics, such as name, purpose, and location. That change might make it easier for the public to understand the corridor planning process and how and why Constraints/Opportunities directly affect decision making. Although the point might be made that Power Transmission Corridor planning is an independent, standalone process, ignoring or minimizing numerous pole/pylon Constraints may lead to design and cost challenges and inefficiencies. 4. Why is the Tubac commercial area not considered a separate Constraint from the surrounding residential area? Those two types of land use are different in many ways and thus might require separate analysis and consideration. 5. Topographic constraints, including moderate to severe slope, arroyos and ridges, types of surface (bedrock, loose rock/regolith) are not listed. Which leads to the question, were they evaluated and should they be classed as Constraints? 6. Why is the SPRR ROW not considered a Constraint? Placing a power transmission line within that ROW seems highly problematic as a catastrophic rail disaster could potentially damage or destroy nearby poles/pylons and drop energized conductors onto the landscape. 7. Why is the Amado settlement west of I-19 not a Constraint? 8. Is the residential area east of I-19 and south of Chavez Siding Rd. included in the Tubac Residential Constraint? 9. Why is the existing UniS 138 kV

transmission line ROW at least not a partial Constraint? The public was given several reasons why that should be by one of UniS's presenters at the Tubac meeting.10. Why is the Rio Rico residential area west of I-19 and north of Ruby Rd/RTE 289 to north of Peck Canyon Rd. not a Constraint? 11. Why are commercial areas within Rio Rico and Nogales not identified as separate land uses from residential and classified as Constraints?12. Existing utilities are listed as Opportunities #8 and #12 but are not recognized as Constraints. Locating power transmission line poles/pylons adjacent to or on top of utilities (potable water storage units, potable water distribution lines and wells, underground electrical distribution lines, natural gas distribution lines, sewage lines, septic tanks, etc.) is problematic at best and inadvisable in general. Therefore, it seems logical that those utilities should be listed as Constraints regarding the location of specific poles/pylons.13. Routing the proposed transmission line to either of the official Study Area's eastern or western boundaries so the corridor avoids the majority of Constraints seems a possible option for the line's ultimate location. But that potential solution would likely be cost prohibitive. Again, the public was given several reasons why that should be by one of UniS's presenters at the Tubac meeting in reference to why burying transmission lines would be cost prohibitive. Therefore, the question arises as to why cost is not a siting Constraint.14. In order to facilitate efficient analytical procedures, the UniS planning team might consider separating different types of constraints into standalone categories. For example, into Corridor Constraints, Pole/Pylon Constraints, and possibly Combined Corridor/Pole-Pylon Constraints because Corridor constraints are likely to be systemwide while pole/pylon Constraints are likely to affect specific locations and not the entire corridor. Although retired since 2008, I worked several decades as a senior consulting land use and environmental planner for companies including the XXX Corporation and XXX Engineering where I was project manager, deputy project manager, or lead urban/environmental planner for dozens of Environmental Impact Assessments and land use plans for such federal entities as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense—Army forts/installations and Air Force bases—National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Postal Service as well as for numerous state departments of transportation, state National Guard facilities, and for the Arizona Department of Commerce (later the Arizona Commerce Authority). In addition, I created and directed dozens of public participation/involvement programs in support of the above and many other planning efforts.

Response: 5/22/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I would like to respond to each of your questions specifically with the same number heading1. Areas of low slope are being considered. Low density areas and vacant areas are being considered as opportunities. If one were to look at the residential landscape, there are no areas between points of interconnection that do not have any residential areas. Although rural, many people live in the area. The line siting process we have begun will help determine the most compatible route with which to move forward recognizing that a project of this nature is not without impacts, we must seek a solution that requires the least number of impacts to the least amount of people while achieving the purpose and need of the project.2. The El Paso Natural Gas Pipeline is an opportunity because it is a preexisting utility corridor. The collocation of power lines and gas pipelines within a corridor is not a constraint because appropriate engineering and mitigations can be built into the project that protect the underground infrastructure.3. Thank you for pointing out that the descriptions of the individual opportunities can be improved. I apologize for any confusion. I will address the descriptions to provide more detail and make it easier to identify the precise locations. With that said, the opportunities are broad strokes, although they follow existing linear corridors, they are not intended to go down the middle of the road. Ultimate construction of an approved route would likely utilize easements purchased from private landowners or road right-of-way. This ensure that all existing access continues unobstructed.4. The Tubac village center along the frontage road is considered a constraint. I concede that this require further clarification and correction on our maps. Thank you for pointing it out.5. More extensive analysis of geophysical properties will be conducted later in the process as it relates to the constructability of an opportunity. At this stage, these areas are not

considered constraints.6. The Southern Pacific Railroad is an opportunity as it is a linear feature. The design standards that would be required of a potential collocation with the SPRR right of way would mitigate any conflicts.7. I am not perfectly clear on where the Amado Settlement is specifically. The area around Amado west of I-19 is very sparsely populated. Without further clarification as to where you are speaking of, 8. I am not sure if we have identified opportunities or constraints through that area. The entire Santa Cruz River corridor was identified as a constraint. I want to clarify that a constraint does not imply that that a potential line could not be constructed, merely that it would entail additional challenges.9. The existing 138kV transmission line is not a constraint. In fact it is an opportunity.10. These areas could be seen as constraints. I will remind you that a constraint does not imply that that a potential line could not be constructed, merely that it would entail additional challenges.11. This is a high-level map, not all distinctions between land uses can be made at such a scale. Commercial areas are not seen as constraints.12. Existing utility corridors are opportunities. Perceived conflicts in the collocation of different utilities are addressed in design.13. Cost is a siting constraint. Cost to construct, maintain, and operate are very important to the ultimate siting of the to be determine route. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 048 5/19/2025

These transmission lines will go right through my ranch. I oppose this project and look forward to what alternatives you have moving forward.

