






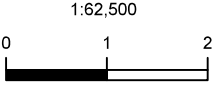



EXHIBIT
PH-1
LS-261 5-19-2026

 Location Santa Rita Connection Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  In-Service 138kV Substation  Planned 138kV Substation 	<p>Surface Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Arizona State Land  Tohono O'odham Nation, San Xavier District 	<p>Proposed Route Alternatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Route 1  Route 3
 1:62,500 Miles		 This map is for planning purposes only. TEP and UNS Energy make no warranty of its accuracy. <small>Sources: Esri, UNS, TEP, BLM, and Pima County GIS, Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N Basemap: Esri USA Topo</small>	



Meghan H. Grabel
Direct: 602-640-9399
Office: 602-640-9000
mgrabel@omlaw.com

2929 North Central Avenue
Suite 2000
Phoenix, Arizona 85012
omlaw.com

April 24, 2026

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT

Arizona State Land Department
Attn: Robyn Sahid, Commissioner
1110 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007



**Re: Tucson Electric Power Company - Santa Rita Connection Project
Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility
Docket No. L-00000C-26-0125-00261
Notice of Hearing**

To Whom It May Concern:

The attached Notice of Hearing was filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission on April 22, 2026. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360.04, the Arizona State Land Department has been identified as an affected area of jurisdiction. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Meghan H. Grabel'.

Meghan H. Grabel

MGH:pdp
Enclosure

**BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT
AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE**

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY IN
CONFORMANCE WITH THE
REQUIREMENTS OF A.R.S. § 40-360, ET SEQ.,
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING THE 138
KILOVOLT (KV) SANTA RITA CONNECTION
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT, WHICH
INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW
138 KV TRANSMISSION LINE ORIGINATING
AT THE EXISTING SONORAN SUBSTATION
(SECTION 2, TOWNSHIP 16 S, RANGE 14 E),
AND TERMINATING AT THE PLANNED
SANTA RITA SUBSTATION (SECTION 29,
TOWNSHIP 17 S, RANGE 14 E), EACH
LOCATED WITHIN PIMA COUNTY,
ARIZONA.

Docket No. L-00000C-26-0125-00261

Case No. 261

NOTICE OF HEARING

NOTICE OF HEARING

A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD before the Arizona Power Plant and
Transmission Line Siting Committee (“Committee”) regarding the Application of Tucson
Electric Power Company (“TEP” or “Applicant”) for a Certificate of Environmental
Compatibility (“CEC”) authorizing construction of the Santa Rita Connection
Transmission Line Project (“Project”).

The Project will involve the construction of a new, approximately 13-to-17-mile
138 kilovolt (“kV”) transmission line in Pima County, Arizona from the existing Sonoran
Substation to the planned Santa Rita Substation. A map of the Project is attached as
Exhibit A.

The hearing will be held at the Desert Diamond Casino Conference Center, 7350
S. Nogales Hwy, Tucson, Arizona 85756. **The hearing will begin on Tuesday, May 26,
2026, at 1:00 p.m., and will continue as necessary through Friday, May 29, 2026,
beginning at 9:00 a.m. each day at the same location until the completion of the
hearing.** If any revisions to the hearing schedule are required, they will be noticed on the
Project webpage at: <https://www.tep.com/santa-rita-connection/>, and on the Arizona



1 Corporation Commission (“ACC”) website at: [https://www.azcc.gov/arizona-power-](https://www.azcc.gov/arizona-power-plant/hearings-and-meetings)
2 [plant/hearings-and-meetings](https://www.azcc.gov/arizona-power-plant/hearings-and-meetings).

3 **PUBLIC COMMENT WILL BE TAKEN IN A SPECIAL EVENING**
4 **SESSION ON TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2026, BEGINNING AT 5:30 P.M., VIA**
5 **TELEPHONE, ZOOM, OR IN PERSON AT THE DESERT DIAMOND CASINO**
6 **CONFERENCE CENTER, 7350 S. NOGALES HWY, TUCSON, ARIZONA 85756.**
7 **PUBLIC COMMENT MAY ALSO BE TAKEN AT OTHER TIMES DURING THE**
8 **HEARING AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE**
9 **COMMITTEE.**

10 **THE PUBLIC CAN WATCH THE HEARING ONLINE, LISTEN TO THE**
11 **HEARING VIA TELEPHONE, OR ATTEND IN PERSON.** At least 24 hours in
12 advance of the hearing, information regarding online and telephone hearing access, as well
13 as any additional details regarding safety protocols or other revisions to the hearing
14 schedule will be noticed on the Project webpage at [https://www.tep.com/santa-rita-](https://www.tep.com/santa-rita-connection/)
15 [connection/](https://www.tep.com/santa-rita-connection/).

16 The Chairman may, at his discretion, recess the hearing to a time and place to be
17 announced during the hearing, or to be determined after the recess. The date, time, and
18 place at which the hearing will be resumed will be posted on the above-noted Project
19 webpage and the ACC website. **NOTE: NOTICE OF ANY RESUMED HEARING**
20 **WILL BE GIVEN; HOWEVER, PUBLISHED NOTICE OF SUCH A RESUMED**
21 **HEARING IS NOT REQUIRED.**

22 If the Committee decides to conduct a tour of the Project, notice that includes a
23 map and itinerary of any such tour will be available at the hearing and posted on the Project
24 and ACC websites. Members of the public may follow the Committee on the tour. During
25 the tour, the Committee may hear testimony at stops on the tour concerning what is visible
26 at the stops and the relevance of the location and view to the Project. No other discussion
27 or deliberation concerning the Application will occur during the tour. A court reporter or
28 recording device will record any testimony taken on the tour for transcription. Public

1 health and safety protocols specific for the tour will be included on the itinerary. If the
2 Committee decides not to take a tour, the hearing will continue as scheduled.

3 Maps of the Project site and detailed information about Project facilities are
4 contained in the Application, which is available for inspection at the following locations:

- 5 • ACC Docket Control Center, Phoenix Office,
6 1200 West Washington Street, Suite 108, Phoenix AZ 85007
- 7 • Sahuarita Library, 670 W Sahuarita Rd, Sahuarita, AZ 85629
- 8 • Conrad Joyner-Green Valley Library, 601 N La Cañada Dr, Green Valley, AZ
9 85614
- 10 • The Project webpage: <https://www.tep.com/santa-rita-connection/>

11 The Applicant will make available final copies of the pre-filing conference,
12 prehearing conference, and hearing transcripts at each of the above locations and Project
13 webpage.

14 Each county, municipal government, and state agency interested in the Project that
15 desires to be a party to the proceedings shall, not less than ten (10) days before the date
16 set for the hearing, file a Notice of Intent to Become a Party with the Director of Utilities,
17 ACC, 1200 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007.

18 Any domestic non-profit corporation or association formed in whole or in part: to
19 promote conservation or natural beauty; to protect the environment, personal health, or
20 other biological values; to preserve historical sites; to promote consumer interests; to
21 represent commercial and industrial groups; or to promote the orderly development of the
22 area in which the Project is to be located that desires to become a party to the proceedings
23 shall, not less than ten (10) days before the date set for the hearing, file a Notice of Intent
24 to Become a Party with the Director of Utilities, ACC, 1200 West Washington Street,
25 Phoenix, AZ 85007.

26 The Committee may make other persons parties to the proceedings at any time.
27 Any person may make a limited appearance at a hearing by filing a statement in writing
28 with the Director of the Utilities Division, ACC, 1200 West Washington Street, Phoenix,

1 AZ 85007, and the Chairman of the Committee at 2005 North Central Avenue, Phoenix,
2 AZ 85004, not less than five (5) days before the date set for the hearing. A person making
3 a limited appearance will not be a party or have the right to present testimony or cross-
4 examine witnesses.

5 This proceeding is governed by Arizona Revised Statutes (“A.R.S.”) §§ 40-360 to
6 40-360.13 and Arizona Administrative Code R14-3-201 to R14-3-220. No substantive
7 communication, not in the public record, may be made to any member of the Committee.
8 The written decision of the Committee will be submitted to the Commission pursuant to
9 A.R.S. § 40-360.07. Any person intending to be a party to the proceeding on the matter
10 before the Commission must be a party to the proceeding before the Committee.

11 ORDERED this 17th day of April, 2026.

12
13 

14
15 _____
16 Adam Stafford, Chairman
17 Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee
18 Assistant Attorney General
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1 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

2 ORIGINAL of the foregoing e-filed this 22nd day of April, 2026 with:

3
4 Docket Control
5 Arizona Corporation Commission
6 1200 West Washington Street
7 Phoenix, AZ 85007

8 COPIES of the above emailed this 22nd day of April, 2026:

9 Thomas Van Flein, General Counsel
10 Arizona Corporation Commission
11 1200 West Washington Street
12 Phoenix, AZ 85007
13 legaldiv@azcc.gov
14 *Counsel for Legal Division Staff*

15 Britton Baxter
16 Ranelle Paladino
17 Co-Directors, Utilities Division
18 1200 West Washington Street
19 Phoenix, AZ 85007
20 UtilitiesDiv@azcc.gov

21 Meghan H. Grabel
22 Elias Ancharski
23 Osborn Maledon
24 2929 N. Central Ave, 21st Floor
25 Phoenix, Arizona 85012
26 mgrabel@omlaw.com
27 eancharski@omlaw.com
28 *Counsel for Applicant*

29 Megan C. Hill
30 Tucson Electric Power
31 88 E. Broadway Blvd.
32 MS HQE910
33 Tucson, AZ 85701
34 Megan.Hill@tep.com
35 *Counsel for Applicant*

