

1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT LS-424
2 AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE
3
4 IN THE MATTER OF THE) DOCKET NO.
APPLICATION OF TUCSON ELECTRIC) L-00000C-25-0094-00246
5 POWER COMPANY IN CONFORMANCE)
WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF) LS CASE NO. 246
6 A.R.S. § 40-360, ET. SEQ., FOR)
A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL)
7 COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING THE) PREFILING CONFERENCE
NORTHWEST MARANA RELIABILITY)
8 PROJECT, WHICH INCLUDED THE)
CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW 138 KV)
9 TRANSMISSION LINE AND)
SWITCHYARD WITHIN THE TOWN OF)
10 MARANA, UNINCORPORATED PIMA)
COUNTY, AND UNINCORPORATED)
11 PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA.)
12)

13
14 At: Phoenix, Arizona
15 Date: April 24, 2025
16 eFiled: May 8, 2025

17 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

18 (Pages 1 through 15)
19
20
21

22
23 Glennie Reporting Services, LLC
1555 East Orangewood Avenue Prepared by:
Phoenix, Arizona 85020
24 602.266.6535 Jill Marnell, RPR
Arizona Certified
25 www.glenzie-reporting.com Reporter No. 50021

GLENNIE REPORTING SERVICES, L.L.C.
602.266.6535 www.glenzie-reporting.com

1 INDEX TO EXHIBITS

2

3	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	ADMITTED
4	Exhibit 1	Map of the project	5
5	Exhibit 2	Proposed notice of hearing sign	5
6	Exhibit 3	Map of notice of hearing sign	5
7		locations	
8	Exhibit 4	Proposed notice of hearing	5

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 BE IT REMEMBERED that the above-entitled and
2 numbered matter came on regularly to be heard before the
3 Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting
4 Committee, commencing at 11:00 a.m. on April 24, 2025,
5 with all participants appearing via videoconference.

6

7 BEFORE: ADAM STAFFORD, Chairman

8

9 APPEARANCES:

10 For the Applicant:

11 MEGHAN H. GRABEL
12 ELIAS ANCHARSKI
13 Osborn Maledon
14 2929 North Central
15 21st Floor
16 Phoenix, Arizona 85012

15

16 ALSO PRESENT:

17 Megan Hill, TEP in-house counsel
18 Clark Bryner, TEP
19 Adriana Martinez, TEP
20 Theresa Knoblock, SWCA
21 Trevor Herriott, SWCA
22 Tod Brewer, assistant to Chairman Stafford

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 CHMN STAFFORD: Let's go on the record. Now
2 is the time set for the prefiling conference for TEP
3 Marana 138 kV transmission project.

4 Let's take appearances. Ms. Grabel?

5 MS. GRABEL: Thank you, Chairman. Meghan
6 Grabel from the law firm Osborn Maledon on behalf of
7 Tucson Electric Power Company. With me from my firm is
8 Elias Ancharski. Also with me from Tucson Electric Power
9 Company is Megan Hill, its in-house counsel; Mr. Clark
10 Bryner; Ms. Adriana Martinez. And then from Southwestern
11 CA -- I can't remember what CA stands for -- we have
12 Theresa Hunsaker and Trevor Herritt.

13 CHMN STAFFORD: Thank you.

14 Do you anticipate any intervenors in this
15 matter?

16 MS. GRABEL: We do not at this time. There
17 a few homeowners associations, but no one has expressed
18 that they were going to be intervening.

19 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Now, you've got four
20 prefiled exhibits. Do you want to go through those?

21 MS. GRABEL: Sure thing. I have -- Oh,
22 shoot.

23 So, yes, we have our Prefiling Exhibit 1 is
24 a map of the project location. Prefiling Exhibit Number 2
25 is the proposed notice of hearing sign, just the verbiage.

1 Prefiling Exhibit Number 3 is the map of the hearing sign
2 locations that we propose. And then Prefiling Exhibit 4
3 is the actual proposed notice of hearing.

4 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. Prefiling
5 1 through 4 are admitted.

6 We've got the notice of hearing. All right.
7 So what will be the publications and the dates?

8 MS. GRABEL: Sure. So the actual newspapers
9 of general circulation that we'll be publishing in is the
10 Arizona Daily Star. We intend to publish those on May 7th
11 and May 11th. Also as a courtesy -- it's not a newspaper
12 of general circulation, but we're hitting the actual area
13 that we're building in -- is the Explorer and the Marana
14 News, and that will be published on May 7th. And also as
15 a courtesy on May 26th we'll be publishing in the Arizona
16 Bilingual in Spanish.

17 CHMN STAFFORD: What was the date of that
18 one?

19 MS. GRABEL: May 26.

20 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. So the Daily Star
21 May 7th and 11th, the Explorer and the Marana News
22 May 7th, and Arizona Bilingual News May 26.

23 MS. GRABEL: Correct.

24 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. And you have got
25 the signs and locations. That's Exhibit 4; correct?