Response: 5/22/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 049 5/19/2025

I am writing to formally express my concerns and outline specific constraints related to the proposed construction of a 138 kV transmission line, including installation of monopoles ranging from 75 to 90 feet in height, through my property located at XXXXX as well as my home at XXX in Tubac. These holdings include: Parcels XXX-XX-XXXX, XXX-XX-XXXX, XXX-XX-XXXX XXX-XX-XXXX, XXX-XX-XXXX. While I understand the importance of utility infrastructure and the role it plays in regional energy distribution, I must raise the following significant constraints and objections to the current proposed routing through my land:1. Environmental Impact. My property contains endangered species habitats, mature trees, grazing habitat for cattle, as well as historic vistas which would be severely impacted by construction and ongoing maintenance activities. Seven generations of uninterrupted cattle ranching have occurred on XXXX by the same family. XXXX has already been named as a constraint. I thank you for that.2. Land Use and Agricultural Activity. The affected area is actively used for livestock grazing, and the construction would result in significant loss of productivity and utility. The presence of tall poles and overhead wires may interfere with with two commercial natural gas lines which are very close to the proposed route and would present a danger to gas and utility workers as well as home owners along the route. Faulty transmission lines have been cited as the cause of the California fires.3. Aesthetic and Property Value Concerns. The size and scale of the proposed poles are incompatible with the rural/residential

character of the land and surrounding properties. The visual impact of these structures would substantially decrease the aesthetic appeal and market value of my property.4. Safety and Liability Issues. Proximity of high-voltage lines to residences and outbuildings poses a potential safety risk to inhabitants and structures. Maintenance and access roads may introduce risks of erosion, trespassing by drug dealers, or damage to private property.5. Access and Easement Restrictions. No prior agreement exists granting access or utility easement for this purpose. 6. Alternative Routing. I urge the utility to explore less disruptive alternatives, such as co-locating with existing transmission line and utilizing underground lines where feasible. Please record into the record verbatim.

Response: 5/21/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 050 5/19/2025

My name is XXX my phone number is XXX-XXX-XXXX. Thank you for returning the call

Response: 5/21/2025

XXX was concerned about EMFs, property values and visual impacts. I explained the various resources and studies available on the effects of low-level EMFs and then offered to take EMF readings from her home and near power lines. She asked if I would personally sign a contract agreeing to personal liability for her future health deterioration after the power lines were installed. I told her that no routes had been decided on and that we were still very early on in the process. She remained convinced that the route was predetermined, despite repeated attempts to explain that no route has been selected yet. Her husband asked about property values and how will UniSource compensate property owners for loss in property values due to views of the mountains being destroyed. I explained that is not something UniSource would do.

Comment No. 051 5/20/2025

As a rural resident of NE RioRico, I welcome the prospect of improved reliability in our area. While I'm sure that the additional HV transmission line will help, our frequent electric outages and interruptions seem to be more localized to delivery up XXX Rd. That said, the most reasonable siting for the new line appears to be the existing El Paso Gas Pipeline. As a frequent user of the AZ State and Coronado NF lands west of I19, I'm familiar with most of this route. While the addition of more visual clutter isn't desirable, I expect it will get lost in the visual noise of the freeway corridor. Assuming much or most of the new route follows the EPGPL, there are opportunities:1) use the existing P/L road as access, and remediate the erosion on many segments,2) to the extent possible, locate the towers between the P/L road and the freeway to reduce visual impact. Other than localized security around towers and ground installations, I completely object to restricting public access to existing roads and free roaming on foot to state or federal lands.

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. Whatever the eventual route may be, anytime we are on public lands, state or federal it is against the law to restrict public access unless specifically conditioned to do so by the governing body. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 052 5/20/2025

I request that my comments and questions be recorded verbatim. As a member of the community and a stakeholder in the preservation of our local environment and heritage, I urge you to consider the significant implications of placing the new 138kV transmission line on the West side of the Santa Cruz River in Tubac, particularly along the El Paso Gas Pipeline “utility corridor.” I ask that the new 138kV transmission line be located on the EAST side, on the monopoles that are already constructed and can accommodate a 2nd 138kV line. Also, that the El Paso Gas Pipeline “utility corridor” be eliminated as an option. I have outlined the reasons for this in a letter to Santa Cruz Reliability South and the Governor..

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission.

Comment No. 053 5/20/2025

I reside on the west side of I-19 in Tubac and am writing to express my opposition to a transmission line on this side of I-19. I understand that a corridor already exists along the Santa Cruz River and feel that this existing corridor should be used. Additionally, the high voltage power lines would disrupt both the aesthetics and environment on the “west side.” My wife and I moved here to enjoy the view which is minimally obstructed by power lines soaring power poles and more wires will destroy our vista. No west side!

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 054 5/20/2025

After attending the last meeting I feel you have no interest in the concerns of the home owners who will be Impacted by your plan “opportunity “. I feel this is a plan unisource has Decided on doing, no matter the public opinion, which makes no sense. You only have customers in the Tubac area.Due to it’s beautiful surroundings and rural living (outages of electricity are Not of prime concern). The biological and natural advantages of our pristine environment are of the utmost importance to the west side of Tubac. Please listen to the desires of Your customers.

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I assure you that we hear you and your community and are taking very seriously your concerns. While the project is necessary to ensure that ALL customers throughout Santa Cruz County receive the reliable service that is expected of UniSource, I want to emphasize we are early in the process and no routing decisions have been made. The process requires us to consider all options, the good, the bad, and the ugly. The Biological environment is a consideration in the next phases of the process.I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 055 5/20/2025

Are you aware that certain sections of state trust land from Agua Linda Rd north to Amado on the west side of I-19, including sections through which the gas pipeline runs, are subject to mineral exploration permits?

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. Data inventory and collection for the next phase of the routing process is underway. Additionally, we are in direct communication with the Arizona State Land Department and receiving their feedback regarding any potential conflicts with existing permits and plans for the development of trust lands.I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 056 5/20/2025

I oppose this project in its current form. This project for high voltage power lines needs for the cables to be placed underground. The additional costs of installation will be offset by the lack of court settlements and rising insurance costs for you and your customers. The examples of fires caused by overhead power lines in California should serve as a warning for Unisource and your rate payers.

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future

analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 057 5/21/2025

Sounds like a great project. Building a little redundancy into the power grid and planning for the future expansion is a good plan. My only comment is that if you run the new 138 kv line in the El Paso pipeline ROW, an AC mitigation study for the pipeline would be necessary. The will most likely find areas on the pipeline that the new power line is effecting an an AC mitigation system would be needed. The study and the AC mitigation would be paid for by UniSource. Let me know if you have any questions.

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. As you noted, any route that ends up being selected after the process has been completed that is near the EPNG pipeline will require Soil Resistivity studies to identify where AC mitigations will be required to protect the pipeline from corrosion. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 058 5/21/2025

I do not agree with crossing I-19 to run new towers/lines for upgraded service as proposed. To take away from the area and devalue properties on the west side when existing line/easements are already in place on the east side shows disregard to those who Unisource provides a service and also disregard to wildlife/plants/endangered species. The existing easements on the east side should be used to construct new lines to keep impact to people and environment to a minimum. Also I have personal and environmental safety concerns with new lines.

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 059 5/21/2025

It is difficult for me to tell the exact location of the proposed new power lines. I am concerned about the view shed to the east of Tubac towards the Santa Rita Mountains.