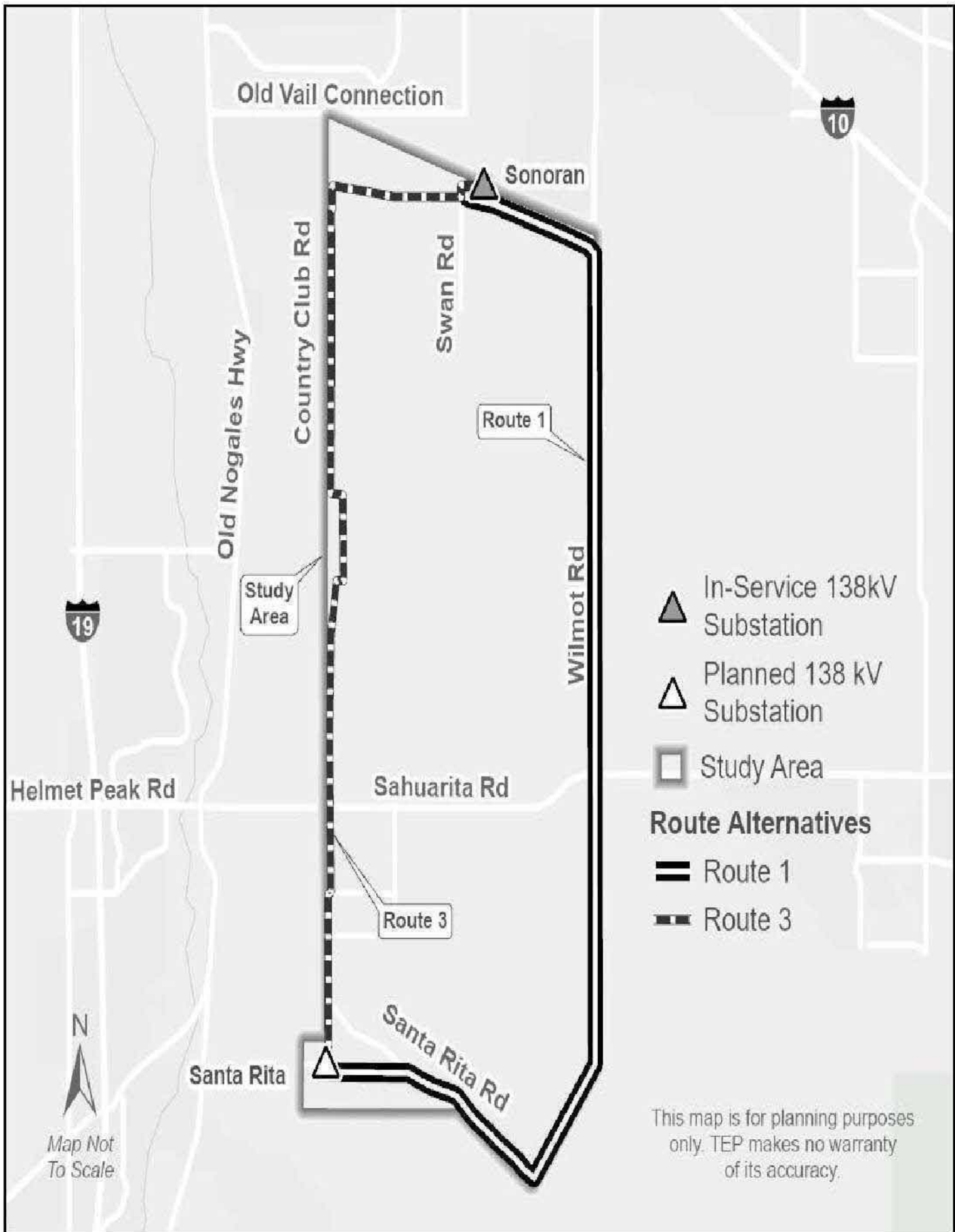
36 ///

1 Lisa L. Glennie
2 Glennie Reporting Services, LLC
3 1555 East Oranewood
4 Phoenix, AZ 85020
5 admin@glennie-reporting.com

6 By: T. Brewer
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Exhibit A



CERTIFIED MAIL



7015 0640 0006 5701 3692

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The Phoenix Plaza
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Arizona State Land Department
Attn: Robyn Sahid, Commissioner
1110 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

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Extra Services & Fees (check box, add fee as appropriate)	\$	5.30
<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (hardcopy)	\$	4.40
<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (electronic)	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Required	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery	\$	

Postmark Here

Postage 2.17 \$11.87
Total \$

Arizona State Land Department
Attn: Robyn Sahid, Commissioner
1110 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

PS Form 3800, September 2015 Edition Instructions

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3. *MFG*
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

Arizona State Land Department
Attn: Robyn Sahid, Commissioner
1110 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007



9590 9402 4354 8190 5441 62

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

7015 0640 0006 5701 3692

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

Vicky Jones

- Agent
- Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)

Vicky Jones

C. Date of Delivery

D. Is delivery address different from item 1?

Yes

If YES, enter delivery address below:

No

3. Service Type

- Adult Signature
- Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
- Certified Mail®
- Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
- Collect on Delivery
- Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery
- Insured Mail
- Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)
- Priority Mail Express®
- Registered Mail™
- Registered Mail Restricted Delivery
- Return Receipt for Merchandise
- Signature Confirmation™
- Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery



Meghan H. Grabel
Direct: 602-640-9399
Office: 602-640-9000
mgrabel@omlaw.com

2929 North Central Avenue
Suite 2000
Phoenix, Arizona 85012
omlaw.com

April 24, 2026

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT

Pima County Board of Supervisors
Attn: Melissa Manriquez, Clerk
130 W Congress St, 1st Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

Re: **Tucson Electric Power Company - Santa Rita Connection Project
Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility
Docket No. L-00000C-26-0125-00261
Notice of Hearing**

To Whom It May Concern:

The attached Notice of Hearing was filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission on April 22, 2026. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360.04, Pima County has been identified as an affected area of jurisdiction. Please let us know if you have any questions.

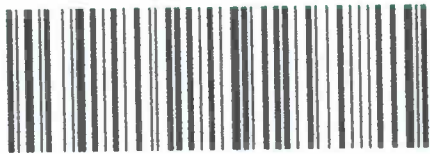
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Meghan H. Grabel'.

Meghan H. Grabel

MGH:pdp
Enclosure

CERTIFIED MAIL



7015 0640 0006 5701 3708



The Phoenix Plaza
2929 North Central Avenue
Suite 2000
Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2793

Pima County Board of Supervisors
Attn: Melissa Manriquez, Clerk
130 W Congress St, 1st Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

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<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (hardcopy)	\$	4.40
<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (electronic)	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Required	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery	\$	

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Total Pima County Board of Supervisors

Sent Attn: Melissa Manriquez, Clerk
Street 130 W Congress St, 1st Floor
City, Tucson, AZ 85701

PS Form 3800, April 2012 www.usps.com for instructions

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY																
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. <i>MHC</i> ■ Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. ■ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits. 	<p>A. Signature <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addressee</p> <p>B. Received by (Printed Name) _____ C. Date of Delivery <i>9/27/08</i></p>																
<p>1. Article Addressed to: Pima County Board of Supervisors Attn: Melissa Manriquez, Clerk 130 W Congress St, 1st Floor Tucson, AZ 85701</p>	<p>D. Is delivery address different from item 1? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If YES, enter delivery address below: <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>																
 9590 9402 4354 8190 5442 16	<p>3. Service Type</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Priority Mail Express®</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Registered Mail™</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail®</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Registered Mail Restricted Delivery</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt for Merchandise</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Collect on Delivery</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Signature Confirmation™</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature	<input type="checkbox"/> Priority Mail Express®	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Registered Mail™	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail®	<input type="checkbox"/> Registered Mail Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt for Merchandise	<input type="checkbox"/> Collect on Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Signature Confirmation™	<input type="checkbox"/> Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail		<input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Registered Mail™																
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail®	<input type="checkbox"/> Registered Mail Restricted Delivery																
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt for Merchandise																
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<input type="checkbox"/> Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery																
<input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail																	
<input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)																	
<p>2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) 7015 0640 0006 5701 3708</p>																	
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Sent to: Pima County Board of Supervisors
Attn: Melissa Manriquez, Clerk
130 W Congress St, 1st Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

PS Form 3811, July 2007



Meghan H. Grabel
Direct: 602-640-9399
Office: 602-640-9000
mgrabel@omlaw.com

2929 North Central Avenue
Suite 2000
Phoenix, Arizona 85012
omlaw.com

April 24, 2026

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT

City of Tucson
Marisa Stoller, City Clerk
City Hall
255 W. Alameda
Tucson, AZ 85701

**Re: Tucson Electric Power Company - Santa Rita Connection Project
Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility
Docket No. L-00000C-26-0125-00261
Notice of Hearing**

To Whom It May Concern:

The attached Notice of Hearing was filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission on April 22, 2026. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360.04, the City of Tucson has been identified as an affected area of jurisdiction. Please let us know if you have any questions.

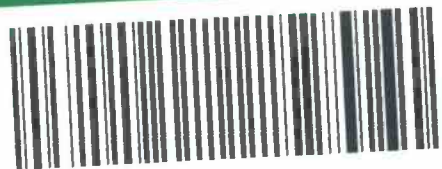
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Meghan H. Grabel'.

