



Tucson Electric Power

Northwest Marana  
Reliability Project  
343 W Franklin St.  
Tucson, AZ 85701

# Energy Grid Update Northwest Marana Reliability Project

November 2024



## TEP Plans Upgrades to Improve System Reliability

Tucson Electric Power (TEP) plans to help Marana thrive by building a stronger, smarter grid that supports the community's growing energy needs and maintains reliable service.

The Northwest Marana Reliability Project will reinforce systems critical to providing safe, reliable service – even during extreme weather conditions. TEP's planned improvements include new higher-voltage transmission line segments, a new switchyard, and a new substation.

New, modern energy delivery systems are needed to replace older, lower-voltage equipment that cannot keep pace with the increasing energy use in Marana. Peak power demand in the area has nearly reached the capacity of the older system, which reduces electric reliability and results in longer power outages in some areas.

The project will include building a new approximately half-mile, 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission line segment from the planned Grier Substation to a previously approved, but incomplete 138 kV line north of the substation along West Marana Road that is under construction in partnership with Arizona Electric Power Cooperative (AEP CO).

Additionally, TEP would construct a new 138 kV transmission line segment connecting the Grier Substation to the planned Owl

Head Ranch switchyard, which would be located on about 20 acres east of Interstate 10 (I-10) on North Owl Head Ranch Road. This segment will be built as a single-circuit transmission line but designed to accommodate a second circuit to support future growth. The circuit is expected to be approximately 5-10 miles long.

These new facilities would interconnect with an existing 138 kV line that runs parallel to I-10 and links TEP's North Loop and Tortolita substations.

TEP has not identified routes for the line segments and is seeking public input to identify route opportunities and constraints. The final route is subject to approval by the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee and the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC).

Public participation is an integral part of TEP's planning process. We encourage area residents and other stakeholders to share their comments using one of the methods listed in this newsletter.

### Project Benefits

The Project would provide many benefits to local residents and businesses, including:

- Improved electric reliability through a looped system that will help reduce the frequency and duration of outages.
- Greater transmission capacity to meet the growing energy

### Evaluation Criteria

1. Ability to construct, and operate and maintain facilities
2. Compliance with state, county, or city ordinances
3. Cost and potential impact on customer rates
4. Impact on designated scenic areas
5. Impact on existing and planned land uses by state, local, and private entities
6. Impact on fish, wildlife, and plants, including special status species and habitat
7. Impact on historic and archaeological sites
8. Overall environmental impacts
9. Proximity to licensed communication sites
10. Proximity to sensitive noise receptors (schools, hospitals, assisted living and daycare facilities)

needs of customers in the area.

- Greater energy capacity to better accommodate customer-owned energy systems.
- Improved grid capacity to support economic growth and prosperity.

Identifying a suitable location for new transmission facilities involves several phases, each informed by public input. Area

## Northwest Marana Reliability Project



### Please Join Us Public Open House

Thursday, November 21, 2024 | 6-8 p.m.

Complimentary refreshments will be provided

Marana Police Department  
Community Room  
11555 W. Civic Center Dr.  
Marana, AZ 85653

More Information  
[tep.com/northwest-marana](http://tep.com/northwest-marana)



### ¡Acompáñenos! Aviso de Reunión Pública

Jueves, 21 de noviembre de 2024 | de 6-8 p.m.

Refrescos de cortesía será servido.

Sala comunitaria del  
Departamento de Policía de Marana  
11555 W. Civic Center Dr.  
Marana, AZ 85653

Mas información  
[tep.com/northwest-marana-espanol](http://tep.com/northwest-marana-espanol)



residents and other stakeholders can provide insight to help TEP identify opportunities and constraints, specific route segments to assess, and areas to avoid.

Residents and other stakeholders also can help TEP evaluate and prioritize the importance of the criteria used to assess potential routes. Alternative route segments will be identified using multiple criteria, including some required by law and others deemed important by area residents and other stakeholders. These criteria will support the development of a preferred transmission line route.

### Required Approvals and Timeline

Under state law, TEP must obtain a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (CEC) to construct system improvements. TEP plans to file a CEC application midyear 2025 with the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee, which reviews CEC applications in a public process that allows neighbors and other interested parties to provide comments. The ACC must review and approve the CEC before TEP can begin construction. The project is planned to be in service by 2028.

TEP invites the public to attend the open house meeting listed on the front of this newsletter to ask questions and submit comments about the project. You also can share your input using one of the methods listed here.

- Fill out an online comment form at: [tep.com/northwest-marana](http://tep.com/northwest-marana)
- Email comments to: [nwmarana@tep.com](mailto:nwmarana@tep.com)
- Call: 1-833-655-0399 and leave a voicemail message.
- Mail a letter with comment to:  
Northwest Marana Reliability Project  
ATTN: Theresa Knoblock  
343 West Franklin Street  
Tucson, Arizona 85701

An interactive map will be posted on our website at [tep.com/northwest-marana](http://tep.com/northwest-marana).

### Proyecto de Confiabilidad del Noroeste de Marana

Tucson Electric Power (TEP) está ayudando a Marana a progresar mediante el desarrollo de una red más sólida e inteligente que respaldará el crecimiento de nuestra comunidad y mantendrá un servicio confiable incluso en condiciones climáticas extremas.

El Proyecto de Confiabilidad del Noroeste de Marana de TEP (Proyecto) reforzará los sistemas que son críticos para proporcionar un servicio seguro y fiable mediante un nuevo tendido de alta tensión de mayor voltaje, patio de distribución y subestación necesarios para modernizar los sistemas de suministro de energía y mejorar la fiabilidad eléctrica en Marana.

La participación del público es una parte importante del proceso de planificación de TEP. TEP alienta a los vecinos, propietarios y otras partes interesadas a asistir a una próxima reunión pública para obtener más información sobre el proyecto. Miembros bilingües del equipo del proyecto estarán presentes.

Visite el sitio web del proyecto para ver más información y un mapa interactivo del proyecto. Se publicará una versión en español de este boletín informativo, y puede enviarse por correo si lo solicita utilizando la información de contacto siguiente.

### Participación Pública

Venga a nuestra reunión abierta el 21 de noviembre. Miembros bilingües del equipo del proyecto estarán presentes.

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 [nwmarana@tep.com](mailto:nwmarana@tep.com)
- al llamar al 1-833-655-0399 y dejar un mensaje de correo de voz
- al enviar una carta por correo postal a la siguiente dirección:  
Northwest Marana Reliability Project  
ATTN: Theresa Knoblock  
343 West Franklin Street  
Tucson, Arizona 85701