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I want to reemphasize that there is no determined route at this point in time. The online interactive map (<https://www.uesaz.com/maps/SCR-South/>) describes in green opportunities that are being considered. There are opportunities on both the east and west side of the Interstate. I hear your concerns and will ensure they are incorporated into our routing process. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 060 5/21/2025

My comments will stand verbatim: I am vehemently opposed to this project, especially as it stands proposed currently. This is too much power in or near a residential area. It is not only harmful to human life but to all life near these transmission lines. Everything should go underground. Period! These transmission lines are notorious for causing fires, just look to California as your guide. Insurance costs will rise. We don't need any of this here in our community and quite frankly the only reason it's happening is more than likely South 32 and their gargantuan power needs. And do you not know, that during wild fires the smoke CAN ACT as a conductor back to the ground causing additional power outages/fires? Does Rio Rico really want or need these horrifically dangerous and powerful powerlines buzzing over our heads? NO! You people need to act responsibly and put it all under ground regardless of the cost. Period. Rio Rico is a beautiful and peaceful sanctuary of life. I do not give you permission to come in and destroy the sanctity and beauty of our home in our community!

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 061 5/21/2025

What is your timeline for receiving public comments in this first phase or round?

Response: 5/23/2025

Following up on our conversation this morning, public comments can be received throughout the process up to providing input on the preference of chosen alternative routes prior to the submittal of the CEC application. The Line Siting Committee will also hold a public hearing where anyone from the public may speak directly to the committee.

Comment No. 062 5/21/2025

My name is XXX and I am a Rio Rico, AZ homeowner. I request that my comments be recorded verbatim. I ask that the new 138kV transmission line be located on the EAST side of Tubac on the monopoles that are already constructed and can accommodate a 2nd 138kV line. I also request that the El Paso Gas Pipeline "utility corridor" be eliminated as an option. Whoever is reading this...please...I beg of you...if you could understand the destruction this would cause I know you'd make the right decision. This would go through an area that my friend XXX XXX a is working to turn into a conservation easement. There are at least 4 Mountain lions, javelinas, coatimundi, deer, owls, several skunk breeds, coyotes...literally entire packs/pods etc of every desert creature you could think of and this is one of their last sanctuaries in the area. Why would it even be considered to build more monopoles through their habitats when the monopoles on the East side will work? Please look into your souls and know that this would be devastating! The mine is already destroying a sky island ecosystem in Patagonia. Please don't be part of more desecration of our precious Earth. The wildlife is so plentiful on that side because it is safe, and there are water sources. This is a chance to make the right choice for the Earth and the precious animals that deserve to have a place that is untouched. What makes me want to scream and cry for humanity is that in this case, there is no need to do this! The monopoles already exist! Please do not rape this precious area. Some things are more important than money. Use the monopoles that are already constructed on the EAST side of the freeway and put the 2nd 138kV line there.

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. It was a pleasure speaking with you on Wednesday. I apologize for the delay in my written response to your voicemail, email, and online comment form submissions. I would like to reiterate what we discussed over the phone; in that we are early in the process and must consider all opportunities on the landscape in the name of a comprehensive analysis. The good, the bad, and the ugly must be looked at for their individual impacts to the community, biological environments, impacts to cultural resources and a host of other criteria. I assure you that we seek to incorporate all of the feedback we have received along with the best available data to make defensible, evidence-based decisions. I commend your heartfelt advocacy for the biological wealth and habitat in your area. So that you may rest assured as to our methods of recording input received, I have included as an attachment the online comment form submission, and the written transcript of your voicemail (Sorry for the lack of punctuation) including a summary of our phone conversation. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 063 5/21/2025

I request that my comments and questions be recorded verbatim. As a member of the community and a stakeholder in the preservation of our local environment and heritage, I urge you to consider the significant implications of placing the new 138kV transmission line on the West side of the Santa Cruz River in Tubae, particularly along the El Paso Gas Pipeline "utility corridor." I ask that the new 138kV transmission line be located on the EAST side, on the monopoles that are already constructed and can accommodate a 2nd 138kV line. Also, that the El Paso Gas Pipeline "utility corridor" be eliminated as an option. After living and working in more than a dozen states, and finally retiring in central Florida, we began searching for a part of the country that was not being destroyed by rapid development and industry-driven environmental degradation. Our search led us to southern Arizona, specifically the west side of Tubae on the slopes of the Santa Cruz River Valley. Perusal

of Google Earth reveals that no other areas within the United States met the criteria that we had established to spend the rest of our lives. We invested all that we could in our existing property, and we have continued to improve it during the past nine years. A huge power line across our property or within sight of our property would cause us to leave Tubac. In addition, our property would immediately be devalued. The primary reason for adding the new 138 kV transmission line is to supply power for Centro, a huge development in Nogales designed to remotely control operations of the Hermosa Mine in the Patagonia Mountains east of Nogales. The mine and Centro are owned by South32, an Australian Company centered in Perth, Australia. We believe that a much better option is to add the second line to the existing one on the east side of the Santa Cruz River valley where the current 138(kV) transmission line exists. Monopoles can easily accommodate a second 138(kV) transmission line. In approx. 2010 when the east side line was designed, it was anticipated that these monopoles would at some point in the future carry a second transmission line. The east side monopoles and service roads are already constructed and in use. Unisource/TEP stated at the Santa Cruz Valley Citizen Council meeting April, 14, 2025 that indeed the east side monopoles could accommodate a 2nd 138(kV) transmission line. In a meeting on May 13, 2025, in Tubac, Unisource presented what they claimed to be options for the new line. However, the meeting was carefully orchestrated to not allow arguments by residents of Tubac in support of using the east side location. The entire meeting came across as a disingenuous attempt to convince us that the west side was a better option. Their arguments failed at every point. I briefly summarize some of them: 1. The claim was made that having the line on the west side would protect us and the Nogales area from blackouts in the event that problems might occur on the existing line - effectively a "loop" argument. The "loop" effect could easily be achieved by placing the second line on the existing east-side poles or constructing additional poles on the east side. 2. So, what exactly are the "risks associated with using the existing poles?" When I asked this question, I was given the following list: earthquakes, lightning, floods, wind, and fires. Earthquakes would affect both sides equally, and when has there been an earthquake here - a large enough one to affect power poles. Lightning can strike transformers and cause disruption in power. However, transformers on parallel lines on the east side could be in different positions, so a lightning strike would not simultaneously affect those on separate lines. A lightning strike on the west side could cause a fire that would be carried to residential areas and Tubac because of prevailing easterly winds off of the Tumacacories. Thus, nothing is gained with respect to lightning by having the line on the west side. Neither floods nor wind would affect lines on the east side. First, there are no floods that would reach the lines and second, if anything, wind is greater on the west side because of the rain-shadow effect of the Tumacacoris. As for fires, the height of the power poles protects the lines from fires, should they occur. Vegetation along the existing lines is low - this is not southern California - and any brush fires, should they occur, would pass under the lines. 3. Mechanical failure - If any sort of mechanical failure should occur, it would not occur on both lines simultaneously. Such a failure could cause a wildfire that could reach residential areas or Tubac. This is not a valid reason to place separate lines across the valley. 4. Greater expense to add a line on the east side. This is a ridiculous argument. Poles on the east side are already in, access road is already in, and easements already exist. Moreover, no existing homes would be affected. So, we are being "asked" to consider destroying our quality of life and investments so that a foreign-owned company can have access to power through our property when a much less detrimental and less expensive alternative exists. Finally, is Centro paying for the line that will negatively affect all residents of Nogales, Rio Rico, Tubac and surrounding areas, or will we be expected to subsidize it through higher fees for electricity? The east side is a much better option and will be met with little resistance.