Meghan H. Grabel

MGH:pdp
Enclosure

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Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2793

City of Tucson
Marisa Stoller, City Clerk
City Hall
255 W. Alameda
Tucson, AZ 85701

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<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Required	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery	\$	
Postage	\$	2.17 #11.87
City of Tucson		
Total	\$	
Sent		City Hall
Street		255 W. Alameda
City		Tucson, AZ 85701

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... and 3.
 ... name and address on the reverse
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 ■ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece,
 or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:
 City of Tucson
 Marisa Stoller, City Clerk
 City Hall
 255 W. Alameda
 Tucson, AZ 85701

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)
 7018 1830 0001 0020 2784

3. Service Type
 Adult Signature
 Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
 Certified Mail®
 Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
 Collect on Delivery
 Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery
 Insured Mail
 Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)

Priority Mail Express®
 Registered Mail™
 Registered Mail Restricted Delivery
 Return Receipt for Merchandise
 Signature Confirmation™
 Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery

A. Signature
 X *V Vasquez* Agent Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)
V. Vasquez

C. Date of Delivery
4-28-12

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? Yes
 If YES, enter delivery address below: No

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 Return Receipt (hardcopy) \$ *4.40*
 Return Receipt (electronic) \$ _____
 Certified Mail Restricted Delivery \$ _____
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Postage *2.17 #11.87*
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Total
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Sent City of Tucson
 Marisa Stoller, City Clerk
 City Hall
 Street 255 W. Alameda
 City Tucson, AZ 85701

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PS Form 3800, April 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9047 See Reverse for Instructions

7018 1830 0001 0020 2784



Meghan H. Grabel
Direct: 602-640-9399
Office: 602-640-9000
mgrabel@omlaw.com

2929 North Central Avenue
Suite 2000
Phoenix, Arizona 85012
omlaw.com

April 24, 2026

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT

Town of Sahuarita
Lisa Cole
Town Clerk
375 W Sahuarita Center Way
Sahuarita, AZ 85629

Re: **Tucson Electric Power Company - Santa Rita Connection Project
Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility
Docket No. L-00000C-26-0125-00261
Notice of Hearing**

To Whom It May Concern:

The attached Notice of Hearing was filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission on April 22, 2026. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360.04, the Town of Sahuarita has been identified as an affected area of jurisdiction. Please let us know if you have any questions.

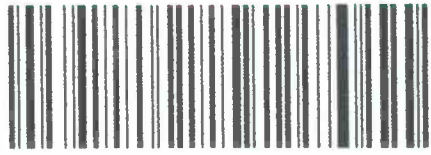
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Meghan H. Grabel'.

Meghan H. Grabel

MGH:pdp
Enclosure

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2929 North Central Avenue
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Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2793

Town of Sahuarita
Lisa Cole
Town Clerk
375 W Sahuarita Center Way
Sahuarita, AZ 85629

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Extra Services & Fees (check box, add fees as appropriate)	\$ 5.30
<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (hardcopy)	\$ 4.40
<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (electronic)	\$
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<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Required	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery	\$

Postmark
Here

Postage \$ 2.17
Total \$ 11.87
Town of Sahuarita

Sent by Lisa Cole
Town Clerk
Street 375 W Sahuarita Center Way
City Sahuarita, AZ 85629

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

Town of Sahuarita
Lisa Cole
Town Clerk
375 W Sahuarita Center Way
Sahuarita, AZ 85629



9590 9402 4354 8190 5441 55

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

7015 0640 0006 5701 3685

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

X

- Agent
- Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)

C. Date of Delivery

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? Yes
If YES, enter delivery address below: No

J. Service Type

- Adult Signature
- Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
- Certified Mail®
- Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
- Collect on Delivery
- Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery
- Insured Mail
- Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)
- Priority Mail Express®
- Registered Mail™
- Registered Mail Restricted Delivery
- Return Receipt for Merchandise
- Signature Confirmation™
- Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery



Tucson Electric Power

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Santa Rita Connection

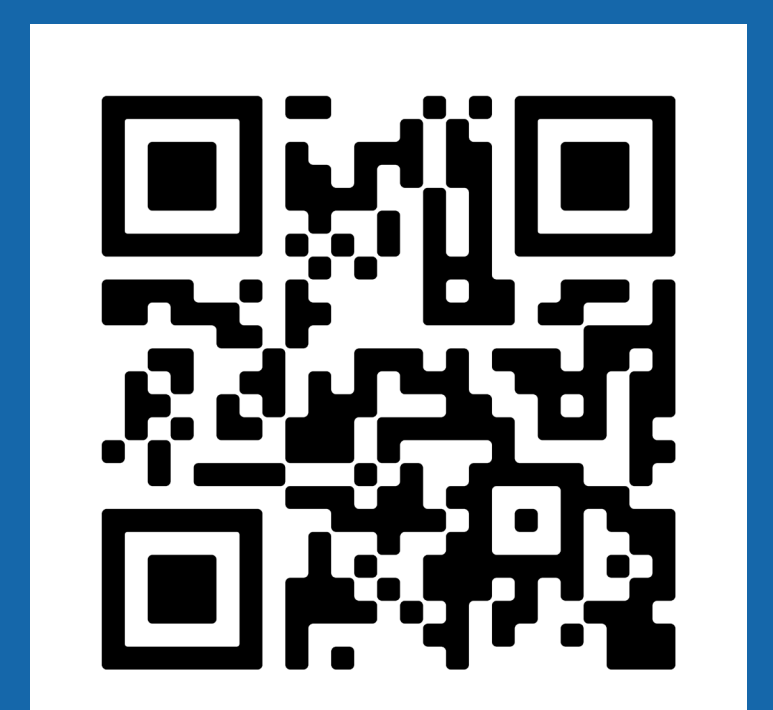
Tucson Electric Power invites the public to an upcoming hearing before the Arizona Power Plant & Transmission Line Siting Committee

Date	Time	Location
May 26, 2026	1PM - 5PM	Desert Diamond Casino Conference Center
May 27-29, 2026	9AM - 5PM	7350 S Nogales Hwy

**In-person or virtual public comments can be made
Tuesday, May 26, beginning at 5:30 p.m.**

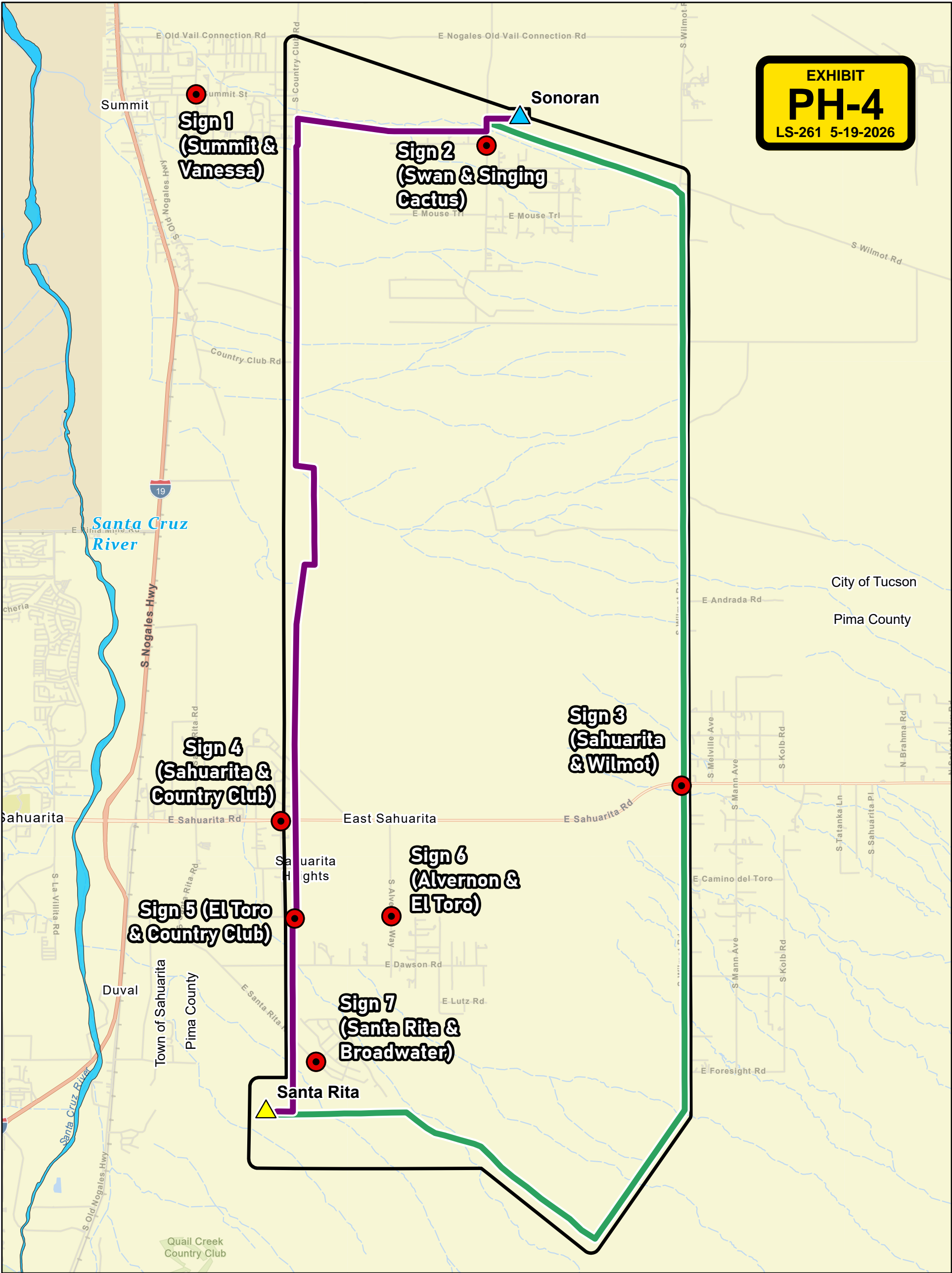


For information on commenting virtually, please visit:
tep.com/santa-rita-connection or call 520-770-7520