1 MS. GRABEL: I think that's Exhibit 2.

2 CHMN STAFFORD: 2? Okay.

3 MS. GRABEL: Or is it 3? I think it's 3.

4 Sorry.

5 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And what are the
6 affected jurisdictions?

7 MS. GRABEL: The affected jurisdictions are
8 the Town of Marana, Pima County, Pinal County, the Arizona
9 State Land Department, and Arizona Department of
10 Transportation.

11 CHMN STAFFORD: And so we're -- Where's the
12 location for the hearing? It's somewhere in the area;
13 correct?

14 MS. GRABEL: It is somewhere in the area.
15 It's actually going to be at the Northwest Fire District
16 Training Center, which is on Camino de Fuego in Tucson.

17 CHMN STAFFORD: That's in Tucson?

18 MS. GRABEL: Yes.

19 CHMN STAFFORD: And how far is that from the
20 site?

21 MS. GRABEL: I don't know the answer to
22 that.

23 Clark or Adriana, do you know?

24 MS. MARINEZ: It's about eight miles south.

25 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Now, what's the --

1 what do we have for the dates of the hearing here?

2 MS. GRABEL: June 16th through the 20th, if
3 it lasts that long.

4 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And then so you will
5 have lodging for the out-of-town-committee members. And
6 where will that be?

7 MS. GRABEL: That's at the Comfort Inn and
8 Suites. And there is a cutoff date for the room block of
9 May 30th.

10 I can have Patti in my office send Tod the
11 relevant information if she hasn't already.

12 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And then can you
13 get -- we need to get the virtual link for the hearing to
14 me by the time of the prehearing conference so we can make
15 sure the members have it.

16 We'll have three new members for this
17 hearing.

18 MS. GRABEL: I saw that.

19 CHMN STAFFORD: We may have to follow up
20 with you a few times to make sure that they get their
21 hotel rooms booked because I'm sure -- they're going to be
22 new to the process, so --

23 MS. GRABEL: Okay.

24 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. And you'll have
25 a plan for a tour?

1 MS. GRABEL: Yes, we do have a plan for a
2 tour. If we're going to take one it would be on Tuesday
3 morning.

4 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay.

5 MS. GRABEL: We will also have a virtual
6 tour, of course, as we always do.

7 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Yeah, I think the
8 members' interest in a tour is directly proportional to
9 the amount of public comment they get or anticipate.
10 So --

11 Let's see. How long do you think the tour
12 would take?

13 MS. GRABEL: Not very long. Probably half a
14 day. Couple hours.

15 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay.

16 MS. GRABEL: Adriana, what do you think?

17 MS. MARINEZ: Three hours. Two to three
18 hours.

19 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And then, Tod, what
20 is the prehearing conference date?

21 MR. BREWER: We have this scheduled for
22 June the 6th at 11:00, Mr. Chairman.

23 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. Is there any debated
24 litigation or disputes about the project?

25 MS. GRABEL: No, sir.

1 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. We will do the
2 procedural order.

3 You've already sent us the draft CEC in
4 Word?

5 MS. GRABEL: I don't know if you have that.
6 We sent you a draft notice of hearing. We will have a
7 draft CEC to you before the prehearing conference.

8 CHMN STAFFORD: No CEC.

9 Okay. And then so we will do public
10 comment. Do you anticipate public officials wanting to
11 make public comment on this case?

12 MS. GRABEL: I don't believe so, but I ask
13 Ms. Martinez to correct me if I'm wrong.

14 MS. MARINEZ: Not -- No, none expected. But
15 there could be -- There were a couple council members who
16 attended the first open house: Council Member Ziegler,
17 who I believe is either -- I think she's vice mayor now --
18 and then Council Member --

19 Officer?

20 MS. KNOBLOCK: Officer.

21 MS. MARINEZ: Officer, Council Member
22 Officer. They were both at the first meeting, so it's --
23 it's possible, but I don't -- I don't expect it.

24 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay.

25 MR. BRYNER: In general they are in favor of

1 the project, so if it was -- if they did show up, I would
2 expect it to be positive comments.

3 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And then what's the
4 permit status for the application? It's just the line, so
5 I'm assuming that it's a permitted use for whatever the
6 zoning is for both counties.

7 MS. GRABEL: We do need a Town conditional
8 use permit for the switchyard we're building, the Owl Head
9 Ranch switchyard. And there will probably be some sort of
10 NEPA analysis related to a crossing of the Central Arizona
11 Project canal. I anticipate it will be just a categorical
12 exclusion, but that still has to occur. And then we'll
13 need some right-of-way permits from various entities:
14 ADOT, the railroad, and Kinder Morgan.

15 (Reporter clarification.)