Response:

No response needed.

[...] Santa Cruz County in Rio Rico AZ and I request that my comments and questions be recorded verbatim. I ask that the new 138kV transmission line be located on the EAST side of Tubac on the monopoles that are already constructed and can accommodate a 2nd 138kV line. I also request that the El Paso Gas Pipeline "utility corridor" be eliminated as an option. On a side note I just urge whoever is opening to this message to understand that where this would be going on the West side would tear through basically a sanctuary for countless animals my friends have property on that side and they're looking into turning it into a conservation easement one of their names is Julie Arma she had the alegria ranch over there and her husband videos huge families of mountain lions, javelina deer coatimundi rare skunks basically every kind of desert creature you can imagine because they have water sources and they're safe over there I just urge whoever's in charge of this to please it's not necessary if the monopolies on the east side can accommodate a second line so I urge whoever is listening to this to please understand that we understand that certain things that need to be in place for us all to have electricity but if further you know that's the creation of nature that that need to happen and the reason why everyone even okayed those ones on the east side was because they said that there might need to be expansion I guess with the mine and that it would be able to accommodate a second line so please just keep the new line on the east side where there's already the poles and where there would be less destruction of the habitat and nature not to mention people's property values going down etcetera but more importantly just look into your hearts and souls about animals OK thank you.

Response: 5/21/2025

Upon returning XXX's call, she reiterated her position that she opposed options on the west side of I-19. She spoke to the biological wealth and habitat that she did not want to see destroyed. In our conversation I explained the process that we are in to collect all available data to conduct the suitability assessments including Biological Evaluations, Cultural Resource Inventory as well public comment in order reach data driven, evidence-based decisions that we can defend. She asked why we were proposing options on the west side at all to which I responded that as part of the process we must consider all options. And that if we didn't consider all options, the Commission would not consider the analysis comprehensive and ask why we didn't consider an existing utility corridor. Mrs. XXX advocated for the biological wealth and habitat in the area and emphasized her desire to see the new line be built where the least amount of environmental disturbance would happen.

I am strongly opposed to the installation of huge, ugly, dangerous power lines on the El Paso Pipeline. I live in Tubac and have loved and appreciated the unspoiled beauty of this area since 1999. I am very concerned about the wildlife and the destruction of the desert and the unobstructed views in this area. I believe the power lines and the huge towers will interrupt the wildlife terrain and destroy cactus and trees. Many of us that live here are also very worried about the potential fire hazards surrounding installations like this. PLEASE LET US PROTECT OUR DESERT! AND OUR HOMES! I AM ASKING THAT YOU RECONSIDER INSTALLING ANY POWER LINES OVER THE EL PASO PIPELINE.

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 066 5/21/2025

I am strongly opposed to the installation of huge, ugly, dangerous power lines on the El Paso Pipeline. I live in Tubac and have loved and appreciated the unspoiled beauty of this area since 1999. I am very concerned about the wildlife and the destruction of the desert and the unobstructed views in this area. I believe the power lines and the huge towers will interrupt the wildlife terrain and destroy cactus and trees. Many of us that live here are also very worried about the potential fire hazards surrounding installations like this. PLEASE LET US PROTECT OUR DESERT! AND OUR HOMES! I AM ASKING THAT YOU RECONSIDER INSTALLING ANY POWER LINES OVER THE EL PASO PIPELINE.

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 067 5/22/2025

While I am glad that Unisource is committed to providing reliable service, I have serious concerns regarding the path for the proposed line through Santa Cruz County. Looking at the proposed path for the line, I cannot agree with situating the line west of I-19. This would result in it bisecting at least two historic ranches and beautiful Tumacacori foothills land, as well as devaluing numerous properties along the route and impacting the viewshed. I believe that the existing monopoles on the east side of the river, although not the most absolutely foolproof, are the wisest choice. Add the line to the poles that already exist. Please do not destroy more of our beautiful valley. Please consider upgrading and adding more land at the Valencia site to enlarge it, and thus, eliminate from the project the site on the west side of I-19 for the southern terminus. The best choice, of course, would be underground along the route of the current poles, but I realize that is not going to happen.

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 068 5/22/2025

I am against Unisource installing huge, ugly, dangerous power lines on the El Paso Pipeline. I live in Tubac and have loved and appreciated the unspoiled beauty of this area since the late 90's. The power lines and the huge towers will interrupt the wildlife terrain and destroy cactus and trees. Many of us that live here are also very worried about the potential fire hazards surrounding installations like this. PLEASE LET US PROTECT OUR DESERT! AND OUR HOMES! PROTECT THE UNSPOILED UNINTERRUPTED BEAUTY OF THIS AREA PLEASE. I AM ASKING THAT YOU DO NOT INSTALL ANY POWER LINES OVER THE EL PASO PIPELINE. The East Side would be better option no West Side

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 069 5/22/2025

My name is XXXX and I am a local Real Estate broker, Developer, Local Charter School Founder and a long time resident of Santa Cruz County. I have worked very hard over the past 25 years to shape the Tubac Valley. The value we have in our area is the history, boutique art community and most of all our surrounding mountains, especially the Tumacacori mountains. We depend on tourism to survive and Geo tourism is huge for us, hiking, biking, bird watching and so on. Tubac has been knocked down over the past 15 years by the economy, covid and the border Patrol Inspection Station. I developed La Entrada de Tubac and have 28 tenants in the Tubac Village and they are just hanging on. We cannot endure another setback. I also have two developments on the Westside. I have an 80 home project that we just completed our entitlements and will be ready to start building homes. We also have 350 acres on the Westside closer to the Palo Parado exit that will have 78 homes. The value of these projects is the location of being close to the Tumacacori mtns and if we lose that view, it will greatly depreciate our values. Our 350 acres borders the gas line to the west. We might not be able to move forward due to this effort you have on the Westside. We have over \$10,000,000 invested in our land, designs, engineering, approvals, etc. It has also taken us 12 years to get to where we are. You have a choice not to run your line down the Westside and do it on the Eastside. Which still has an effect on me as my home is on the Eastside and positioned in that direction and I have a 1,000 acre subdivision I'm working to start up. It borders your lines currently. But for Tubac overall, since the lines are already on the Eastside we can survive that, but the Westside would be a crushing blow to our community and Santa Cruz County due to the taxes derived from our area. My investors and partners are heavy hitters in Southern AZ in business and politically. We do not want to get into a back and forth with attorneys and lobbying. Please take into consideration the impact you will have by running the line down the Westside. You have a choice not to. Please feel free to reach out to me for more information about the impact I see on the current community and the future of the Tubac Valley.