Arizona Corporation Commission Docket Number: L-00000C-26-0125-00261



EXHIBIT
PH-4
 LS-261 5-19-2026



TEP
 Tucson Electric Power
Road Sign Locations

Santa Rita Connection Project

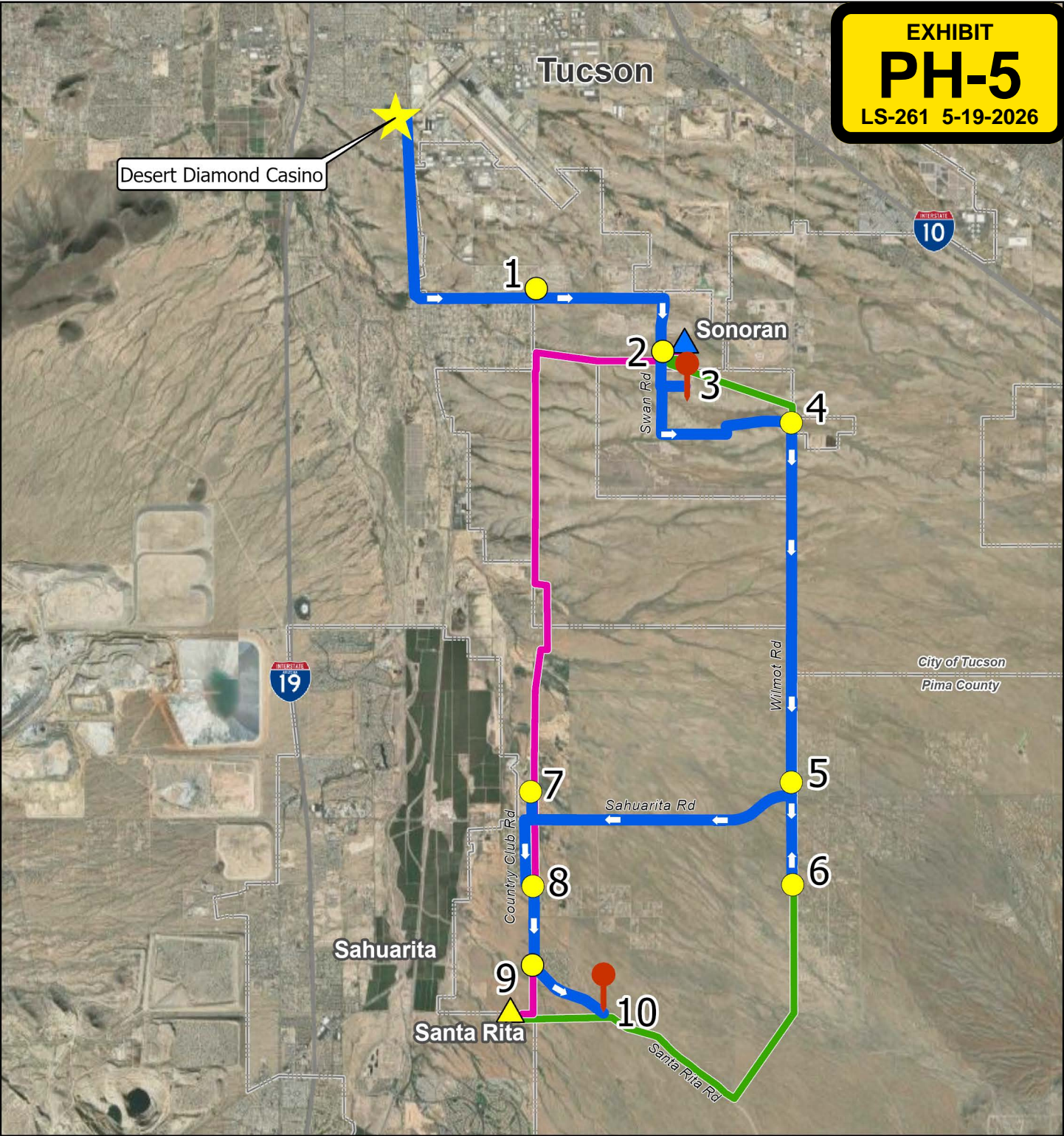
-  in-Service 138kV Substation
-  Planned 138kV Substation
-  Road Sign Location
-  Study Area

- Route Alternatives**
-  Preferred Route
 -  Alternative Route



This map is for planning purposes only. TEP and UNS Energy make no warranty of its accuracy.

Sources: Esri, UNS, TEP, BLM, and Pima County GIS.
 Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N
 Basemap: Esri World Imagery



Santa Rita Connection

Tour Map



- Route 1
- Route 3
- Tour Route
- Tour Narration Point
- Tour Stop



NOT TO SCALE

This map is for planning purposes only. TEP and UNS Energy make no warranty of its accuracy.

Santa Rita Connection Project Line Siting Hearing Project Tour

Committee Member pick-up at the Desert Diamond Casino

Desert Diamond Casino, 7350 S Nogales Hwy, Tucson, AZ 85756

④ Drive south on business I-19 (Nogales Highway). Turn left on S Old Nogales Highway and in 0.1 miles turn left onto Old Vail Connection Road. In 1.8 miles pause at S Country Club Road.

1. Drive-By: Old Vail Connection Road at Country Club (Route 3)

On the right, looking to the south, coming from the east to the west is the existing Sonoran to South 138 kV transmission line, at this point the line turns to the-south. Further to the south, in a little over a mile, Route 3 would come from the east, co-located on the 46 kV sub-transmission line, and then turn to the south, and co-locate on the Sonoran to South 138 kV transmission line.

④ Proceed 2 miles to S Swan Road. Turn right. In 0.9 miles pause at the driveway to Sonoran Substation.

2. Drive-By: Sonoran Substation (both routes)

On the left, looking east, is the Sonoran Substation. Both Routes 1 and 3 would exit the substation to the south heading west towards Swan Road. As we continue past the substation you see the wooden H-frame structures of the WAPA line that are planned to be rebuilt next year to a 115/230 kV double circuit. Just past this point Route 1 will turn to the east and parallel this line all the way to Wilmot Road (approximately 2 miles).

On the right, Route 3 continues to the west, co-located on the 46 kV line.

④ Continue south on S Swan Road. Turn left onto Whispering Sage Road. Stop in 0.25 mile at the TEP tent.

3. Stop: KOP-2 (Route 1)

Exit the bus at this location and gather under the tent.

4. Pause: Nogales Tap – WAPA Substation (Route 1)

To the left, looking north, is the Nogales Tap substation. The two prominent structures on both sides of the road are where Route 1 would co-locate with the soon-to-be-rebuilt, Vail to Kantor 138 kV transmission line. Route 1 would continue parallel to Wilmot Road, co-located on the Vail to Kantor 138 kV transmission line, for the next 9 miles, occupying the current 100-foot-wide right-of-way (ROW), and in the same alignment.

④ Drive south on Wilmot Rd for 5.8 miles.

5. Drive-By: Wilmot Rd. and Sahuarita Road (Route 1)

We are now approaching Sahuarita Road, a Pima County designated scenic major road. Route 1 and the existing line would cross Sahuarita Road and continue to the south in the existing ROW.

④ Drive south on Wilmot Road for 1.4 miles to Placita Madera Antigua.

Santa Rita Connection Project Line Siting Hearing Project Tour

6. Drive-By: Placita Medera Antigua (Route 1)

As the bus turns around, note the rural residential character of the neighborhood where the Vail to Kantor 138 kV transmission line exists today. The character of this residential area continues to the south for the next 2 miles until it reaches the end of Wilmot Road and the northern boundary of the Santa Rita Experimental Range.

Route 1 would continue on the Vail to Kantor 138 kV transmission line for another 1.6 miles towards Santa Rita Road. At Santa Rita Road, Route 1 would co-locate with the planned Copper World 138 kV transmission line, and head northwest along the north side of Santa Rita Road.

Ⓜ Make a U-turn. Drive 1.4 miles north on Wilmot Rd. Turn left on Sahuarita Road and drive west for 4.2 miles. Turn right onto Sahuarita Acres Road and drive 0.4 miles.

7. Pause: Sahuarita Acres Road (Route 3)

On the right, looking east, is a utility corridor. The line furthest west is the AEPCO 230 kV line, located on wooden H-Frame structures. Adjacent to the east are tan colored monopoles, which support the TEP 138 kV line. This line would be rebuilt to double-circuit capable structures to accommodate Route 3. The rebuild would be located within the same alignment and existing ROW.

Ⓜ Turn left on S Ormes Sunset Place, left on E Yaney Lane, and right back onto Sahuarita Acres Road, and return to Sahuarita Road. Turn right, and in 0.1 miles turn left onto Country Club Road. Drive south along Country Club Road for 1 mile. Turn left and in 0.1 miles pause at El Toro Road.

8. Pause: Intersection of Toro Rd and Country Club Rd. (Route 3)

To the left, looking northwest, are two transmission lines crossing southwest across both El Toro Road and Country Club Road. The TEP 138 kV line is on tan monopoles, and an AEPCO 230 kV line is on the larger metal H-Frame replacement structures. Coordination would be required with AEPCO to raise their structures to allow the double-circuit rebuild for Route 3 to pass underneath the 230 kV conductors.

Ⓜ Drive south on Country Club Road for 1.25 miles to Santa Rita Road. Pause at the intersection.

9. Drive-By: Country Club Rd and Santa Rita Rd (Route 3)

The Route 3 alignment continues south for another 0.75 mile to the planned Santa Rita Substation.

Ⓜ Turn left onto Santa Rita Road. Proceed east for 1.4 miles. Stop at the TEP tent.

10. Stop: KOP-12 Santa Rita Rd and Corto Rd (Route 1)

Exit the bus and gather under the tent.

Tour end.

1	Nicole Hill	Designee for Director, Governor’s Energy Office
2	Michael Comstock	Designee of the Chairman, Arizona Corporation Commission (“Commission”)
3	Leonard Drago	Designee for Director, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (“ADEQ”)
4	Clint Chandler	Designee for Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources (“ADWR”)
5	Roman Fontes	Appointed Member, representing counties
6	Sal DiCiccio	Appointed Member, representing cities and towns
7	Margaret “Toby” Little	Appointed Member, representing the general public
8	Gabby Saucedo Mercer	Appointed Member, representing the general public
9	Douglas Fant	Appointed Member, representing the general public
10		

11 The Applicant was represented by Meghan H. Grabel and Elias Ancharski of
12 Osborn Maledon, P.A. and in-house counsel for TEP, Megan C. Hill. No parties
13 requested intervention pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-360.05.