16 MS. GRABEL: I'm sorry, Jill. Kinder
17 Morgan, the gas pipeline.

18 CHMN STAFFORD: And so I'm assuming we'll
19 have Peaks Audio doing the setup for the hearing.

20 MS. GRABEL: Yep.

21 CHMN STAFFORD: And so we'll do the -- all
22 the exhibits on iPads for the members?

23 MS. GRABEL: Correct.

24 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. And it's -- The
25 filing fee is a thousand dollars for this; right?

1 MS. GRABEL: That's correct.

2 CHMN STAFFORD: The Commission's obligated
3 by statute to pay the costs of reporting and transcribing
4 any application hearing, as well as the actual and
5 necessary expenses incurred by the committee members in
6 connection with their participation in the committee
7 meetings from the filing fee. Costs and fees exceeding
8 the amount of the applicant's fee may, with the
9 applicant's consent, be incurred by the committee and
10 charged to the applicant.

11 Does the applicant consent to pay the
12 Commission those costs in excess of the filing fee?

13 MS. GRABEL: It does.

14 CHMN STAFFORD: Yeah, thank you.

15 All right. And so we will have the --
16 Turnaround is three days for the transcripts.

17 Is there anything else we need to cover,
18 Ms. Grabel?

19 MS. GRABEL: Did you want to have for the
20 record where we will leave copies of the CEC application
21 and notice of hearing?

22 CHMN STAFFORD: Yes. Thank you.

23 MS. GRABEL: Sure. So we plan to leave them
24 at the Arizona Corporation Commission's Phoenix office,
25 the project website obviously, the Marana library, and the

1 Marana Municipal Complex. And the Marana Senior Center.

2 CHMN STAFFORD: The last one was senior
3 center; right?

4 MS. GRABEL: Correct.

5 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay. All right. Is there
6 anything else we need, Tod?

7 MR. BREWER: No, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

8 CHMN STAFFORD: Quick question. I looked at
9 the -- at the notice of hearing. It says it's a seven- to
10 nine-mile 138 kV double circuit. But then there is a
11 .5-mile 138 kV single circuit?

12 MS. GRABEL: Yeah. It's a little weird
13 because there is a line right now that's being -- that's a
14 line that's in partnership between Arizona Electric Power
15 Cooperative and TEP that's currently under construction.
16 So this project extends TEP's portion of that line. So
17 that's where you get the seven- to nine-mile. But then
18 the half mile is an interconnection into a sub --
19 substation or switchyard that's connecting to the line
20 that's currently under construction. So they are not
21 contiguous, they -- they are separated by a line that's
22 currently being built by AEPCO.

23 (Reporter clarification.)

24 MS. GRABEL: AEPCO, A-E-P-C-O.

25 CHMN STAFFORD: And that stands for Arizona

1 Electric Power Cooperative.

2 All right. And then you said there is a
3 switchyard as well?

4 MS. GRABEL: Correct. There's two -- two --
5 there's the Owl Head switchyard that's being constructed,
6 and then I think Grier is the substation.

7 Was that correct, Adriana?

8 MS. MARINEZ: Yes.

9 CHMN STAFFORD: Are they -- are they part of
10 the application as well?

11 MS. GRABEL: They are.

12 CHMN STAFFORD: Okay.

13 MS. GRABEL: Well, the switchyard is. The
14 substation is not.

15 CHMN STAFFORD: Right. So it's one
16 switchyard and one substation or two switchyards?

17 MS. GRABEL: One switchyard and one
18 substation.

19 CHMN STAFFORD: One switchyard. Substations
20 are nonjurisdictional.

21 All right. Anything else, Ms. Grabel? I
22 think that's it. Don't you?

23 MS. GRABEL: I think that's it from us.

24 CHMN STAFFORD: All right. Well, then I
25 will see you all on June 6th.

1 MS. GRABEL: Excellent.

2 CHMN STAFFORD: Thanks. Have a good
3 weekend.

4 MS. GRABEL: You, too. Bye-bye.

5 CHMN STAFFORD: We're adjourned.

6 (Whereupon, at 11:12 a.m. the proceedings
7 ended.)

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss.
2 COUNTY OF YAVAPAI)

3 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceedings are a
4 full, true, and accurate record of the proceedings, all
5 done to the best of my skill and ability; that the
6 proceedings were transcribed and reduced to print under my
7 direction.

8 I CERTIFY that I am in no way related to, nor
9 employed by any of the parties hereto, and have no
10 interest in the outcome thereof.

11 I CERTIFY that I have complied with the ethical
12 obligations set forth in ACJA 7-206(F)(3) and ACJA
13 7-206(J)(1)(g)(1) and (2).

14 Dated at Prescott, Arizona, this 27th day of April,
15 2025.

16 

17 JILL MARNELL
18 Certified Reporter #50021
19 Registered Professional Reporter

20 * * * * *

21 I CERTIFY that GLENNIE REPORTING SERVICES, LLC, has
22 complied with the provisions set forth in ACJA
23 7-206(J)(1)(g)(1)

24 

25 GLENNIE REPORTING SERVICES, LLC
Registered Reporting Firm
Arizona RRF No. R1035