



West Valley-North Power Line and Substation Project  
 P.O. Box 53999 Mail Station 8508  
 Phoenix, AZ 85072

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**IMPORTANT INFORMATION  
 FOR PROPERTY OWNERS**

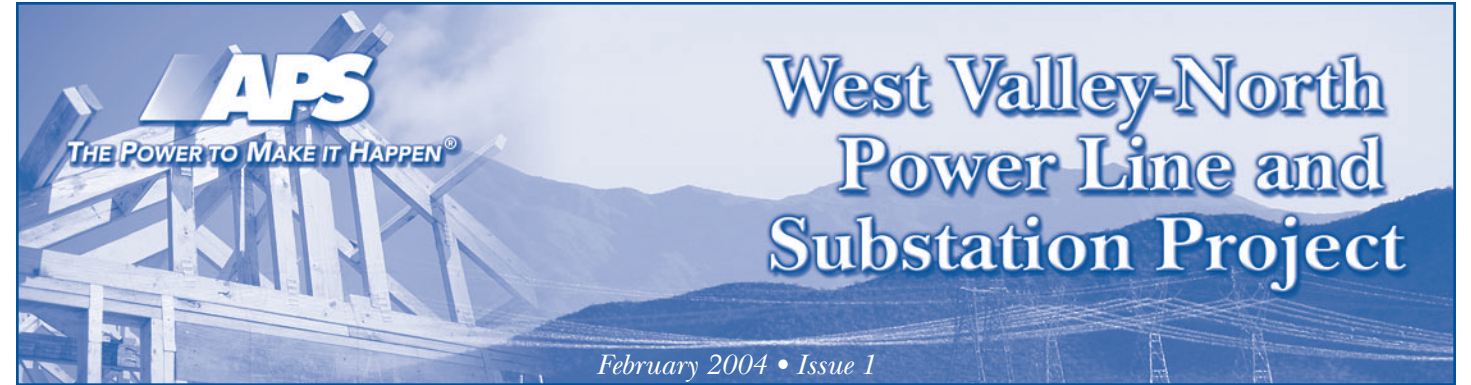
## West Valley-North Power Line and Substation Project

Please attend the upcoming  
**Public Information Open House**

Friday, February 27, 2004 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Countryside Elementary School, Multi-Purpose Room  
 15245 W. Greenway Road  
 Surprise, Arizona

If you are unable to attend the open house, please visit our web site  
 at <http://siting.apsc.com> or call 602-648-2307 to learn more about the project.



### West Valley-North Siting Project Begins

#### *APS Responds to Growing Local Electrical Demand*

The West Valley continues to grow at a faster pace than the rest of Maricopa County. Residential growth is booming in Surprise and Buckeye, with an annual average of 4,000-plus new housing starts over the past several years. Unincorporated portions of Maricopa County in the area also are growing at a phenomenal rate. Master planned communities (such as Festival Ranch, Douglas Ranch, Sun City Grand and Surprise Farms, along with large mixed-use projects such as Arizona Traditions, Villages at Surprise, Sierra Montana and the new, City of Surprise Recreation Campus) are creating tremendous demand for electric service.

APS is responding to this unprecedented growth and the demand for electricity with plans to expand its electrical system. To this end, APS has launched the West Valley-North Power Line and Substation Project, which includes a new 230-kV power line and two new substations.

### How APS Plans a Transmission Line and Substation System

APS strives to stay ahead of area growth, allowing communities to develop plans that take into account major electrical infrastructure.

Each year, APS files a 10-year plan with the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) that identifies major transmission lines and substations that are expected to be needed during the next 10 years to help ensure customers continue to receive reliable electricity in a timely manner.

The process of conducting a siting study, getting ACC approval, obtaining the necessary land rights and the actual construction of the facilities can take more than five years. Facilities identified in the current 10-year plan that are part of the West Valley-North study are anticipated to be needed and in service between 2008 and 2012. Therefore, APS must begin the siting of those facilities now.

During the siting process, APS will collect input from affected jurisdictions, agencies and the