14 At the conclusion of the hearing, the Committee, after considering the
15 (i) Application, (ii) evidence, testimony, and exhibits presented by the Applicant, and
16 (iii) comments of the public, and being advised of the legal requirements of A.R.S. §§
17 40-360 through 40-360.13, upon motion duly made and seconded, voted **X** to **X** to grant
18 Applicant, its successors and assigns, this Certificate for the construction of the Santa
19 Rita Connection Project (“Project”) as described below.

20 **B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

21 The Project will involve the construction of an approximately 13-to 17-mile 138
22 kilovolt (“kV”) transmission line to connect TEP’s existing Sonoran Substation in Pima
23 County to TEP’s planned Santa Rita Substation in Santa Cruz County. A map of the
24 final approved Project, including the Project corridor, is included as **Exhibit A**. The
25 proposed width of the corridor for the Project is up to 1,500 feet wide to allow for
26 routing flexibility. In areas outside of existing rights-of-way (“ROW”), the final ROW
27 for the for Project will be no greater than 100 feet wide.

28

1 **Route and Corridor**

2 *Route 1*

3 Route 1 originates at the existing Sonoran Substation in Pima County, where it
4 exits from a bay on the south side. The route proceeds west for approximately 0.3 miles
5 to Swan Road. The line extends south on Swan Road and crosses beneath the
6 TEP/Western Area Power Administration (“WAPA”) 230/115 kV line. After crossing
7 the TEP/WAPA 230/115 kV line, the route turns east-southeast and continues parallel
8 to and south of the TEP/WAPA line, as a new single-circuit line built on double-circuit
9 capable structures for approximately 2 miles to Wilmot Road. At Wilmot Road, the
10 line will be co-located on existing double-circuit capable structures owned by UNSE
11 and continue south for approximately 9.6 miles. It will continue on these shared
12 structures as it turns to the southwest for 1.6 miles to Santa Rita Road. At Santa Rita
13 Road, the line will turn to the northwest, co-locating on existing double-circuit
14 structures. Route 1 will continue on the existing double-circuit structures to the
15 northwest, paralleling Santa Rita Road, for approximately 2.5 miles, then turn to the
16 west at the Corto Road alignment where it will continue on the existing structures for
17 approximately 1 mile to the planned Santa Rita Substation. Route 1 will enter the Santa
18 Rita Substation from the Corto Road alignment.

19
20 *Route 3*

21 Route 3 originates at the existing Sonoran Substation, exiting from a bay on the
22 south side. The route proceeds west for approximately 0.3 miles to Swan Road. The
23 line will go south on Swan Road and cross beneath the TEP/WAPA 230/115 kV line.
24 After crossing the TEP/WAPA 230/115 kV line, the route proceeds south
25 approximately 700 feet to existing double-circuit capable structures, where it co-locates
26 as a second circuit and extends to the west for approximately 2 miles to Country Club
27 Road. At Country Club Road, the route will co-locate with an existing single-circuit
28

1 TEP 138 kV line by rebuilding some of the structures to a double-circuit standard and
2 proceed south for approximately 3.5 miles to approximately 750 feet north of the
3 westward turning point of the existing 138 kV line. At this point, the route constructs
4 a new single-circuit line on double-circuit capable structures and turns east for
5 approximately 1,000 feet to cross under a TEP 345 kV line and two Arizona Electric
6 Power Cooperative, Inc. (“AEPCO”) transmission lines (230 kV and 345 kV). The
7 route then proceeds south for approximately 1 mile, where it turns west to an existing
8 TEP 138 kV line and will be co-located with that existing line by rebuilding the
9 structures to a double-circuit standard then continuing south for approximately 5.7
10 miles to the Corto Road alignment. The route will turn west for approximately 0.2
11 miles until it reaches the planned Santa Rita Substation site where it will enter from the
12 south.

13 The Committee approves the construction of Routes 1 and 3, subject to the
14 Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein. The Applicant will
15 construct only one of the routes depending on which is ultimately selected by the
16 Applicant as best suited for the Project. The map of the final approved routes, including
17 corridor width, is attached as **Exhibit A**.

18 **CONDITIONS**

19 This Certificate is granted upon the following conditions:

- 20 1. This authorization to construct the Project ~~, as a single circuit, double~~
21 ~~circuit capable, or double circuit 500 kV transmission line,~~ shall expire ten (10) years
22 from the date this Certificate is approved by the Commission, with or without
23 modification. Construction of the Project shall be complete, such that the Project is in
24 service within this ten-year timeframe. However, prior to the expiration of the time
25 period, the Applicant may request that the Commission extend the time limitation.

26 [CEC 259]

27
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1 2. In the event the Project requires an extension of the term of this
2 Certificate prior to completion of construction, the Applicant shall file such time
3 extension request at least one hundred and eighty (180) days prior to the expiration of
4 the Certificate. Within ten (10) days of the filing of the request to extend the term of
5 this Certificate, the Applicant shall use reasonable means to promptly notify the
6 Arizona ~~Department of Transportation ("ADOT")~~ State Land Department ("ASLD"),
7 ~~Maricopa-Pima~~ County, the City of Tucson, the Town of ~~Gila Bend~~ Sahuarita, ~~ASLD~~,
8 and all landowners and residents within a ~~three and one half one~~ (13.5) mile radius of
9 the centerline of the Project, all persons who made public comment at this proceeding
10 who provided a mailing or email address, and all parties to this proceeding. Any person
11 who receives notice of the request to extend the term of the Certificate may request that
12 the Applicant notify them by email of the date, time, and place of the hearing or open
13 meetings during which the Commission will consider the request for extension. The
14 Applicant shall notify such persons of the date and time of the open meeting or hearing
15 as soon as the Applicant is made aware of the open meeting or hearing date. [CEC 259]

16 3. During the development, construction, operation, maintenance, and
17 reclamation of the Project, the Applicant shall comply with all existing applicable air
18 and water pollution control standards and regulations, and with all existing applicable
19 statutes, ordinances, master plans, and regulations of any governmental entity having
20 jurisdiction including, but not limited to, the United States of America, the State of
21 Arizona, ~~Maricopa-Pima~~ County, the City of Tucson, the Town of ~~Sahuarita~~ Gila Bend,
22 and their agencies and subdivisions, including but not limited to the following:

- 23 (a) All applicable land use regulations;
- 24 (b) All applicable zoning stipulations and conditions including, but not
25 limited to, landscaping and dust control requirements;
- 26 (c) All applicable water use, discharge and/or disposal requirements of
27 ADWR and ADEQ;

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(d) All applicable noise control standards; and

(e) All applicable regulations governing storage and handling of hazardous chemicals and petroleum products. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

4. The Applicant shall obtain all approvals and permits necessary to construct, operate, and maintain the Project required by any governmental entity having jurisdiction including, but not limited to, the United States of America, the State of Arizona, ~~Maricopa-Pima~~ County, ~~the City of Tucson~~, the Town of ~~Sahuarita Gila Bend~~, and their agencies and subdivisions. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

5. The Applicant shall comply with the Arizona Game and Fish Department (“AGFD”) guidelines and recommendations for handling protected animal species, should any be encountered during construction and operation of the Project, and shall consult with AGFD or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as appropriate, on other issues concerning wildlife. The Applicant shall, in consultation with AGFD, follow the ~~mitigation-environmental protection~~ measures listed in **Exhibit B**. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

6. The Applicant shall design the Project’s facilities to incorporate reasonable measures to minimize electrocution of and impacts to avian species in accordance with the Applicant’s avian protection program. Such measures will be accomplished through incorporation of Avian Power Line Interaction Committee guidelines set forth in the current versions of *Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines* and *Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines* manuals. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

7. The issuance of a Certificate by the Commission is a state action pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 41-861 through 41-864, also known as the State Historic Preservation Act (“State Act”). The Applicant shall consult with the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office (“SHPO”) regarding the Project and its impacts on historic properties. Construction shall not commence until SHPO has had an opportunity to review and comment in accordance with the State Act. The Applicant shall, in cooperation with the landowner, complete a Class III cultural inventory of the portions of the final ROWs

1 that have not been previously surveyed to modern standards. If any historic property
2 will be substantially altered or demolished as a result of the construction or operation
3 of the Project, the Applicant shall take timely steps to make appropriate documentary
4 recordation in accordance with the standards established by SHPO. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

5 8. If any archaeological, paleontological, or historical site or a significant
6 cultural object is discovered on state, county, or municipal land during the construction
7 or operation of the Project, the Applicant or its authorized representative shall promptly
8 report the discovery to the Director of the Arizona State Museum (“ASM”), and in
9 consultation with the Director, shall immediately take all reasonable steps to secure and
10 maintain the preservation of the discovery as required by A.R.S. § 41-844. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

11 9. If human remains and/or funerary objects are encountered during the
12 course of any ground-disturbing activities related to the construction or operation of the
13 Project, the Applicant shall cease work on the affected area of the Project and notify
14 the Director of the ASM as required by A.R.S. § 41-865 for private land, or as required
15 by A.R.S. § 41-844 for state, county, or municipal lands. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

16 10. The Applicant shall comply with the notice and salvage requirements of
17 the Arizona Native Plant Law (A.R.S §§ 3-901 *et seq.*) and shall, to the extent feasible,
18 minimize the destruction of native plants during the construction and operation of the
19 Project. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

20 11. The Applicant shall make every reasonable effort to promptly investigate,
21 identify, and correct, on a case-specific basis, all complaints of interference with radio
22 or television signals from operation of the Project addressed in this Certificate and
23 where such interference is caused by the Project take reasonable measures to mitigate
24 such interference. The Applicant shall maintain written records for a period of five (5)
25 years of all complaints of radio or television interference attributable to operations,
26 together with the corrective action taken in response to each complaint. All complaints
27 shall be recorded and shall include notation on the corrective action taken. Complaints
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1 not leading to a specific action or for which there was no resolution shall be noted and
2 explained. Upon request, the written records shall be provided to the Staff of the
3 Commission. In addition, the Project shall be evaluated on a regular basis so that
4 damaged insulators or other line materials that could cause interference are repaired or
5 replaced in a timely manner. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

6 12. Within one hundred twenty (120) days of the Commission's decision
7 approving this Certificate, the Applicant shall post signs in or near public ROWs, to the
8 extent authorized by law, reasonably adjacent to the Project giving notice of the Project.
9 Such signage shall be no smaller than a roadway sign. The signs shall advise:

10 (a) The future site of the Project;

11 (b) A phone number and website for public information regarding the
12 Project; and

13 (c) Refer the public to the Docket.