Thank you for hearing my concerns. Todd Harrison 520-440-5087 toddharrison@tubacproperty.com

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I want to emphasize that we are still early on in the siting process and no routes have been decided upon. The opportunities

and constraints that we have published are high level opportunities for consideration. We depend on the public to help us find the least impactful solution for the community. With that said, existing land uses as well as planned developments are an integral part of the analysis. If you would please identify your planned developments on a map or provide the subdivision or entitlement cases working through the County Development Services department we can be sure to include them in our analysis. We are moving into the Data Collection and Inventory phase of our process, and this information can be difficult to find. So any help you could provide will be greatly appreciated. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 070 5/23/2025

My name is XXX. I've been a Tubac resident for 40 years. I am against this new power project that you're putting in to ruin our area to protected endangered species of cats that live in this corridor will be for, for no more there are people who cannot live near power lines because of pacemakers I don't think it's smart to put it near a gas line for sure and I would think with all the land around here you could move it away from people where people live object to it and I'm wondering if there won't be a class action suit against you

Response:

[The same commenter also submitted an email on the same day as the voicemail. The project manager addressed her comments in the email.]

Comment No. 071 5/23/2025

WE ARE AGAINST THIS PROJECT. SO MANY VALID REASONS CAN NOT BE LISTED. THE WILDLIFE AND PROTECTED ENDANGERED ANIMALS THAT LIVE AND THRIVE IN THIS AREA. POWER LINES, ONES WITH PACEMAKERS ARE NOT TO LIVE NEAR THEM. SO CLOSE TO GAS LINES??? THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF MILES OF DESERT....MOVE THE PROJECT TO THE FLAT LANDS...I WONDER IF YOU CAN BE SUED FOR DOING THIS?

Response: 5/23/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 072 5/24/2025

This is XXXX XXX-XXX-XXXX and the question I have is that they were talking about reliability and the possibility of building a power source in Santa Cruz County why aren't they able or why isn't the uh that on the agenda in Nogales AZ where they already have a power station. Thank you very much.

Response: 5/27/2025

[Response not recorded]

Comment No. 073 5/25/2025

Santa Cruz Reliability- South. Objections to proposed 138 kV transmission line through my family's properties XXXX-XX XXX acres, XXXX-XX XXX acres (my Sister), adjacent properties (my Mother) XXXX-XX XXX acres, XXXX-XX XXX acres. I request my objection and comments be recorded verbatim. I am writing to express my concerns and objections regarding the proposed placement of a 138kV transmission line through my agricultural property, and my family's properties which currently hold grazing leases. This would fragment our properties, the service road would destroy grazing land, as well historic open vistas, that can never be replaced. I value the preservation of our local environment and heritage, Santa Cruz County Comprehensive Plan is clear about protecting open vistas and our agricultural heritage. The "opportunity" of the El Paso Gas Pipeline, clearly conflicts with this. My family has been deeply rooted in this land since the 1950s, and that our cherished historic ranch land, with its sweeping vistas and rich heritage, now faces the threat of disruption and destruction from a proposed 138kV transmission line cutting through its very heart, is incomprehensible considering there is an alternative. The proposed route on the West side, particularly along the El Paso Gas Pipeline "utility corridor," poses significant implications for both my property, my family's properties and the broader community. The construction and maintenance of such a transmission line would disrupt the agricultural activities and grazing operations that are vital to my livelihood and the local economy. Additionally, the environmental impact on the surrounding ecosystem, including harm to wildlife habitats and natural landscapes, cannot be overlooked. As well as a significant decrease in property values. I urge you to consider relocating the new 138kV transmission line to the East side, where monopoles are already constructed and can accommodate a second 138kV line. This alternative not only minimizes the disruption to existing agricultural and grazing activities but also leverages existing infrastructure, thereby reducing the environmental footprint, reducing the cost to ratepayers and preserving the integrity of our community's natural resources. Furthermore, I ask that the El Paso Gas Pipeline "utility corridor" be eliminated as an option for the transmission line. The close proximity to high-pressure gas pipelines presents a substantial safety hazard, with risks including electromagnetic interference, potential corrosion of the gas pipes, and a heightened likelihood of accidents. The introduction of transmission lines significantly raises the risk of wildfires due to potential faults.

The development of new service roads and infrastructure will lead to an uptick in illegal activities, as these roads and the visual "beacon" they create will serve as convenient access routes, thereby necessitating enhanced security measures and resources to address border security concerns. I trust that you will take these concerns into consideration and explore the proposed alternative, which aligns with our shared commitment to sustainable development and environmental stewardship. Thank you for your attention to this important issue. I look forward to your response and a resolution that respects the needs and values the voice of our community. NO WEST SIDE! Charles Corbett P.O. Box 4744 Tubac, AZ 85646 chuckcorbett@hotmail.com

Response: 5/27/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in

our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 074 5/26/2025

I support the existing plan to keep everything on the west side of I19.

Response: 5/27/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission.

Comment No. 075 5/26/2025

I would like to know if there are plans to install the electrical equipment/power lines near my home? Cross streets are XXX and XXX.

Response: 5/27/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. At this point in the siting process, there are no identified routes for the ultimate construction of the transmission line. UniSource has identified XXX as a north to south opportunity as it is an existing road in the Study Area. I want to emphasize that no decisions have been made regarding the various opportunities that have been identified. If you would like to have a closer look at the opportunities and constraints and where they are in relation to your residence, you may visit our online interactive web map and search for your address. This will take you to your home and you can scroll around to see what we have identified near your home. (<https://www.uesaz.com/maps/SCR-South/>). I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 076 5/26/2025

