

**Tucson Electric Power Company**

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## IMPORTANT PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE NOTICE

**PARA INFORMACIÓN EN ESPAÑOL, LLAME AL (866) 541-7349**



## DeMoss Petrie (DMP) Substation to Tucson Substation 138-kV Transmission Line Project

Please attend the upcoming

## PUBLIC INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE

**Thursday, April 2, 2009**

**5:30-7:30PM**

Richey Elementary School Cafeteria  
2209 North 15th Avenue  
Tucson, Arizona 85705



## DeMoss Petrie (DMP) Substation to Tucson Substation 138-kV Transmission Line Project

Project Newsletter #1 March 2009

### Introduction

Tucson Electric Power (TEP) is in the early stages of planning for the construction and operation of new electrical transmission facilities between its DeMoss Petrie (DMP) and Tucson substations. The proposed transmission line would be completely within the City of Tucson and planned, built, and operated by TEP. The transmission line is expected to be in service by mid-2010.

### Purpose and Need

This project would add 138,000 volt (138-kilovolt or 138-kV) transmission capability between these substations, increasing electrical system reliability throughout the Tucson area. In particular, the line would provide additional capacity for TEP substations on the west side of Tucson under various outage situations. Existing transmission lines in the area could not serve this purpose.

### Project Description

The proposed 138-kV transmission line is intended to connect the DMP Substation (located northeast of Interstate 10 [I-10] and West Grant Road) to the Tucson Substation (located east of North 11th Avenue between West 4th Street and the Union Pacific Railroad [see enclosed map]). The proposed transmission line could extend several miles, depending upon its final route. In accordance with TEP's design standards, the transmission line structures would be built to accommodate a second circuit.

### Project Area

The project area consists primarily of urban, privately owned land under the jurisdiction of the City of Tucson and includes a mix of residential, commercial, industrial, and educational uses. It also includes roads, railroads, and other linear features, including existing 138-kV, 46-kV, and lower-voltage distribution lines. I-10 crosses the project area just west of both substation locations. The Union Pacific Railroad roughly parallels I-10 through the study area. The project area is highly developed with very few remaining undeveloped or vacant parcels.

### Regulatory Approval

Arizona Revised Statutes 40-360 to 40-360.13 require TEP to obtain a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (CEC) from the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) prior to construction of a high-voltage transmission line. TEP's CEC application will include a project description and an environmental analysis, and will identify a preferred route and at least one alternate route. The application will be reviewed by the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee, which will forward its recommendation to the ACC.

### Planning Process and Project Schedule

TEP will complete environmental studies and solicit public comments on its plans before seeking approval of this proposed project. TEP will be conducting the planning process over the next several months, and the company anticipates filing a CEC application in the third quarter of 2009. A diagram summarizing the planning process is included in this newsletter.

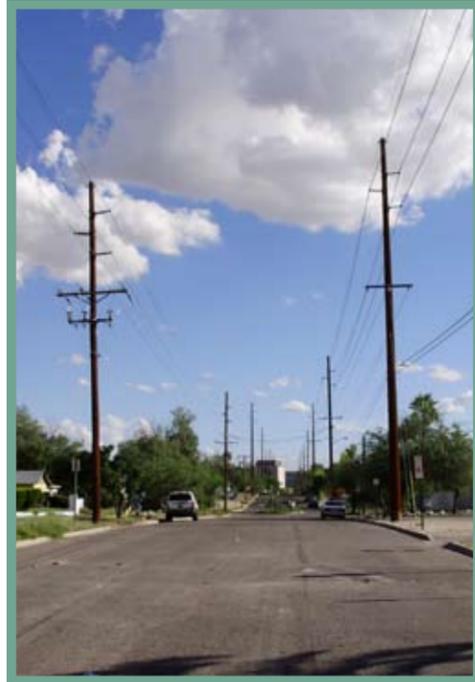
TEP has begun to collect data for a regional environmental inventory representing the resource areas. The project team will analyze that data and identify opportunities and constraints for potential transmission line links that can be used to develop routes.



TEP's Tucson Substation

## Environmental Studies

Through its environmental consultant, Environmental Planning Group (EPG), TEP will consider many environmental factors, including existing and future land uses as well as visual, cultural (including archaeological), and biological resources based on environmental analyses and studies, before selecting proposed routes for this project. Evaluating these environmental factors is an important component of the CEC application.



46-kV structures along 11th Avenue

TEP will consult with federal, state, and local jurisdictions, as well as other interested parties, regarding potential environmental constraints in the project area. TEP will review and evaluate the environmental constraints identified throughout the planning process and incorporate appropriate mitigation measures to reduce or minimize environmental impacts.

## Public Participation

TEP is seeking comments on this proposal and will consider public and agency input as it identifies potential line routes. TEP will distribute information about the project and request public input during meetings with community leaders, elected officials, and neighborhood representatives, as well as through public open house meetings, informational newsletters, a telephone information line, and media briefings.

TEP will host public open house meetings in the project area that will be announced in project newsletters and on the project web page at tep.com. The public will have opportunities to review key information, interact with project staff, and provide comments regarding the proposal.

TEP has formed a community working group that includes project area residents, agency staff, and local landowners. The group includes a cross-section of individuals familiar with issues in the community and represents a broad range of interests. The group, along with other public input, is an important part of the planning process and will provide valuable information and comments to be considered for the proposed transmission line project.

A public information open house meeting has been scheduled. Please see the back side of this newsletter for details.