14 Such signs shall be inspected at least once annually and, if necessary, be repaired or
15 replaced, and removed at the completion of construction.

16 The Applicant shall make every reasonable effort to communicate the decision
17 either approving or disapproving the Certificate in digital media. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

18 13. At least ninety (90) days before construction commences on the Project,
19 the Applicant shall provide [ADOTASLD](#), [Maricopa-Pima County](#), [the City of Tucson](#),
20 the Town of [Gila Bend](#), [ASLDSahuarita](#), and builders and developers who are building
21 upon or developing land within one (1) mile of the of the centerline of the Project with
22 a written description, including the approximate height and width measurements of all
23 structure types, of the Project. The written description shall identify the location of the
24 Project and contain a pictorial depiction of the facilities being constructed. The
25 Applicant shall also encourage the developers and builders to include this information
26 in their disclosure statements. Upon approval of this Certificate by the Commission, the
27 Applicant may commence construction of the Project. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

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1 14. The Applicant shall use non-specular conductor and non-reflective
2 surfaces for the transmission line structures on the Project. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

3 15. The Applicant shall be responsible for arranging that all field personnel
4 involved in the Project receive training as to proper ingress, egress, and on-site working
5 protocol for environmentally sensitive areas and activities. Contractors employing such
6 field personnel shall maintain records documenting that the personnel have received
7 such training. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

8 16. The Applicant shall follow the most current Western Electricity
9 Coordinating Council (“WECC”) and North American Electric Reliability Corporation
10 (“NERC”) planning standards, as approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory
11 Commission (“FERC”), National Electrical Safety Code (“NESC”) standards, and
12 Federal Aviation Administration (“FAA”) regulations. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

13 ~~17. The Applicant shall provide Commission Staff with a copy of the~~
14 ~~Interconnection Agreement(s) related to the Project when executed and approved by~~
15 ~~the Applicant and SRP, which will be provided under the existing Protective Agreement~~
16 ~~with Commission Staff, and Applicant shall comply with all requirements contained in~~
17 ~~the Interconnection Agreement(s). Applicant shall be responsible for any future~~
18 ~~network upgrades necessary or mitigation measures directly related to the Project as~~
19 ~~determined by SRP.~~

20 ~~18.~~17. The Applicant shall participate in good faith in state and regional
21 transmission study forums to coordinate transmission expansion plans related to the
22 Project and to resolve transmission constraints in a timely manner. [\[CEC 259\]](#)

23 ~~19.~~18. When Project facilities are located parallel to and within one hundred
24 (100) feet of any existing natural gas or hazardous pipeline, the Applicant shall:

- 25 A. Ensure grounding and cathodic protection studies are performed to show
26 that the Project’s location parallel to and within one hundred (100) feet
27 of such pipeline results in no material adverse impacts to the pipeline or
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1 to public safety when both the pipeline and the Project are in operation.
2 The Applicant shall take appropriate steps to ensure that any material
3 adverse impacts are mitigated. The Applicant shall provide to Staff of the
4 Commission, and file with Docket Control, a copy of the studies
5 performed and additional mitigation, if any, that was implemented as part
6 of its annual compliance-certification letter; and

- 7 B. Ensure that studies are performed simulating an outage of the Project that
8 may be caused by the collocation of the Project parallel to and within one
9 hundred (100) feet of the existing natural gas or hazardous liquid pipeline.
10 The studies should either: (i) show that such simulated outage does not
11 result in customer outages, or (ii) include operating plans to minimize any
12 resulting customer outages. The Applicant shall provide a copy of the
13 study results to Staff of the Commission and file them with Docket
14 Control as part of the Applicant's annual compliance certification letter.

15 [CEC 259]

16 20-19. The designation of the transmission line corridor in this Certificate, as
17 shown in **Exhibit A**, does not authorize ROWs greater than 1200 feet wide for the
18 Project on private land nor does it grant the Applicant exclusive rights within the
19 corridor outside of the final designated transmission ROWs. ~~Subject to the approval of~~
20 ~~ASLD, the Project ROW on State Trust Land will be determined in coordination with~~
21 ~~APS regarding APS's future Cotton Transmission Corridor 500 kV/230 kV Project.~~ The
22 maximum height of the structures shall not exceed 199-150 feet. [CEC 259]

23 21-20. The Applicant shall submit a compliance certification letter annually,
24 identifying progress made with respect to and current status of each condition contained
25 in this Certificate. The letter shall be submitted to Commission's Docket Control
26 commencing on June 1, 2027. Attached to each certification letter shall be
27 documentation explaining how compliance with each condition was achieved. Copies
28

1 of each letter, along with the corresponding documentation, shall be submitted to the
2 Arizona Attorney General's Office. With respect to the Project, the requirement for the
3 compliance letter shall expire on the date the Project is placed into operation.
4 Notification of such filing with Docket Control shall be made to ADOTASLD,
5 Maricopa-Pima County, the City of Tucson, the Town of Gila BendSahuarita, ASLD,
6 all parties to this Docket, and all parties who made a limited appearance in this Docket.
7 [CEC 259]

8 22-21. The Applicant shall provide a copy of this Certificate to ADOTASLD,
9 Maricopa-Pima County, the City of Tucson, and the Town of SahuaritaGila Bend,
10 ASLD, and the owner/operator of the natural gas pipeline that serves the Gila River
11 Power Station (as shown in Exhibit A). [CEC 259]

12 23-22. Any transfer or assignment of this Certificate shall require the assignee
13 or successor to assume, in writing, all responsibilities of the Applicant listed in this
14 Certificate and its conditions as required by A.R.S. § 40-360.08(A) and R14-3-213(F)
15 of the Arizona Administrative Code. [CEC 259]

16 24-23. In the event the Applicant, its assignee, or successor, seeks to modify the
17 Certificate terms at the Commission, it shall provide copies of such request to ADOT
18 ASLD, Maricopa-Pima County, the City of Tucson, the Town of SahuaritaGila Bend,
19 ASLD, all parties to this Docket, and all parties who made a limited appearance in this
20 Docket. [CEC 259]

21 25-24. The Certificate Conditions shall be binding on the Applicant, its
22 successors, assignee(s) and transferees, and any affiliates, agents, or lessees of the
23 Applicant who have a contractual relationship with the Applicant concerning the
24 construction, operation, maintenance or reclamation of the Project. The Applicant shall
25 provide in any agreement(s) or lease(s) pertaining to the Project that the contracting
26 parties and/or lessee(s) shall be responsible for compliance with the Conditions set forth
27 herein, and the Applicant's responsibilities with respect to compliance with such
28

1 Conditions shall not cease or be abated by reason of the fact that the Applicant is not in
2 control of or responsible for operation and maintenance of the Project facilities. [\[CEC](#)
3 [259\]](#)

4 **FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

5 This Certificate incorporates the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of
6 Law:

7 1. The Project aids the State and the Southwest Region of the United States
8 in meeting the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power.

9 2. When constructed in compliance with the conditions imposed in this
10 Certificate, the Project aids the State, preserving a safe and reliable electric transmission
11 system.

12 3. During the course of the hearing, the Committee considered evidence on
13 the environmental compatibility of the Project as required by A.R.S. § 40-360 *et seq.*

14 4. The Project and the conditions placed on the Project in this Certificate
15 effectively minimize the impact of the Project on the environment and ecology of the
16 State.

17 5. The conditions placed on the Project of this Certificate resolve matters
18 concerning balancing the need for the Project with its impact on the environment and
19 ecology of the state arising during the course of the proceedings, and, as such, serve as
20 finding and conclusions on such matters.