I own and reside full-time on property immediately adjacent to the west side Santa Cruz Reliability Project South corridor currently under consideration. As a Tubac and Santa Cruz County resident, and a twenty year local business owner, I have several arguments in favor of using the existing transmission infrastructure on the east side of the Santa Cruz River valley. The negative aesthetic impacts and reduced property values for property owners over many generations along the potential west side route can not seemingly be justified. Given that the east side existing infrastructure is adequate to serve the needs of southern Santa Cruz County, and that there is no longer a mandate to provide additional service, I am strongly in favor of using existing east side infrastructure in order to significantly reduce costs, to avoid the need for acquiring all new easements, build new roads, and erect new poles. These cost reductions will allow Unisource to provide more reliable electrical service without potential rate hikes to customers for the costly, all new, west side infrastructure. Utilizing existing east side infrastructure will provide additional reliability faster, Unisource will have fewer battles to fight

with property owners, and the destruction of property and natural assets on the west side will be mitigated. Visually, the existing east side power lines are three times the distance from the Village of Tubac versus the west side route. Tubac is an historic and cultural asset of extreme value to the state of Arizona. A west side alignment would impact multiple existing housing subdivisions with new, highly undesirable infrastructure. Conversely, there would be minimal impact to property values on the east side where viable infrastructure is already in place. Additionally, the west side corridor should be considered a less desirable option due to the required separation from the existing high pressure natural gas easements which would require the creation of a massive utility corridor through established neighborhoods and ecologically sensitive undeveloped lands. It seems advantageous to be able to monitor and maintain one route rather than two parallel routes separated by a river, neighborhoods, and a highway. The bifurcation of the service at the Kantor Sub Station creates a separate line for less than half of the distance of the service. If common infrastructure is planned for the northern loops, I imagine a common loop would be feasible for the southern portion as well.

These logistic, economic and natural resource issues seem to make a new west side route highly unfavorable.

I would also ask that due consideration be given to the natural landscape of the Tumacacori Highlands, one of the wildest and remote landscapes in Arizona. "Tumacacori and Atacosa Highlands: These mountains are known for their spectacularly eroded, lichen-drenched cliffs and undulating hills of grass and madrean oaks. The area is also an exceptional arena for the intermingling of sub-tropical and northern plant and animal species, many of which are rare and do not exist anywhere else in the United States. Indeed, these mountains host over fifty sensitive species – one of the highest concentrations of imperiled species in the state. Combined with the large tracks of roadless lands, wilderness designation will preserve this rich natural history for generations to come and allow the communities of southeast Arizona to appreciate this landscape in its truly wild character. ...Perhaps most notably, a proposal to install a high-voltage powerline directly through the heart of this roadless area looms in a planning stage today. " - From Call of the Wild, Quarterly Issue NO. 1, Winter 2003, Arizona Wilderness Coalition http://www.azwild.org/newsletter/2003_01_story5.shtml I urge Unisource to abandon the proposed west side route and use the existing east side infrastructure to attain enhanced reliability. I request my comments and questions be recorded verbatim.

Response: 5/27/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 077 5/27/2025

Dear UniSource Energy Services: The National Park Service appreciates the opportunity to review the Santa Cruz Reliability (SCR) Project North and South. Our comments primarily address potential impacts to the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (Anza NHT), due to our responsibility to administer, coordinate, preserve and enhance this component of the National Trails System. Overview of the Anza NHT The National Park Service (NPS) has a special interest in ensuring the protection of the Anza NHT. Congress, under the National Trails System Act ([NTSA], 16 USC 1241 et. seq.), established the Anza NHT in 1990. The Act states that "National historic trails shall have as their purpose the identification and protection of the historic route and its historic remnants and artifacts for public use and enjoyment." NPS as the administrator of the Ana NHT is charged with implementing this vision in collaboration with other federal, state, and local agency partners, such as Santa Cruz County, the State of Arizona, and the City of Nogales. The NPS owns very little of the trail route;

only where it passes through NPS units does the NPS own land. Other land managers, such as the Bureau of Land Management, and many cities and counties along the route, take the lead role in building and maintaining segments of the trail within their jurisdiction. The Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona has taken the lead in building and maintaining the trail in Santa Cruz County. The Anza NHT has three linear components established in the Comprehensive Management and Use Plan (CMP): Historic Corridor, Recreational Trail, and Auto Tour Route, as described below. The study area for the SCR Project North and South encompasses the Historic Corridor, the Auto Tour Route, three Historic Campsites, and Recreational Trail, as shown in Appendix A.

Historic CorridorThe Historic Corridor is the route designated by Congress that traces the historic path of the 1775-1776 Juan Bautista de Anza expedition. The corridor is shown as a polygon of varying width. Much of the Historic Corridor near metropolitan areas lacks scenic or other integrity due to modern land use changes (transportation infrastructure, residential, commercial, industrial development, etc.). However, in more remote areas, trail segments and entire landscapes of the trail route are essentially undisturbed since the time of the expedition. These segments with high integrity and/or proximity to sites associated with the Anza NHT are sometimes referred to as high potential route segments, and they are areas we strive to protect. The Historic Corridor through the study area is viewable on Appendix A.

Auto Tour RouteThe Auto Tour Route is shown on NPS publications and generally follows the Historic Corridor on highways, allowing people to connect with related historic sites and Recreational Trail segments. The Auto Tour Route through Santa Cruz County follows Interstate 19 and guides the public to Tumacácori National Historical Park, the Historic Campsites, and the high potential recreational route segment. More on these resources below. The Auto Tour Route through the study area is viewable on Appendix A.

Historic CampsitesThe study areas contain three Historic Anza Expedition Campsites. These sites are open to the public with significant historical value with publicly accessible interpretation and visitor experiences. An Historic Campsite is the place where the expedition stopped, rested, and refueled before continuing their journey. These campsites encompass a broad vicinity as the expedition group included over 240 people and about 1000 head of livestock. The sites are Expedition Camp #13, located at the present-day Las Lagunas de Anza; Expedition Camp #14, located at Tubac Presidio State Historical Park; and Expedition Camp #15, located at Historic Canoa Ranch. The Tubac Presidio State Historical Park and Historic Canoa Ranch are on the National Register of Historic Places indicating the value in preserving the properties for the American people. All three of these sites serve as interpretive sites of the Anza NHT. The three Historic Campsites are viewable on Appendix A.

Recreational Retracement Route (Recreational Trail)The CMP of the Anza NHT calls for the establishment of a continuous "Recreation Retracement Route" (Recreational Trail) from Nogales, Arizona to San Francisco, California, and in the East Bay. The trail would ideally allow for multi-use travel by pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians. Approximately 484 miles of the recreation trail exists along the entire 1,200 miles of the trail in the U.S. Because the trail travels through so many different environments, varying from metropolitan areas to remote desert, the Recreational Trail varies significantly in its construction and the experience it offers. The project area includes the Recreational Trail through the City of Nogales to the Tubac Presidio along, almost contiguously. The CMP identifies the segment between Tumacácori National Historical Park and Tubac Presidio State Historic Park as a high potential route segment, meaning that the segment affords a high-quality recreation experience greater than average scenic values or an opportunity to vicariously share the experience of the original users of a historic route ([NTSA], 16 USC 1251). The trail is a significant regional recreation resource for the County and welcomes birders, horseback riding, cyclists, runners, horse-back riders, walkers, and more. Similarly, the project area includes most of the Anza Recreational Trail through Canoa Ranch, Green Valley, and Sahuarita starting at Elephant Head Trailhead through North Santa Cruz Park. The undertaking thus has the potential to degrade the experience of the trail user due to viewshed impact and noise pollution from the transmission line. See Appendix A.