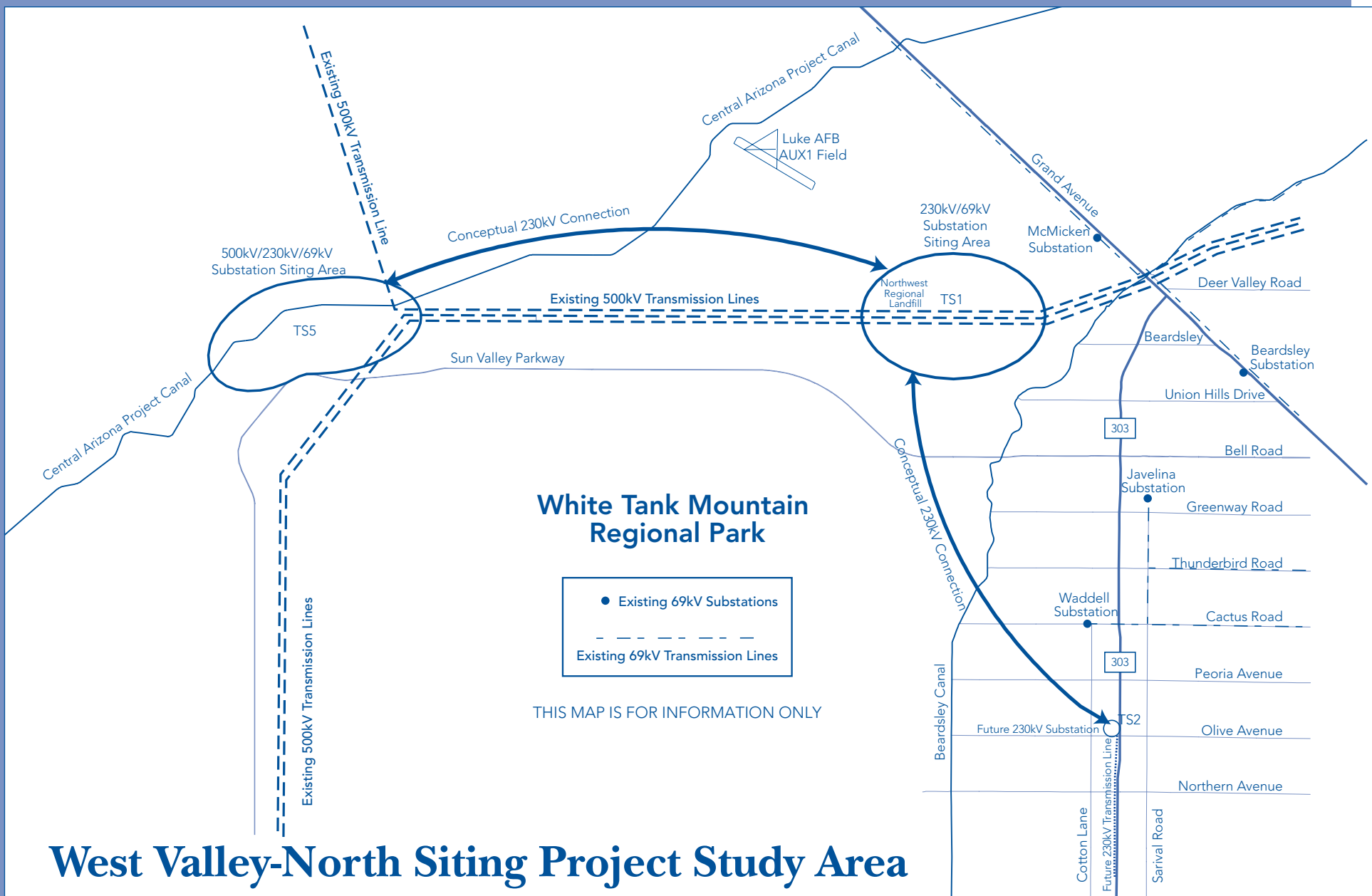
#### In This Issue:

- The Project Begins
- APS Plans a System
- Environmental Factors
- Public Open House
- Decision Process

For More Information  
 visit the Project Web site  
 at <http://siting.apsc.com>  
 or call the project  
 information line at  
 (602) 648-2307.



Questions? Please call 602-648-2307



## West Valley-North Siting Project Study Area

general public regarding potential routes and substation sites throughout the study area. APS also will be seeking input from committees representing jurisdictions and landowners within the project study area.

URS Corp., a worldwide engineering/consulting firm, has already begun environmental analysis of the area to identify potential routes and substation sites that minimize impacts to the environment and community. APS also will continue to seek input from agencies and the general public, and further refine the proposed routes and substation sites.

APS will then make its recommendation on the facility locations based on the following criteria:

- The ability of the route to meet APS' electrical system requirements;
- The ability of APS to obtain the necessary rights-of-way;
- Cost of construction, operation, and maintenance;
- Environmental impacts; and
- Public input.

### What Environmental Factors Are Considered in the Siting Process?

Siting new power lines and substations involves consideration of several environmental factors, including: existing and planned land uses, visual impacts, scenic views, historic/archaeological sites and biological resources. Biological resources are defined as areas of native plants, wildlife

habitat and/or the presence of threatened or endangered species.

A comprehensive study of existing and future land uses, as well as scenic resources, will be conducted for the entire study area. This data is gathered from aerial photography, field reviews, and specific information regarding planned future land uses. Future land use information is provided by each jurisdiction represented in the study area. This data provides the initial information needed to determine opportunities for substation sites and power line routes.

After preliminary alternatives are identified for the proposed facilities – and the public receives an opportunity to comment on these initial alternatives – additional inventories will be conducted for historic/archaeological sites and biological resources within the vicinity of the proposed facility locations.

Each alternative substation site and power line route then will be evaluated by resource specialists. These specialists will assess the potential impact each alternative would have on land uses, scenic views, historic/archaeological sites, and biological resources. After all potential substation sites and power line routes have been assessed, they will be ranked based on their overall level of impact.

### APS Seeks Input at Public Open House

As with all transmission line and substation siting projects, APS seeks input from all parties who may be affected. To this end, APS will host its first project open

house from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Friday, February 27, at Countryside Elementary School, 15245 W. Greenway Road in Surprise, Arizona. At the Open House, residents, business owners, civic leaders and others will have an opportunity to learn more about the project, talk with APS representatives and comment on preliminary proposed routes and substation sites.

However, attending the open house is not the only way to provide input to APS. Project information may be accessed through the project web site at <http://siting.apsc.com>. Customers also may call our telephone information line, 602-648-2307.

### Decision-Making Process

Once the siting process and environmental analysis are complete, APS will recommend facility locations. This information will be disseminated in a number of ways, including through direct mail newsletters, advertising and meetings.

The company then will submit an application to the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee. The Committee will evaluate the project, hold open hearings, and then make a recommendation to the ACC.

Both sets of hearings allow for public comment. Ultimately, the ACC decides whether to grant APS a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility, which is required before construction may begin.