21 6. The Project is in the public interest because the Project's contribution to
22 meeting the need for an adequate, economical, and reliable supply of electric power
23 outweighs the minimized impact of the Project on the environment and ecology of the
24 State. [\[CEC 259\]](#)








25 DATED this _____ day of May, 2026.

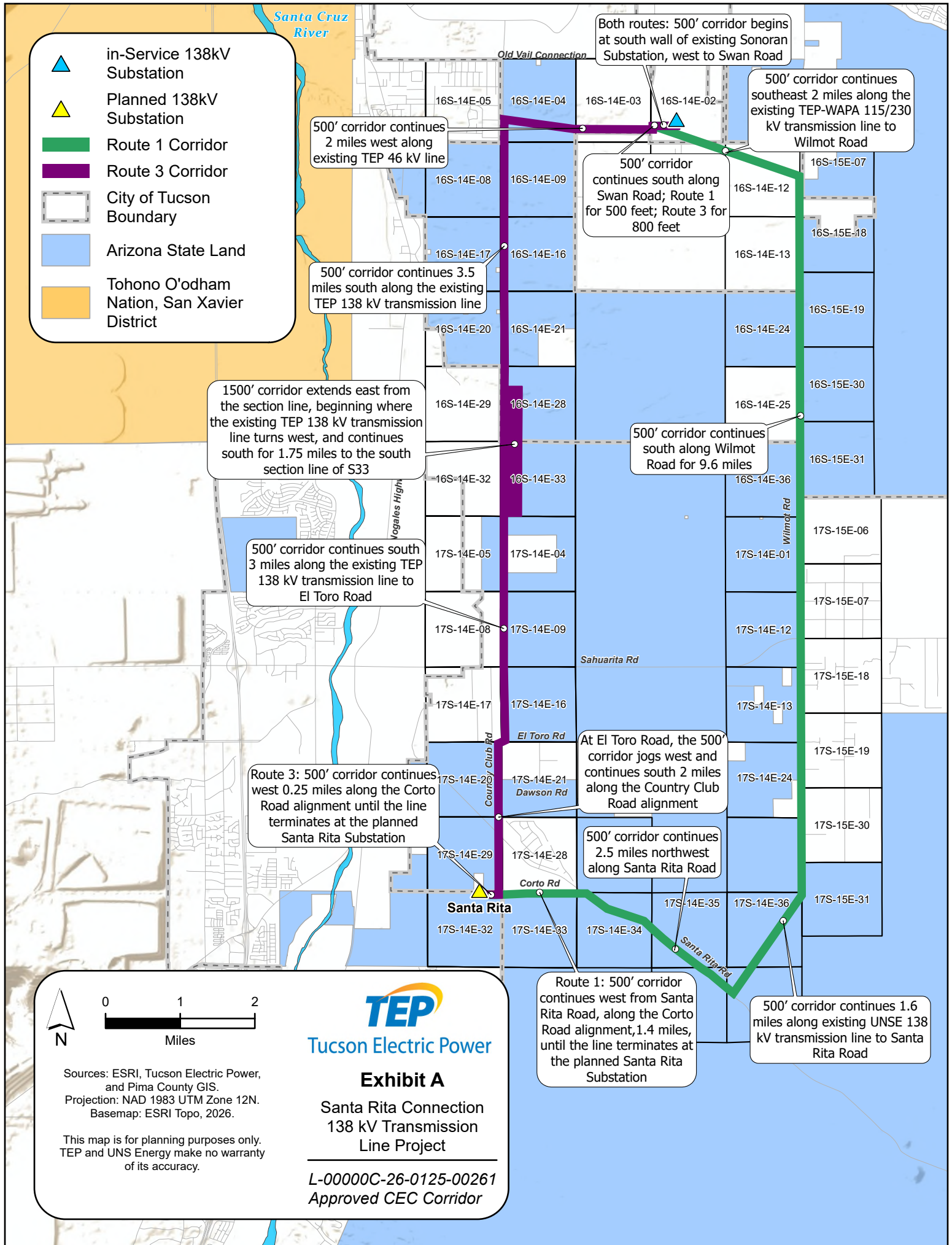
THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT AND
TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE

By: _____
Adam Stafford, Chairman

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EXHIBIT A

-  in-Service 138kV Substation
-  Planned 138kV Substation
-  Route 1 Corridor
-  Route 3 Corridor
-  City of Tucson Boundary
-  Arizona State Land
-  Tohono O'odham Nation, San Xavier District



Both routes: 500' corridor begins at south wall of existing Sonoran Substation, west to Swan Road

500' corridor continues southeast 2 miles along the existing TEP-WAPA 115/230 kV transmission line to Wilmot Road

500' corridor continues 2 miles west along existing TEP 46 kV line

500' corridor continues south along Swan Road; Route 1 for 500 feet; Route 3 for 800 feet

500' corridor continues 3.5 miles south along the existing TEP 138 kV transmission line

1500' corridor extends east from the section line, beginning where the existing TEP 138 kV transmission line turns west, and continues south for 1.75 miles to the south section line of S33

500' corridor continues south along Wilmot Road for 9.6 miles

500' corridor continues south 3 miles along the existing TEP 138 kV transmission line to El Toro Road

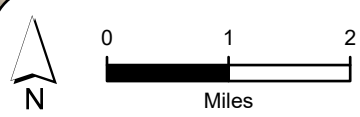
Route 3: 500' corridor continues west 0.25 miles along the Corto Road alignment until the line terminates at the planned Santa Rita Substation

At El Toro Road, the 500' corridor jogs west and continues south 2 miles along the Country Club Road alignment

500' corridor continues 2.5 miles northwest along Santa Rita Road

Route 1: 500' corridor continues west from Santa Rita Road, along the Corto Road alignment, 1.4 miles, until the line terminates at the planned Santa Rita Substation

500' corridor continues 1.6 miles along existing UNSE 138 kV transmission line to Santa Rita Road



TEP
Tucson Electric Power







Exhibit A

**Santa Rita Connection
138 kV Transmission
Line Project**

Sources: ESRI, Tucson Electric Power, and Pima County GIS.
Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N.
Basemap: ESRI Topo, 2026.

This map is for planning purposes only. TEP and UNS Energy make no warranty of its accuracy.

L-00000C-26-0125-00261
Approved CEC Corridor

-  in-Service 138kV Substation
-  Planned 138kV Substation
-  Route 1 Corridor
-  City of Tucson Boundary
-  Arizona State Land
-  Tohono O'odham Nation, San Xavier District

500' corridor begins at south wall of existing Sonoran Substation, west to Swan Road

500' corridor continues south 500 feet along Swan Road

500' corridor continues southeast 2 miles along the existing TEP-WAPA 115/230 kV transmission line to Wilmot Road

500' corridor continues south along Wilmot Road for 9.6 miles

500' corridor continues west from Santa Rita Road, along the Corto Road alignment, 1.4 miles, until the line terminates at the planned Santa Rita Substation

500' corridor continues 1.6 miles along existing UNSE 138 kV transmission line to Santa Rita Road

