



Tucson Electric Power

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

Energy Grid Update Midtown Reliability Project

January 2024



TEP Narrows List of Potential Route Segments, Seeks Comment Before Route Development

Using input from midtown residents and other stakeholders, Tucson Electric Power has identified more than 100 segments that could be combined to form potential routes for a new transmission line to serve midtown Tucson.

TEP's Midtown Reliability Project will reinforce the local energy grid that supports electric reliability for nearly 37,000 households and more than 6,800 businesses in the heart of Tucson.

The project will include a new higher-voltage overhead transmission line, a new substation and other upgrades to replace eight aging substations, sub-transmission lines and other lower-voltage equipment that can't keep pace with increasing energy use.

TEP will continue to seek public input before recommending routes for the project. Any final route, as well as the project itself, is subject to approval by the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee and the Arizona Corporation Commission.

To help identify a path for the line, TEP completed a comprehensive suitability assessment of more than 460 potential route segments in the project study area. The

assessment considered multiple criteria, including some required by law and others deemed important by area residents and other stakeholders, including residential land use, proximity to historic properties and impact on low-income residents. As a result of the assessment, more than 300 segments were removed from consideration.

TEP will perform additional analysis on remaining segments to determine which are most compatible for use in potential routes to link key energy hubs in Tucson. See page 3 for a map of segments that remain under consideration and those eliminated during the suitability assessment. An interactive map is available on the project website at tep.com/midtown-reliability-project.

"Now, we're asking residents and other stakeholders for additional feedback on specific segments that remain under consideration," said Clark Bryner, TEP's Manager for Transmission Line Siting.

Identifying Suitable Options

The new transmission line must interconnect two existing substations and a planned substation. Last year, TEP considered stakeholder input and other factors to identify hundreds of preliminary segments that could be

Recent Public Outreach

- Mailed newsletter inviting more than 100,000 stakeholders to attend November open house, to provide comments and to visit the project webpage. About 90 people attended the open house.
- About 20 neighborhoods within the study area are represented in the project's Neighborhood Advisory Group. Some segments remain under consideration as a result of group member input. All neighborhood associations in the study area's 62 neighborhoods are invited to participate.
- TEP representatives have attended 9 individual neighborhood association meetings to listen to concerns and answer questions about the project.
- TEP field visits in the study area continue.

Open House FAQs

Questions submitted by the public at recent open houses and TEP's responses are available on our project webpage at tep.com/midtown.

Midtown Reliability Project



You can help shape our future energy grid. Please read inside, visit our website or join our open house to learn how.

Public Open House

Thursday, February 8, 2024 | 6-8 p.m.
Open house begins at 6 p.m.
Q&A begins at 7 p.m.
Light refreshments will be provided.

DoubleTree - Reid Park
445 S Alvernon Way
Tucson, AZ 85711

tep.com/midtown-reliability-project



Lea adentro, visite nuestro sitio web o venga a nuestra reunión abierta para saber cómo puede ayudar a dar forma a nuestra red eléctrica futura.

Reunión abierta pública

Jueves, 8 de febrero de 2024 | 6-8 p. m.
La reunión abierta comienza a las 6 p.m.
Las preguntas y respuestas comienzan a las 7 p.m.
Se proporcionarán refrigerios livianos.
Participarán miembros del equipo bilingües y un intérprete de español.

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tep.com/proyecto-de-confiabilidad-del-centro-de-la-ciudad



combined to form potential routes. TEP first shared the list of preliminary segments at its November open house.

“We begin identifying segments by considering the engineering feasibility. We ask from a purely engineering perspective, ‘Can a line be built on this segment?’ If the answer is yes, we include it in the list of preliminary segments. In this preliminary stage, we do not yet consider any environmental or land use impacts, public or stakeholder preferences, or compliance with local ordinances,” Bryner said.

In November, TEP began evaluating preliminary segments using additional criteria, including impacts on biological resources, historic properties and neighborhoods and low-income and disadvantaged communities. Some criteria were informed by residents and other stakeholder preferences.

“During the next phase, known as the suitability assessment, we use geographic information system software to examine each segment multiple times based on suitability models that represent multiple perspectives. In one model, we placed greater emphasis on impact to low-income communities, based on feedback from our stakeholder survey. In another, consideration of impacts on cultural and historic properties carry more weight. We also use a model in which all criteria are weighted equally,” Bryner said.

The analysis identified the most suitable segments according to each model. A few segments were identified as most suitable in every model. Segments with lower suitability scores were eliminated from consideration.

TEP then carefully reviewed the eliminated segments to determine if any were comparable in suitability with those retained by the model, and whether they should be carried forward for continued evaluation. Remaining segments were then evaluated during field visits for engineering, land use and right-of-way suitability. Today, 126 segments remain under consideration.

TEP is now asking stakeholders to provide comments about the refined segments. Based on continued evaluation and input TEP receives over the next few weeks, project planners may eliminate additional segments or consider new ones before identifying potential routes.

TEP reduce la lista de posibles tramos y pide comentarios antes de trazar las rutas

Utilizando los aportes de los residentes del centro de la ciudad y otras partes interesadas, Tucson Electric Power ha identificado más de 100 tramos refinados que podrían combinarse para formar rutas potenciales para una nueva línea de transmisión aérea que preste servicio al centro de la ciudad de Tucson.

El Proyecto de Confiabilidad del Centro de la Ciudad de TEP reforzará los sistemas que garantizan la confiabilidad eléctrica para casi 37,000 hogares y más de 6,800 clientes comerciales en el corazón de Tucson.

Para ayudar a determinar el trazado de la línea, TEP ha completado una evaluación integral de idoneidad en la que se han tenido en cuenta los criterios requeridos por la ley y los criterios considerados importantes por los residentes y otras partes interesadas dentro del área de estudio del proyecto. TEP está pidiendo comentarios de las partes interesadas sobre los tramos restantes. Consulte la página 3 para ver un mapa de los tramos que siguen en estudio y aquellos eliminados durante la evaluación de idoneidad. Una versión interactiva del mapa está disponible en la página web del proyecto.

Se publicará una versión en español de este boletín informativo en el sitio web del proyecto en tep.com/proyecto-de-confiabilidad-del-centro-de-la-ciudad, y puede enviarse por correo si lo solicita utilizando la información de contacto anterior. Gracias por su interés en el proyecto.



Public Participation

Please come to our open house on February 8. Stakeholders also can ask questions and submit comments by:

- Filling out an online comment form on the project webpage
- Sending email comments to midtownreliability@tep.com
- Calling 1-833-523-0887 and leaving a voicemail message
- Mailing a letter with comments to:

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P.O. Box 711
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Participación pública

Venga a nuestra reunión abierta el 8 de febrero. Participarán miembros del equipo bilingües y un intérprete de español. Las partes interesadas también pueden hacer preguntas y enviar comentarios de la siguiente manera:

- al completar un formulario de comentarios en línea en la página web del proyecto
- al enviar comentarios por correo electrónico a midtownreliability@tep.com
- al llamar al 1-833-523-0887 y dejar un mensaje de correo de voz
- al enviar una carta por correo postal a la siguiente dirección:

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