

# NORTH CENTRAL



## FACILITIES SITING PROJECT

NEWSLETTER #3 • JULY 2000

### INTRODUCTION

This newsletter has been designed as an update to keep you informed of the ongoing North Central Facilities Siting Project. APS has plans to build new electrical facilities to better serve the rapidly growing population in north-central Phoenix and Maricopa County. The proposed new transmission lines and substations are expected to be needed within the next 15 years, and some will be required as soon as 2001/2002.

APS and the Environmental Planning Group, Inc. (EPG), an environmental consulting firm, are working with communities within the study area as part of a planning process to site the needed electrical facilities in the area (see map page 2). Based on anticipated demand, electrical facilities are expected to include a 230 kilovolt (kV) substation, 69kV substations, and 230kV and 69kV transmission lines.

### UPDATES AS OF SECOND ROUND OF OPEN HOUSES

APS hosted two public open houses in January 2000 to update the community on the environmental studies being conducted and to display the preliminary alternative routes and substation sites that had been identified. Public comments were encouraged and have been entered into the project record to assist the project team in refining the initial alternatives.

A total of 168 people attended the two open houses—65 on January 25 at the New River Elementary School, and 103 on January 26 at the Desert Willow Elementary School. Those who attended the open houses were encouraged to

submit written comments. A total of 470 comments have been received as of May 31, with 290 of those being submitted since the last open house through mail, e-mail, telephone, and comment forms.

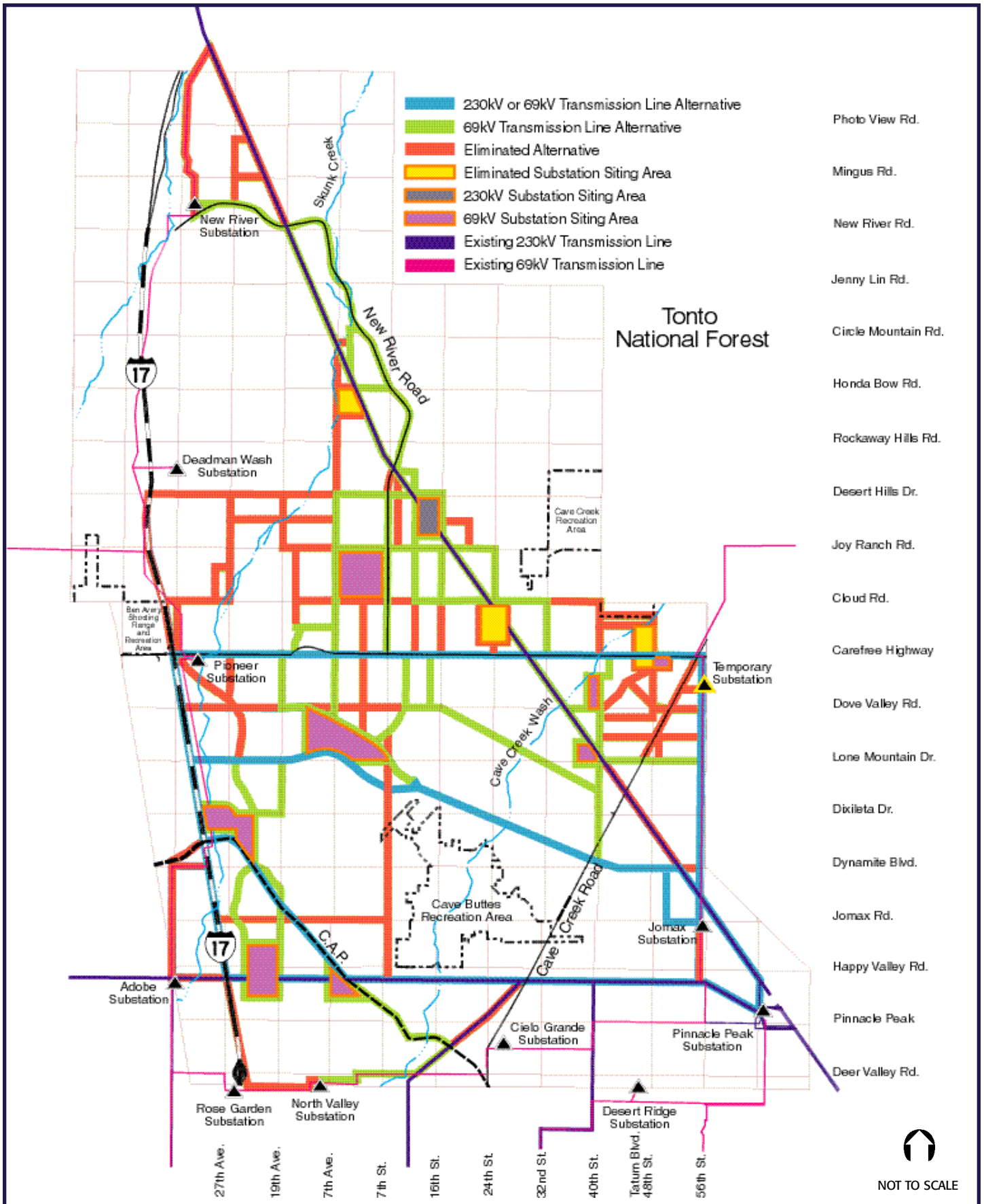
Public input has focused on several alternative routes. Comments were received suggesting that the route that runs along I-17 (north/south) and just south of Happy Valley Road (east/west) be utilized for the 230kV line to connect the Pioneer and Pinnacle Peak substations. The east/west portion of this route would follow an existing 230kV corridor. Alternative routes that have been suggested for elimination have been the 230kV alternatives along Desert Hills Road and Carefree Highway. (*cont. page 3*)