500' corridor continues 2.5 miles northwest along Santa Rita Road

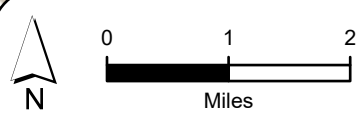


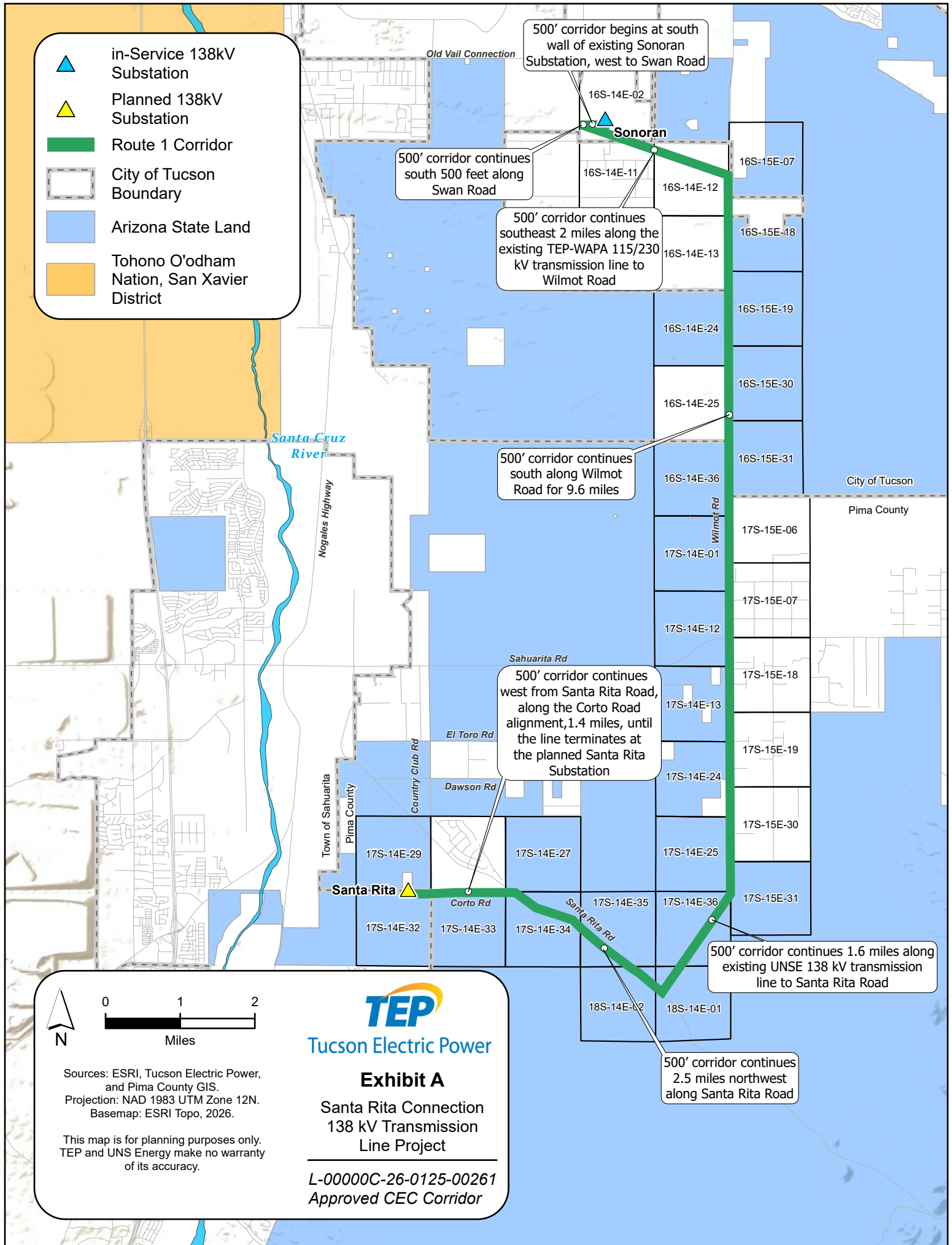
Exhibit A







**Santa Rita Connection
138 kV Transmission
Line Project**

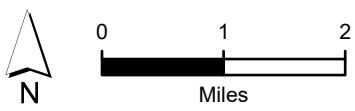
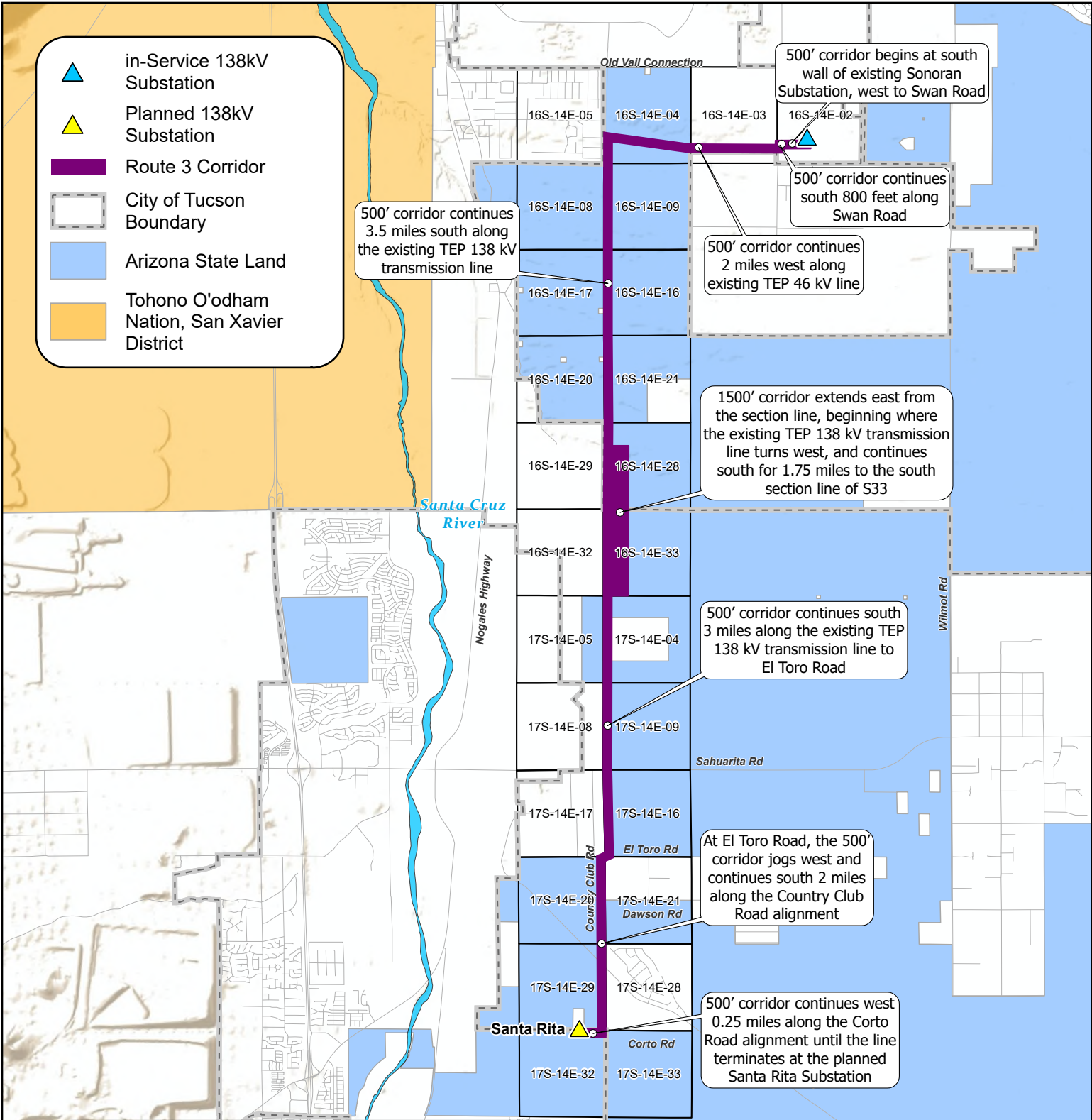
Sources: ESRI, Tucson Electric Power, and Pima County GIS.
Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N.
Basemap: ESRI Topo, 2026.

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L-00000C-26-0125-00261
Approved CEC Corridor



-  in-Service 138kV Substation
-  Planned 138kV Substation
-  Route 3 Corridor
-  City of Tucson Boundary
-  Arizona State Land
-  Tohono O'odham Nation, San Xavier District



TEP
Tucson Electric Power

Exhibit A

Santa Rita Connection
138 kV Transmission
Line Project

L-00000C-26-0125-00261
Approved CEC Corridor

Sources: ESRI, Tucson Electric Power, and Pima County GIS.
Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N.
Basemap: ESRI Topo, 2026.

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EXHIBIT B

SANTA RITA CONNECTION PROJECT CEC 261
EXHIBIT B – ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MEASURES

Standard EPMs

- Minimize vegetation clearing and ground disturbance, especially within riparian areas and ephemeral washes.
- Provide construction period monitors in areas where pre-construction surveys indicate a presence of sensitive species.
- Follow TEP established raptor protection protocols, as well as guidelines published by the Edison Electric Institute and the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC) (Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines: State of the Art in 2024, and Reducing Bird Collisions with Power Lines: State of the Art in 2012). Follow APLIC guidelines for power line design to reduce the likelihood of bird electrocution.
- Inspect and wash all construction equipment before entering or leaving the site to prevent the spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Follow standard Best Management Practices (BMPs) to prevent contamination of downstream waters from stormwater exiting the site.
- Implement a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) as required.
- Implement a spill prevention, control, and countermeasures plan (SPCCP) as required.
- Implement worker environmental awareness training to inform site personnel on the appearance of protected species and their legal protections.
- Clear the construction site of project or construction-related trash each day.
- Restore disturbed areas to pre-construction or native condition following completion of project activities, by planting seeds or native vegetation of species that represent the natural surrounding landscape.
- If native plants listed under the ANPL are proposed for removal, a Notice of Intent to Clear Land should be submitted to the AZDA prior to commencing ground disturbance.
- If other wildlife are encountered during construction activities, move them out of harm's way, no more than 0.25 mile outside the project boundary, and within similar habitat.
- Trenching or digging of large holes should be close together to minimize the amount of open holes at any given time. If not back-filled immediately, escape ramps should be conducted at least every 300 feet. Trenches and holes that have been left open should be inspected to remove animals prior to back-filling.
- If any areas are to be fenced, refer to the AZGFD Wildlife Compatible Fencing Guidelines to ensure wildlife movement is not restricted.
- If listed species are identified during construction, activities should stop work at that location, and notification made to TEP and appropriate federal or state wildlife agencies.

Cactus Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl

- The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) recommends conducting pre-construction surveys to determine species presence and inform conservation measures.
- If CFPO is present, avoid construction in suitable or occupied habitat during CFPO breeding season (June 15 to August 15).
- If nests are located, establish disturbance-free buffers 0.25 to 0.5 miles from the nests.

SANTA RITA CONNECTION PROJECT CEC 259
EXHIBIT B – PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MEASURES

- Avoid or minimize clearance of riparian vegetation.

Western Burrowing Owl

- In addition to standard EPMs for protection of migratory birds, the AZGFD recommends conducting occupancy surveys within suitable habitat to inform conservation measures. The surveys should be conducted by a surveyor who is certified by the AZGFD or has similar training and qualification.

Migratory Bird Species

To avoid impacts to migratory birds and/or their nests, the following measures are recommended during the general migratory bird breeding season of March 1 to August 31:

- Conduct preconstruction surveys for migratory bird and raptor nests (by a qualified biologist) within 10 days of construction activities, vegetation clearance, or ground disturbance commencing.
- Conduct additional nest surveys in areas that had no disturbance for 10 days or more.
- Establish avoidance buffers around active nests. No construction activities should occur within the buffer until cleared by a qualified biologist.
- Avoid conducting vegetation clearance of thinning near active nests.
- Identify nesting and foraging areas, and flag to avoid disturbance, with buffers appropriate for expected species.
- Minimize disturbance to riparian zones, dense vegetation, and areas rich in saguaros.

Sonoran Desert Tortoise

The following measures are recommended to avoid impacts to the Sonoran desert tortoise.

- Survey by a qualified biologist for burrows, shelters, and individual tortoises.
- Train site personnel on the appearance of the species and their legal protections.
- Ensure personnel who might handle tortoises have received training on [AZGFD Desert Tortoise Handling Guidelines](#) (Rubke, 2024) (Appendix C) to minimize or eliminate any potential impacts to desert tortoise.
- While work is being conducted within suitable Sonoran desert tortoise habitat, construction crews should refer to the [Sonoran Desert Tortoise Conservation Guidelines](#) for general handling guidelines and recommended avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures if the species is detected.
- If construction activities are scheduled to occur during active periods, pre-construction surveys and construction monitoring are recommended (AIDTT, 2008).

Monarch Butterfly

The USFWS recommended the following measures to protect the Monarch butterfly:

- Keep vegetation removal to a minimum.
- To encourage creation of habitat for the Monarch butterfly, when revegetating, refer to the USFWS [Nationwide Monarch Butterfly Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances](#).

Pima Pineapple Cactus

The USFWS has established standard measures to avoid or minimize impacts to the PPC:

- Conduct pre-construction surveys in suitable habitat to identify individual plants and inform conservation measures. Follow current survey protocols.
- Establish 10- to 50-foot-wide buffers around identified PPCs to avoid impacting individual PPCs and their surrounding habitat during construction and ground-disturbing activities. These buffered areas should be flagged or fenced.
- Restrict construction during wet seasons to avoid excessive soil compaction.
- Minimize soil disturbance in suitable habitat (e.g., limit grading, vehicle travel, equipment laydowns, trenching).
- Implement appropriate erosion and sediment control measures to protect habitat from runoff.
- Restore disturbed habitat with native seed and/or plantings.
- Educate site personnel on species' appearance and legal protections. Prohibit plant collection and/or removal.