

**PALO VERDE TO SOUTHEAST VALLEY/BUILD OUT BROWNING PROJECT
OPPORTUNITIES/SENSITIVE AND AVOIDANCE AREAS
OPEN HOUSE SERIES – PHASE II
PUBLIC COMMENT SUMMARY**

The Palo Verde to Southeast Valley/Build Out Browning (PV-SEV/BOB) Project conducted a series of Open Houses in October to further introduce the Project, and discuss the Opportunities, Sensitive and Avoidance areas for siting the transmission lines. The Open House sites were divided into several stations, each with specific information including: Need and Benefit, Opportunities, Sensitive areas, Aerial Imagery and Structure & Substation Design. In addition to informational stations, and one on one exchange of information, there were several exercises at the Open Houses, which were focused on obtaining input on Opportunity and Sensitive areas. One station held an exercise where color-coded dots were given to each person who attended to be placed on a board by each Opportunity (where the transmission line should be located), and Sensitivity areas (the areas that would be most sensitive to locating a transmission line). Additionally, there was a more traditional station to provide verbal and written comments. A Geographical Informational System (GIS) station was available, which included the May 2002 aerial photography of the Project study area with the digital Arc View data coverage(s) for attendees to view and provide their comments.

One-Hundred and Fifteen (115) people attended the second Open House series. The third series of Open Houses will be held in early December. The following summarizes the comments received at the Open Houses:

**Casa Grande Open House Summary
Casa Grande High School
October 8, 2002 – 4:00 to 7:00pm**

No. of Attendees--28

Comment(s) Verbal and Written & at the GIS Station (computer):

- Do not build line next to Santa Rosa area and proximity.
- Concerned with EMF's from transmission lines.
- Avoid Estrella Mountain Regional Park.
- Avoid Indian Communities in siting the lines.
- Consider using underdeveloped mid-section lines for siting purposes.
- Consider existing airfields and influenced areas.
- Please avoid existing airfields and influenced areas.
- Stay away from developed areas/master planned communities.
- Use existing overhead utility corridors.
- Avoid gateways in area (visible areas next to freeways and major roads).
- Avoid the Casa Grande North Mountain Park.
- Visual Quality Concerns: existing residential areas west of CAC campus.
- Other site-specific confirmation(s) of residence locations.
- o Opportunity Additions:
 - Underdeveloped ½ section lines
 - Underdeveloped areas not subject to planning
- o Sensitive Additions:
 - Adjacent to Indian Communities



PALO VERDE TO SOUTHEAST VALLEY/BUILD OUT BROWNING PROJECT
 OPPORTUNITIES/SENSITIVE AND AVOIDANCE AREAS
 OPEN HOUSE SERIES – PHASE II
 PUBLIC COMMENT SUMMARY

Results of Opportunity and Sensitivity Criteria Exercise (color dots):

o *Bold/Italicized lines received the highest number of dots (one per category)*

OPPORTUNITIES	# of Dots
Primary	
<i>Existing Transmission Lines</i>	14
Existing Large Canals	5
Agency-Identified Utility Corridors	1
Existing Roads / Highways (County Road level or greater)	0
Existing Railroads	0
	20
Secondary	
<i>Undeveloped Section Lines</i>	8
Existing Small Canals	6
Developed Section Lines	5
Developed Drainage Feature	0
	19
SENSITIVE AREAS	# of Dots
High	
<i>Existing Residential Development</i>	11
Planned Residential Developments	3
Scenic Byways	3
Airport (FAA Dsgnt'd) Boundary, Influence Zones and VORTAC Sites	2
Day-Care Centers	1
Hospitals	1
National / State Parks	0
Schools	0
T&E Species Nesting / Occupied Habitat	0
Wildlife Refuges	0
	21
Medium	
<i>Low Density Rural Residential</i>	14
Churches	2
National Register Sites/ Landmarks/ Historic Properties	2
Nursing Homes	1
Regional/County/Local Parks	1
Sensitive Species Designated/ Potential Habitat	1
Agency Designated Important View sheds	0
Agency Designated Recreation Areas	0
Geologically Unstable Areas	0
Local Landing Strips	0
	21
Low	
<i>Animal Feeding Operations</i>	8
Water Well Sites	7
Radio Towers	2
Cemeteries	1
Federal Land	1
Planned/ Existing Mines	1
Center-Pivot Irrigation Areas	0
Designated Floodplains	0
Landfills	0
Military Installations	0
	20