## Who is TEP?

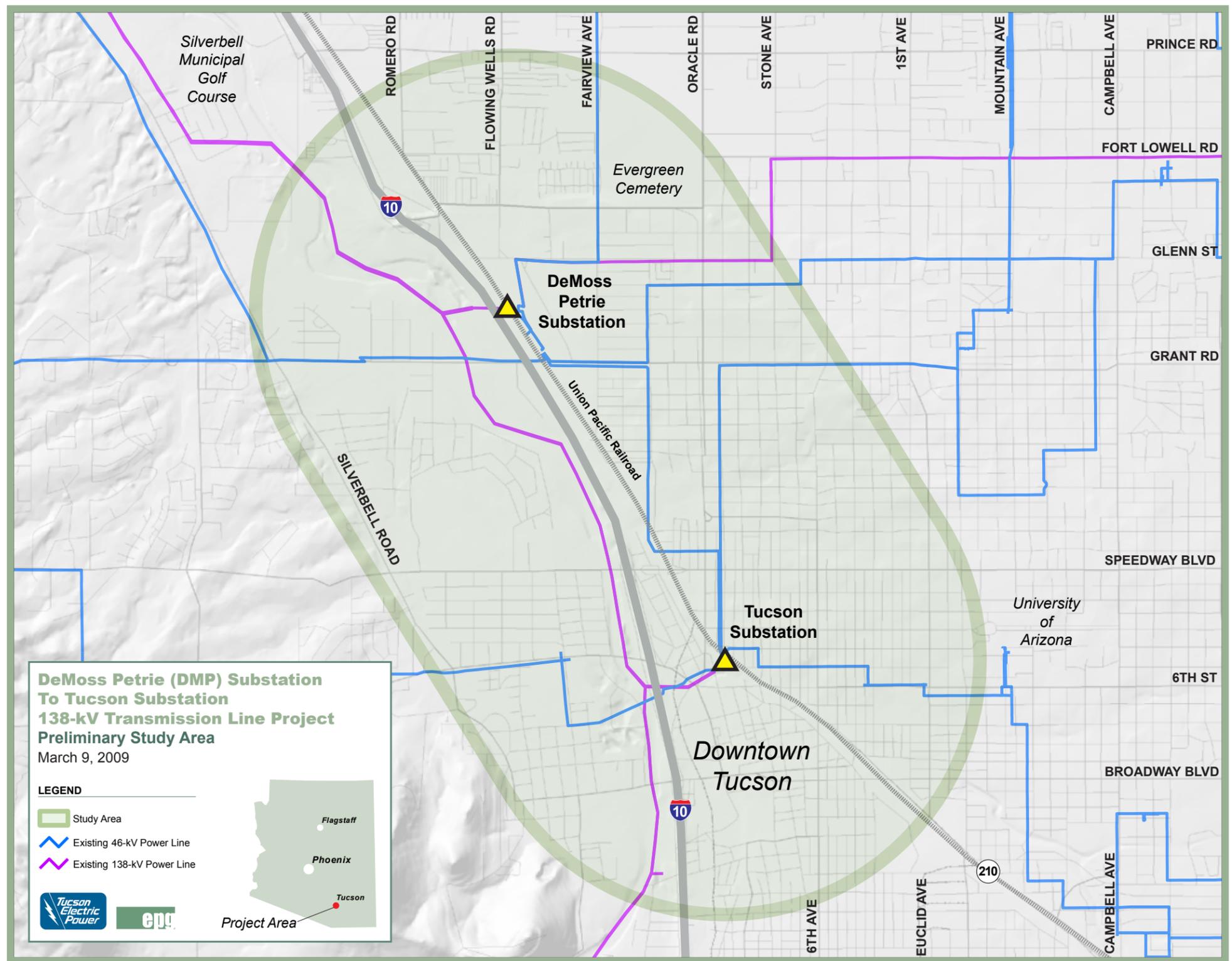
TEP provides safe, reliable power to 400,000 customers in the Tucson metropolitan area and surrounding communities. Its parent company, UniSource Energy Corporation, oversees a family of energy companies serving more than 1.5 million Arizona residents. TEP values community input, and the company looks forward to working with the agencies, residents, and businesses throughout the study area during the planning process for this important project.

## Who is EPG?

EPG is a local, multi-disciplinary, environmental consulting firm retained to conduct the environmental studies and assist with the public participation activities for the project planning process. The EPG staff has over 30 years of experience in siting and permitting transmission lines within Arizona. An important component of their approach is to integrate community input with the planning process.

## Contact Information

A toll-free project information line, (866) 541-7349, has been set up for the public to provide comments or request additional information on the DMP Substation to Tucson Substation 138-kV Transmission Line Project. For additional information, visit TEP's Web site at tep.com.



PLANNING PROCESS	TASK 1 Siting Criteria, Define Study Area, and Secondary Data Collection	TASK 2 Opportunities/Constraints Analysis and Link Alternatives Identification	TASK 3 Detailed Inventory and Link Alternatives Assessment	TASK 4 Route Alternatives Selection and Resource Surveys	TASK 5 Preparation and Filing of CEC Application	TASK 6 CEC Hearings
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES	• Community leader and elected official briefings	• Community Working Group meeting #1 • Newsletter #1 • Public Open House Meeting #1	• Community Working Group meeting #2 • Newsletter #2 • Public Open House Meeting #2	• Community Working Group meeting #3	• Ongoing activities	• Public hearings before the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee and ACC
ESTIMATED TIMELINE	1st Quarter 2009	1st-2nd Quarter 2009	2nd Quarter 2009	2nd-3rd Quarter 2009	2nd-3rd Quarter 2009	4th Quarter 2009