NPS has special concerns regarding the SCR Project North and South. We request to understand the impact of a new transmission line within the study area on Anza NHT cultural and recreation resources to a greater extent and that the information be provided publicly. For any clarification of our comments or for further information relevant to the Anza NHT, please contact Estrella Sainburg, Trail Planner, at Estrella_sainburg@nps.gov. Sincerely, Naomi L. Torres Superintendent

Response: 5/28/2025

We received your comment to both the North and South phases of the project. Thank you very much for providing that. We will use the information that you provided in our evaluation process and take the trail into consideration as part of the impact assessment of the ultimate routes that are considered. Should any questions arise as we work through the evaluation we will reach out. We appreciate how engaged you have been on the overall Santa Cruz Reliability Project and look forward to further coordination.

Comment No. 078 5/27/2025

I did click on the map link and entered my address which is XXX. It looks like a power pole is marked for directly across the street from me. can you confirm this please? Thanks very much.

Response: 5/27/2025

After searching for your address, the identified opportunity along XXX. is near your home. We are still in the process of determining the suitability of each opportunity weighing a variety of environmental, physical, and visual criteria. Because we are so early in the siting process, no decisions for preferred or alternative routes have been made and thus, no engineering has been conducted that would possibly locate a pole near your home. Long answer short, no poles have been marked across the street from you.

Comment No. 079 5/27/2025

Okay, well that is good news of some type. I pray you do not put a huge pole in my line of vision or that would destroy my home value. When will these decisions be made? Thank you. I do appreciate your response.

Response: 5/27/2025

The process is ongoing. We will be returning to present the results of upcoming suitability assessments towards the end of August or early September. We will return again to present the route alternatives that we have come up with in late October or early November. At that time we would be seeking direct input for a preferred alternative to submit in our application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility in December. The final decision rests with the Arizona Corporation commission after receiving a recommendation from the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line.

Comment No. 080 5/27/2025

I request my comments and questions be recorded verbatim and that you do not proceed with this transmission line on the Westside of the Tubac Valley. My name is XXX, and I am a local landscape designer, developer and a longtime resident of Santa Cruz County. With my business partner XXX, we have worked very hard over the past 25 years to shape the Tubac Valley. The value we have in our area is the history, boutique art community and most of all our surrounding mountains, especially the Tumacacori mountains. We depend on tourism to survive, and Geo tourism is huge for us, hiking, biking, bird watching and so on. Tubac has been knocked down over the past 15 years by the economy, covid and the border Patrol Inspection Station. We have two developments on the Westside. We have an 80 home project that we just completed our entitlements and will be ready to start building homes. We also have 350 acres on the Westside closer to the Palo Parado exit that will have 78 homes. The value of these projects is the location of being close to the Tumacacori mountains and if we lose that view, it will greatly depreciate our values. Our 350 acres borders the gas line to the west. We might not be able to move forward due to this effort you have made on the Westside. We have over \$10,000,000 invested in our land,

designs, engineering, approvals, etc. It has also taken us 12 years to get to where we are. If you install your power lines on the Westside it will impact on our investment, and we will in fact be obligated to pursue legal action on this matter. Please take into consideration the impact you will have by running the line down the Westside. You have a choice not to. Please feel free to reach out to me for more information about the impact I see on the current community and the future of the Tubac Valley. Thank you for hearing my concerns.

Response: 5/28/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 081 5/28/2025

I request my comments and questions be recorded verbatim and that you do not proceed with this transmission line on the Westside of the Tubac Valley. My name is XXXX, and I am a local landscape designer, developer and a longtime resident of Santa Cruz County. With my business partner XXXX, we have worked very hard over the past 25 years to shape the Tubac Valley. The value we have in our area is the history, boutique art community and most of all our surrounding mountains, especially the Tumacacori mountains. We depend on tourism to survive, and Geo tourism is huge for us, hiking, biking, bird watching and so on. Tubac has been knocked down over the past 15 years by the economy, covid and the border Patrol Inspection Station. We have two developments on the Westside. We have an 80 home project that we just completed our entitlements and will be ready to start building homes. We also have 350 acres on the Westside closer to the Palo Parado exit that will have 78 homes. The value of these projects is the location of being close to the Tumacacori mountains and if we lose that view, it will greatly depreciate our values. Our 350 acres borders the gas line to the west. We might not be able to move forward due to this effort you have made on the Westside. We have over \$10,000,000 invested in our land, designs, engineering, approvals, etc. It has also taken us 12 years to get to where we are. You have a choice not to run your line down the Westside and do it on the Eastside. But for Tubac overall, since the lines are already on the Eastside, we can survive that, but the Westside would be a crushing blow to our community and Santa Cruz County due to the taxes derived from our area. If you install your power lines on the Westside it will impact on our investment, and we will in fact be obligated to pursue legal action on this matter. Please take into consideration the impact you will have by running the line down the Westside. You have a choice not to. Please feel free to reach out to me for more information about the impact I see on the current community and the future of the Tubac Valley. Thank you for hearing my concerns.

Response:

No response needed.

Comment No. 082 5/28/2025

Using existing poles will save money, no right of way clearance needed, people are already used to the sight.

Response: 5/28/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/

Comment No. 083 5/29/2025

I believe that putting the powerlines on the West side of I-19 would be a blight on the landscape. It is too close to the Tumacacori Mountains and would be a serious detriment to the viewshed. The west side installation shouldn't even be considered.

Response: 6/2/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/.

Comment No. 084 5/29/2025

I believe that putting the powerlines on the West side of I-19 would be a blight on the landscape. It is too close to the Tumacacori Mountains and would be a serious detriment to the viewshed. The west side installation shouldn't even be considered.

Response: 6/2/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/.

Comments to Unisource (UNSE) Regarding the Santa Cruz Reliability Project – South (SCRPS) As residents of the Aliso Springs area of Tubac west of I-19, we submit the following questions and concerns regarding the Santa Cruz Reliability Project – South, as depicted in the recently released planning map and as discussed at the UNSE public meeting in Tubac on 5/13/2025.