PALO VERDE TO SOUTHEAST VALLEY/BUILD OUT BROWNING PROJECT
 OPPORTUNITIES/SENSITIVE AND AVOIDANCE AREAS
 OPEN HOUSE SERIES – PHASE II
 PUBLIC COMMENT SUMMARY

Coolidge Open House Summary
Coolidge Middle School
October 9, 2002 – 4:00 to 7:00pm

No. of Attendees--32

- **Comment(s) Verbal and Written & at the GIS Station (computer):**
 - Preferred if route would hug the State lands East of the Valley Farms and cross the Gila River between Florence and Valley Farms.
 - Concerns about the benefit to Pinal County. I would like to see immediate benefits.
 - Special attention needs to be given to those locations where future residential development is anticipated. Recommends monopoles be the poles in future potential urban areas.
 - Add as an opportunity the section line South of ED2 SS & section line adjacent to planned residential development.
 - Planned Residential Development North of Hohokam IDD & NW of La Palma
 - Residential limitations along Hohokam IDD canal.
 - Share database with Planning & Zoning to help with County Use Permits & Comprehensive Land Use Plans.
 - Preferred Opportunity: GRIC boundary North of Coolidge.
 - Visual concerns in residential areas.

- **Results of Opportunity and Sensitivity Criteria Exercise (color dots):**

** Bold/Italicized lines received the highest number of dots (one per category)*

<u>OPPORTUNITIES</u>	<u># of Dots</u>
Primary	
<i>Existing Railroads</i>	13
Agency-Identified Utility Corridors	4
Existing Large Canals	3
Existing Roads / Highways (County Road level or greater)	2
Existing Transmission Lines	0
	22
Secondary	
<i>Existing Small Canals</i>	15
Undeveloped Section Lines	5
Developed Section Lines	3
Developed Drainage Feature	0
	23



**PALO VERDE TO SOUTHEAST VALLEY/BUILD OUT BROWNING PROJECT
 OPPORTUNITIES/SENSITIVE AND AVOIDANCE AREAS
 OPEN HOUSE SERIES – PHASE II
 PUBLIC COMMENT SUMMARY**

<u>SENSITIVE AREAS</u>	<u># of Dots</u>
High	
<i>Existing Residential Development</i>	10
Planned Residential Developments	5
Schools	4
National / State Parks	2
Airport (FAA Dsgnt'd) Boundary, Influence Zones and VORTAC Sites	1
Scenic Byways	1
Wildlife Refuges	1
Day-Care Center	0
Hospitals	0
T&E Species Nesting / Occupied Habitat	0
	24
Medium	
<i>Low Density Rural Residential</i>	10
Geologically Unstable Areas	7
Sensitive Species Designated/ Potential Habitat	3
National Register Sites/ Landmarks/ Historic Properties	2
Agency Designated Important View sheds	1
Agency Designated Recreation Areas	1
Churches	0
Local Landing Strips	0
Nursing Homes	0
Regional/County/Local Parks	0
	24
Low	
<i>Designated Floodplains</i>	9
Water Well Sites	9
Animal Feeding Operations	1
Center-Pivot Irrigation Areas	1
Federal Land	1
Military Installations	1
Cemeteries	0
Landfills	0
Planned/ Existing Mines	0
Radio Towers	0
	22



PALO VERDE TO SOUTHEAST VALLEY/BUILD OUT BROWNING PROJECT
 OPPORTUNITIES/SENSITIVE AND AVOIDANCE AREAS
 OPEN HOUSE SERIES – PHASE II
 PUBLIC COMMENT SUMMARY

Queen Creek Open House Summary
Queen Creek High School
October 10, 2002 – 4:00 to 7:00pm

No. of Attendees--34

- **Comment(s) Verbal and Written & at the GIS Station (computer):**
 - Future elementary school identified.
 - A number of people identified planned residential development areas in Pinal County.

