Introduction and Project Summary

This is the third in a series of newsletters concerning Tucson Electric Power’s (TEP’s) plan to build a new 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between the DeMoss Petrie (DMP) Substation near East Grant Road and Interstate 10 and the Tucson Substation north of downtown.

The new line will allow TEP to distribute more energy between these substations, increasing electric reliability throughout the Tucson area. TEP requires approval from the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) to build and operate the proposed line. TEP intends to secure that approval and complete construction of the line before the end of 2011.

Environmental and Engineering Studies

TEP initially identified numerous preliminary line location segments or “links” throughout the project study area for the proposed transmission line. These preliminary links were first shown to the public and agencies in June 2009, and TEP has been gathering feedback on the links since that time. New links were identified for analysis based on public comments and ongoing studies.

A detailed analysis has been conducted for each of the preliminary links. This analysis included an assessment of (1) potential impacts on environmental resources, (2) agency and public comments, (3) engineering and design constraints, (4) constructability of a route, (5) availability of right-of-way, and (6) overall cost of building the new facilities.

Transmission Line Route Alternatives

Alternative links that were found to be environmentally compatible and that met the engineering requirements have been combined to form transmission line route alternatives from the DMP Substation to the Tucson Substation. These are shown on the map included with this newsletter. Please note that all alternative routes are still being studied and may yet be modified based on agency and public input.

After gathering additional feedback from the public and agency representatives, TEP will select a preferred route and alternative route(s) for submission to the ACC.

Public Participation

TEP has communicated extensively with project area residents and other interested parties about this proposed transmission line. Project team members have briefed community leaders, held public open houses and attended several meetings with a Community Working Group that includes neighborhood residents and other stakeholders. During the most recent Community Working Group meeting, held December 16, 2009, participants reviewed the process that has been used to evaluate preliminary transmission line links.

TEP has reviewed public comments about the project that have been submitted via email, fax, telephone, project web site, and open house meetings. While many
of the comments were in support of the proposed project and the increased system reliability, some expressed concerns about potential impacts of various links to residential views and property values. Other comments suggested sustainable or renewable energy options as possible alternatives to the project.

**Project Schedule**

TEP is now seeking public input on the alternative routes. Please take a moment to share your thoughts using the enclosed comment form, which should be returned by March 1, 2010. An online public comment form is also available at the bottom of the page on: [http://www.tep.com/company/news/dmp/index.asp](http://www.tep.com/company/news/dmp/index.asp)

After considering Community Working Group and public input and making appropriate revisions to the project plan, TEP plans to file a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (CEC) application with the ACC in the second quarter of 2010.

The CEC application will include alternative routes for review by the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee (Committee). The Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the ACC, which will issue a final decision on the project. All hearings before the Committee and ACC are open to the public and will be announced on the TEP and ACC web sites.

**Public Open House Meeting**

TEP invites you to attend the third public open house meeting on February 24, 2010 to review and comment on the alternative routes. You may attend any time between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. to view the route alternatives, talk individually with project team members, offer feedback, and enjoy light refreshments.

**Contact Information**

A toll-free project information line, (866) 541-7349, is available for the public to provide comments or request additional information on the DMP Substation to Tucson Substation 138kV Transmission Line Project.


Comments also may be mailed to:
DMP-Tucson Project
Tucson Electric Power Company
P.O. Box 711
Tucson, Arizona 85702

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**Existing 46kV structures along 11th Avenue**
Please attend the upcoming
PUBLIC INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE
Wednesday, February 24, 2010
5:30-7:30PM
Richey Elementary School Cafeteria
2209 North 15th Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85705