1. What are the reliability statistics for the current infrastructure? Please provide quantitative reliability data that motivated this project:
 - What is the historical reliability record (e.g., SAIDI, SAIFI) for the current 138 kV line serving Santa Cruz County?
 - What were the frequency, duration and causes of outages in Santa Cruz County in the past 20 years?
 - Were there any specific threshold violations or federal/state requirements that triggered the planning of a second line?
2. What criteria and modeling were used to determine the need for a second line? At the Tubac meeting, UNSE stated that their engineers had determined there is a need for a second line for reliability. The estimates of UNSE engineers, who are just UNSE employees, need to be explained in depth to us rate payers. Otherwise we can only conclude that the project is merely driven by profits. We request much more transparency than we have seen so far on the analysis behind this project and answers to the following questions:
 - Exactly what load growth forecasts, transmission loss estimates, contingency analyses, or North American Electric Reliability Corp (NERC) standards were used?
 - What is the impact of the Rio Rico Solar 5 MW plant on electric reliability and resilience in Santa Cruz County? What percentage of the load does it supply?
 - A distributed system would be inherently more resilient and efficient, for instance with solar and wind generation perhaps with battery storage. UNSE has experience with several utility-scale solar and wind farms. Why was such a configuration not considered as an alternative?
 - How does the cost of avoiding transporting power with significant line losses along the way and expanding solar generation (perhaps with batteries) compare to adding a second line?
 - How does the cost of avoiding transporting power and adding wind power generation (perhaps with batteries) compare to adding a second line?
 - What percentage of the power UNSE will transmit to Santa Cruz County will be used by the South 32 Hermosa Australian-owned mine and its data center in Rio Rico?
3. We express strong opposition to any alignment west of I-19. From Tubac and the surrounding rural communities west of the interstate, the proposed western routing would be:
 - Permanently destructive to the visual, ecological, and cultural integrity of the landscape
 - Much longer than siting a second line alongside the existing 138 kV corridor east of I-19, thereby:
 - Increasing construction and maintenance costs, resulting in higher ratepayer burden during cost recovery
 - Potentially increasing line losses and environmental footprint
4. Why not parallel the existing east-side line? If a second line is inevitable, placing it adjacent to the existing east-of-I-19 corridor instead of the west side means:
 1. Shorter route length, less power wasted
 2. Less expensive ROW acquisition
 3. Smaller environmental negative impacts from using the existing disturbance
 4. Co-located for operational and maintenance efficiency
 5. Lower cost of materials such as wires and steel poles
 6. Lower environmental cost due to using less wiring and steel
 7. Lower power transmission losses

A failure that affected the main radial line and all of Santa Cruz County occurred only once in the past 20+ years. As UNSE described at the Tubac meeting, it was a perfect storm of events that resulted in a county-wide loss of power for several hours. In other words, UNSE was unprepared. Such events have been very unlikely, and can and must be made even less likely by implementing proper engineering and management procedures and not succumbing to complacency. A single failure in 20+ years cannot be a major driver to a requirement for a geographically separated line! Please provide cost estimates so the impacts of factors 1-7 above can all be considered, as part of UNSE's transparency efforts. Please explain clearly and in detail why this more rational alternative is not the default.

Final Note We urge UNSE to:

- Publish detailed justification and engineering analysis for route selection.
- Prioritize minimizing any new disturbances to the land.
- Fully assess ratepayer impact from unnecessarily long or remote corridors.
- Preserve the remaining wilderness in the area by:
 - Honoring the rural and natural integrity of Tubac and surrounding west-side communities.
 - Accepting the guidance of the unanimous opposition to the W alignment expressed by a show of hands from the attendance at the 5/13/2025 UNSE public meeting.

Response: 6/11/2025

Thank you for sharing your well articulated questions and concerns on behalf of the Aliso Springs neighborhood. Answers to your questions are included below:

1. *What are the reliability statistics for the current infrastructure?* • Biennial Transmission Assessment reports, beginning in 2014, include this requested data. Because Santa Cruz County is served on a radial (single line), the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) requested the reliability of this line be monitored and reported every two years through this assessment. These reports are filed with the ACC and can be found through the following links:

- i. 8th Biennial Transmission Assessment (see pages 22-23 of the actual report, pages 62-63 of the PDF)
- ii. 9th Biennial Transmission Assessment (see pages 24-25 of the actual report, pages 27-28 of the PDF)
- iii. 10th Biennial Transmission Assessment (see pages 23-24 of the actual report, pages 47-48 of the PDF)
- iv. 11th Biennial Transmission Assessment (see pages 32-33 of the actual report, pages 45-46 of the PDF)
- v. 12th Biennial Transmission Assessment (see pages 95-96 of the PDF)
- vi. 13th Biennial Transmission Assessment is ongoing, and no report has been published. You can follow it in Docket No. E-99999A-23-0016.

2. *What criteria and modeling were used to determine the need for a second line?*

• UNSE and South 32 Hermosa forecast data, study methodology, and analysis information is available in UNSE's Ten-Year plan. Resources planned for the Santa Cruz system can be found in UNSE's Integrated Resource Plan. Transmission will still be required for reliability regardless of additional solar, wind, or battery resources being added to the Santa Cruz system. The addition of the 2nd transmission line is still necessary for utility-scale renewables, or large conventional generation, as the distribution facilities would not be able to handle the power injection from any of these resources if the single radial transmission line were out of service.

3. *We express strong opposition to any alignment west of I-19.*

• Comment noted and will be considered in future analysis.

4. *Why not parallel the existing east-side line*

• We are currently going through a detailed planning and siting process to evaluate all possible routes, with the desired end result that we will find the best possible route. The option you have pointed out to parallel or even collocate with the existing transmission line on the east side, is an option under consideration as one of the many possible route segments that are being studied in further detail.

• We are in the beginning stages of our siting study where all options are on the table. We'll go through several evaluations as we continue through the planning and siting process. We will share the results of these evaluations, including data used to evaluate potential segments and the rationale for the elimination of specific segments from further consideration.

We have noted your comments and we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. Further, and more importantly, your comments and concerns, together with many others from the community are a key part of the siting process. These comments will be used to inform the evaluation criteria used in the next phases of our planning and siting process.

I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/.

Comment No. 086 5/31/2025

I request that my comments and questions be recorded verbatim. I am requesting that the new 138kV transmission line be located on the EAST side, on the monopoles that are already constructed and can accommodate a 2nd 138kV line. I am requesting that the El Paso Gas Pipeline "utility corridor" be eliminated as an option. We have been residents on the west side of Tubac since 1999 and are saddened to see all of the destruction of the desert and the wildlife habitat that has happened since then. We are asking that you eliminate the EL PASO PIPELINE UTILITY CORRIDOR!! AS A OPTION FOR THE NEW INSTALLATION.

Response: 6/2/2025

Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns. We have noted these for consideration in future analysis as part of the next phases of our planning and siting process. In addition, we will include these in our project record that will be submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission. I hope you will continue to stay engaged in the project and continue to provide your thoughts and comments. For the latest updates on the project, I invite you to visit the project webpage at www.uesaz.com/santa-cruz-reliability-project-south/.