- **Results of Opportunity and Sensitivity Criteria Exercise (color dots):**

** Bold/Italicized lines received the highest number of dots (one per category)*

OPPORTUNITIES	# of Dots
Primary	
<i>Existing Transmission Lines</i>	11
Existing Large Canals	9
Existing Railroads	1
Agency-Identified Utility Corridors	1
Existing Roads / Highways (County Road level or greater)	0
	22
Secondary	
<i>Developed Drainage Feature</i>	13
Existing Small Canals	6
Undeveloped Section Lines	2
Developed Section Lines	1
	22



**PALO VERDE TO SOUTHEAST VALLEY/BUILD OUT BROWNING PROJECT
 OPPORTUNITIES/SENSITIVE AND AVOIDANCE AREAS
 OPEN HOUSE SERIES – PHASE II
 PUBLIC COMMENT SUMMARY**

<u>SENSITIVE AREAS</u>	# of Dots
<u>High</u>	
<i>Existing Residential Development</i>	17
Planned Residential Developments	4
Schools	2
Scenic Byways	1
Wildlife Refuges	1
Airport (FAA Designated) Boundary, Influence Zones and VORTAC Sites	0
Day-Care Centers	0
Hospitals	0
National / State Parks	0
T&E Species Nesting / Occupied Habitat	0
	25
<u>Medium</u>	
<i>Low Density Rural Residential</i>	21
Agency Designated Recreation Areas	2
Local Landing Strips	1
National Register Sites/ Landmarks/ Historic Properties	1
Regional/County/Local Parks	1
Agency Designated Important View sheds	0
Churches	0
Geologically Unstable Areas	0
Nursing Homes	0
Sensitive Species Designated/ Potential Habitat	0
	26
<u>Low</u>	
<i>Animal Feeding Operations</i>	9
Center-Pivot Irrigation Areas	3
Cemeteries	2
Water Well Sites	2
Designated Floodplains	1
Federal Land	1
Planned/ Existing Mines	1
Radio Towers	1
Landfills	0
Military Installations	0
	20



PALO VERDE TO SOUTHEAST VALLEY/BUILD OUT BROWNING PROJECT
 OPPORTUNITIES/SENSITIVE AND AVOIDANCE AREAS
 OPEN HOUSE SERIES – PHASE II
 PUBLIC COMMENT SUMMARY

Maricopa Open House Summary
Maricopa Middle School
October 15, 2002 – 4:00 to 7:00pm

No. of Attendees--14

- **Comment(s) Verbal and Written & at the GIS Station (computer):**
 - The maps were nice and colorful, but need to identify which communities and neighborhoods are going to be affected.
 - Siting lines through existing residential negatively impacts property values.
 - TEP lines – primary, if not only, opportunity in Papago Butte/Haley Hills area.
 - Hwy 238 – Northern favored as a preferred opportunity.
 - I-8, southern preferred as an East – West, opportunity.
 - Need consideration of topographic constraint between TEP line and present Project boundary south of Enid and in vicinity of Mayor Blvd.
 - Eliminate Mayer Blvd. as a potential opportunity.
 - Existing archeological and cultural areas in TEP/Vekol wash area – south of Enid.
 - North – South section line segment paralleling Sonoran National Monument (but south of El Paso line) is a preferred opportunity.
 - There is a low density residential with high scenic quality, due west of Hidden Valley Substation.
 - Future public water well (currently within testing, etc.) identified.
 - Existing residential areas, near Barnes and Sage Roads identified and in Hidden Valley area.
- Sensitive Additions:
 - Hidden Valley Area: FEMA doesn't consider the area as a floodplain, but due to the mountains and washes it is (flooding with major rains).