Please attend one of the upcoming  
**PUBLIC INFORMATION  
OPEN HOUSES**  
for the  
**NORTH CENTRAL  
FACILITIES  
SITING PROJECT**

Tuesday, July 18, 2000  
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Desert Willow Elementary School  
4322 E. Desert Willow Parkway  
Multi-purpose Room

Thursday, July 20, 2000  
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Desert Mountain Middle School  
35959 N. 7th Avenue  
Multi-purpose Room

# TRANSMISSION LINE ALTERNATIVES AND SUBSTATION SITING AREAS



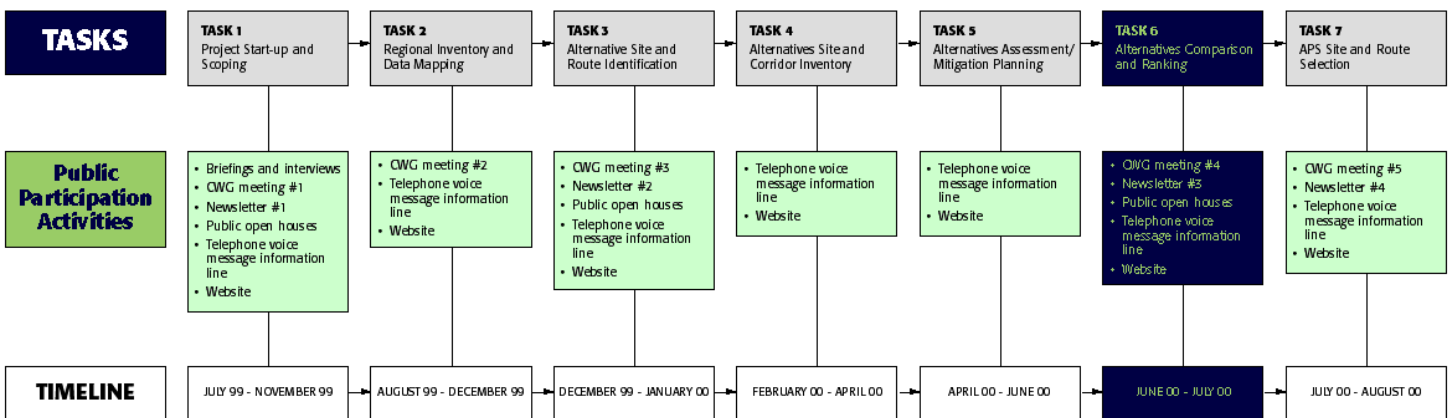
Some have noted Carefree Highway's scenic designation, believing that the aesthetic impact would be too great along this route. The alternative routes that have been included in the assessment and route comparison are displayed on the updated alternatives map (page 2).

## ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES CONTINUE

Currently, EPG is conducting an impact assessment to evaluate the potential effects to land use and visual resources from the construction of the proposed facilities. The results of the assessment will help

to narrow the alternatives and ultimately lead to a ranking of alternatives based on environmental factors. The results of these studies will be provided at the next public open houses scheduled for July 18 and 20.

## PLANNING PROCESS



## THE NEXT STEPS

A set of public open houses is scheduled for July 18 and 20 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, at the locations listed on page 1. Please plan on attending one of the open houses to review updated project information and to speak individually with project team members. After this set of open houses and a following comment period, APS will select the final routes and sites. This decision will be based on environmental factors, public input, and engineering and system requirements. Please submit your comments by August 4, 2000 for them to be considered in the final selections.

Comments and requests to be added to the mailing list may be submitted through the following methods:

- **comment forms (available at the open house)**
- **telephone voice message information line (602) 381-1769**
- **project website - <http://siting.apsc.com>**

Once the decision-making process has been completed, a final newsletter will be mailed to APS customers within the study area and to those who have requested to be on the project mailing list. This newsletter will announce the selection of locations for new facilities. Shortly after this announcement, land, easements, and right-of-way acquisitions will begin. Construction on early phases of the project will begin next year.