

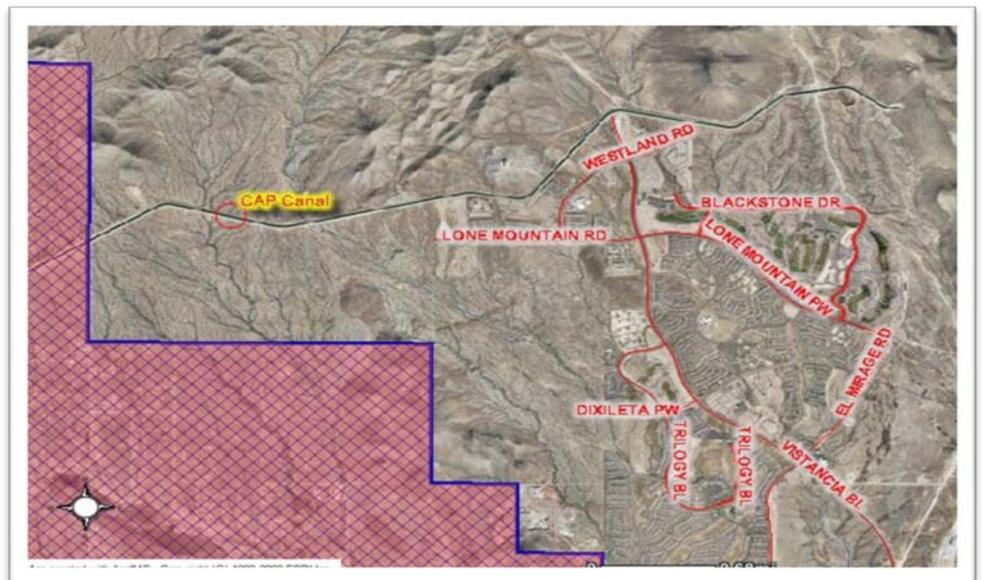
## APS Line Siting

### 2007

- APS approached the City of Peoria informing us that they had determined they had a need to build 500kV power lines from Buckeye to Peoria.



- APS sent a mailer to citizens showing the power lines running along the Central Arizona Project (CAP) canal alignment, just north of the community of Vistancia.



- Residents of Vistancia and Trilogy rallied, organized and acted, gathering 1, 115 signatures on a petition which was mailed to the Corporation Commission.
- Further communication with APS led us all to believe that SR74 was going to be an agreeable location for the power lines.
  - SR 74 is an existing transportation corridor. It is currently 4 lanes but projected by the Arizona Dept. of Transportation to be expanded by 6 lanes.

## **2008**

- APS sent out a map including several possible alignments for the 500 kV lines.
- The CAP alignment was no longer being considered but an alignment along Carefree Highway was included.
  - Carefree Highway is not an actual road. It is an alignment through untouched, native desert, just north of the CAP canal. It is approximately 3 miles south of SR74.
- The City of Peoria rallied.
  - An internal steering committee was formed led by Councilmember Carlat, Mayor Barrett, and key Peoria staff.
  - An external coalition was formed, including Sunbelt Holdings, Diamond Ventures, Maricopa County, the City of Surprise, the town of Buckeye, and the Sonoran Land Institute.
- The Kiva Club at Trilogy in Vistancia was host to an open house in May, attended by more than 200 Trilogy and Vistancia residents.
  - Councilmember Carlat spoke on behalf of the City, stressing support and vowing to fight for the alignment beneficial to the citizens of Peoria.
  - The representative speaking on behalf of APS left many with a lack of hope for reasonable solutions and unanswered questions.
- Trilogy and Vistancia organized the 'Seeing Red Brigade'.
  - This group, always wearing red, represented a consistent voice of the public; creating a presence of adamant opposition to unacceptable line placement.
- In June, Peoria City Council voted unanimously to pass a resolution to use whatever means necessary to fight APS and succeed in a final alignment along SR74.
- Residents launched a phone campaign, inundating Pinnacle West (APS Parent Company) with calls.
- The legal and procedural phase begins.
  - The City of Peoria, Sunbelt and Diamond Ventures each brought forward attorneys, consultants, technical experts, specialists in specific bureaus, utility siting, and in land, respectively. Strategizing commenced.
- The Line Siting Commission is convened.
  - Testimony heard by APS, Vistancia residents Linda Reithman, Colleen Brownworth, Peoria Mayor, developers, all attorneys, and experts commissioned by the joint coalition.
  - Public comments are heard by Councilor Cathy Carlat, Trilogy and Vistancia residents.
  - The Commission finds in favor of Peoria, the coalition and Vistancia residents; they pass their recommendation up to the Arizona Corporation Committee.

***Right: The "Seeing Red Brigade" made a big impression at the Line Siting hearings.***

---



## **2009**

- The Arizona Corporation Commission is convened.
  - Hundreds of Vistancia, Trilogy and Blackstone residents filled buses and assemble before the Commission.
  - Councilor Carlat speaks on behalf of the residents.
  - The message of the Red Shirt Brigade was heard loud and clear.
- The Arizona Corporation Commission finds in favor of Peoria and Vistancia residents and approves the siting of the APS lines along SR 74.

## **2010**

- The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) rejected the APS filing to secure right-of-way through BLM land along SR 74.
- Mayor Barrett, Councilmember Cathy Carlat, Sunbelt, Diamond, attorneys, and experts meet with BLM State Director to convey unified support and move for acceptance of utility corridor along existing transportation corridor, SR74.
- BLM denies request in April.
- Mayor Barrett asks Congressman Trent Franks for his immediate involvement.
- APS joined Peoria in an appeal of BLM's rejection through the U.S. Department of the Interior's Board of Land Appeals.
- Congressman Franks' involvement opened the case with BLM again and a work group was formed.
- The appeal is won! BLM's rejection of the APS right-of-way through their land on the north side of SR 74 is overturned.
- As is typical of an appellate body, the Board determined that it did not have jurisdiction to grant the APS application; the Board remanded the matter back to BLM.
- Alternative next steps
  - We are currently awaiting BLM response to the appeal judgment. They may now choose to grant the APS right-of-way.
  - If BLM does not grant the right-of-way, we will work with Congressman Franks to lobby the National Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

**Your elected representatives and the City of Peoria remain unwavering in our efforts towards the benefit and protection of our citizens.**