- **Results of Opportunity and Sensitivity Criteria Exercise (color dots):**

** Bold/Italicized lines received the highest number of dots (one per category)*

<u>OPPORTUNITIES</u>	<u># of Dots</u>
<u>Primary</u>	
<i>Existing Railroads</i>	7
Agency-Identified Utility Corridors	4
Existing Transmission Lines	1
Existing Large Canals	0
Existing Roads / Highways (County Road level or greater)	0
	12
<u>Secondary</u>	
<i>Existing Small Canals</i>	7
Undeveloped Section Lines	1
Developed Drainage Feature	0
Developed Section Lines	0
	8



**PALO VERDE TO SOUTHEAST VALLEY/BUILD OUT BROWNING PROJECT
 OPPORTUNITIES/SENSITIVE AND AVOIDANCE AREAS
 OPEN HOUSE SERIES – PHASE II
 PUBLIC COMMENT SUMMARY**

<u>SENSITIVE AREAS</u>	# of Dots
<u>High</u>	
<i>Existing Residential Development</i>	9
Schools	3
Hospitals	1
Airport (FAA Designated) Boundary, Influence Zones and VORTAC Sites	0
Day-Care Centers	0
National / State Parks	0
Planned Residential Developments	0
Scenic Byways	0
T&E Species Nesting / Occupied Habitat	0
Wildlife Refuges	0
	13
<u>Medium</u>	
<i>Low Density Rural Residential</i>	9
National Register Sites/ Landmarks/ Historic Properties	2
Agency Designated Important View sheds	1
Agency Designated Recreation Areas	0
Churches	0
Geologically Unstable Areas	0
Local Landing Strips	0
Nursing Homes	0
Regional/County/Local Parks	0
Sensitive Species Designated/ Potential Habitat	0
	12
<u>Low</u>	
<i>Military Installations</i>	3
Cemeteries	2
Water Well Sites	2
Center-Pivot Irrigation Areas	1
Designated Floodplains	1
Federal Land	1
Planned/ Existing Mines	1
Animal Feeding Operations	0
Landfills	0
Radio Towers	0
	11



PALO VERDE TO SOUTHEAST VALLEY/BUILD OUT BROWNING PROJECT
OPPORTUNITIES/SENSITIVE AND AVOIDANCE AREAS
OPEN HOUSE SERIES – PHASE II
PUBLIC COMMENT SUMMARY

Stanfield Open House Summary
Stanfield Elementary School
October 16, 2002 – 4:00 to 7:00pm

No. of Attendees-- 7

- **Comment(s) Verbal and Written & at the GIS Station (computer):**
 - Low density residential with high scenic quality, due west of Hidden Valley Substation.

- **Results of Opportunity and Sensitivity Criteria Exercise (color dots):**

** Bold/Italicized lines received the highest number of dots (one per category)*

OPPORTUNITIES	# of Dots
Primary	
<i>Existing Railroads</i>	3
Agency-Identified Utility Corridors	1
Existing Large Canals	1
Existing Roads / Highways (County Road level or greater)	1
Existing Transmission Lines	0
	6
Secondary	
<i>Existing Small Canals</i>	4
Undeveloped Section Lines	1
Developed Drainage Feature	0
Developed Section Lines	0
	5



**PALO VERDE TO SOUTHEAST VALLEY/BUILD OUT BROWNING PROJECT
 OPPORTUNITIES/SENSITIVE AND AVOIDANCE AREAS
 OPEN HOUSE SERIES – PHASE II
 PUBLIC COMMENT SUMMARY**

<u>SENSITIVE AREAS</u>	<u># of Dots</u>
High	
Existing Residential Development	5
Airport (FAA Designated) Boundary, Influence Zones and VORTAC Sites	1
Day-Care Centers	0
Hospitals	0
National / State Parks	0
Planned Residential Developments	0
Scenic Byways	0
Schools	0
T&E Species Nesting / Occupied Habitat	0
Wildlife Refuges	0
	6
Medium	
Geologically Unstable Areas	3
Low Density Rural Residential	2
Nursing Homes	1
Agency Designated Important View sheds	0
Agency Designated Recreation Areas	0
Churches	0
Local Landing Strips	0
National Register Sites/ Landmarks/ Historic Properties	0
Regional/County/Local Parks	0
Sensitive Species Designated/ Potential Habitat	0
	6
Low	
Animal Feeding Operations	3
Radio Towers	2
Cemeteries	0
Center-Pivot Irrigation Areas	0
Designated Floodplains	0
Federal Land	0
Landfills	0
Military Installations	0
Planned/ Existing Mines	0
Water Well Sites	0
	5

