



**Tucson Electric Power**

Land Resources – RC131  
3950 E. Irvington Road  
Tucson, Arizona 85714-2114

April 5, 2021

Mobile (520) 460-6417

Town of Oro Valley  
Community Development and Public Works Department  
11000 N. La Canada Drive  
Oro Valley, AZ. 85737

**Re: Request for a Zoning Ordinance Interpretation for Electric Substation Communication Antenna**

Tucson Electric Power (TEP) must upgrade the existing operation/emergency communications system at the Oro Valley Substation to meet electrical system demand and federal law. The Oro Valley Substation is located near Lambert Lane and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue (see Figure 1: Location Map). The communication system upgrade will consist of a two-foot diameter antenna/dish atop a 66' tall communication monopole.

The existing communication antenna is obsolete and cannot reliably relay a radio signal to TEP's central operations center. TEP must complete this improvement to continue providing safe, reliable service to customers in the area.

TEP installs communications systems at many of its electric substation sites in their service area as required by federal law. The communication systems are accessory wireless systems for TEP's substation operation/emergency communication needs only. These wireless systems do not function as "commercial" wireless communication systems in that they are used only for substation/utility coordination, operation/emergency communication and safety.

TEP has reviewed the Town of Oro Valley Zoning Ordinance and finds that the above-described work falls within the exception description in Chapter 25. Specifically, Section 25.1(B)(5)(b)(i)(a) "Facilities used for police, fire, ambulance, and other emergency dispatch functions."

TEP contacted the Town planning staff and was directed to submit a Zoning Ordinance Interpretation Request to clarify the permitted use of the proposed Electric Substation Communication Antenna.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or clarifications of the project.

Thank you for your time.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Pugh". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Brian Pugh, AICP, Environmental and Land Use Planner  
Tucson Electric Power Company, a UNS Energy Corporation



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Parcel 224-28-0040 – .83 Acres

Zoning District - R1-144

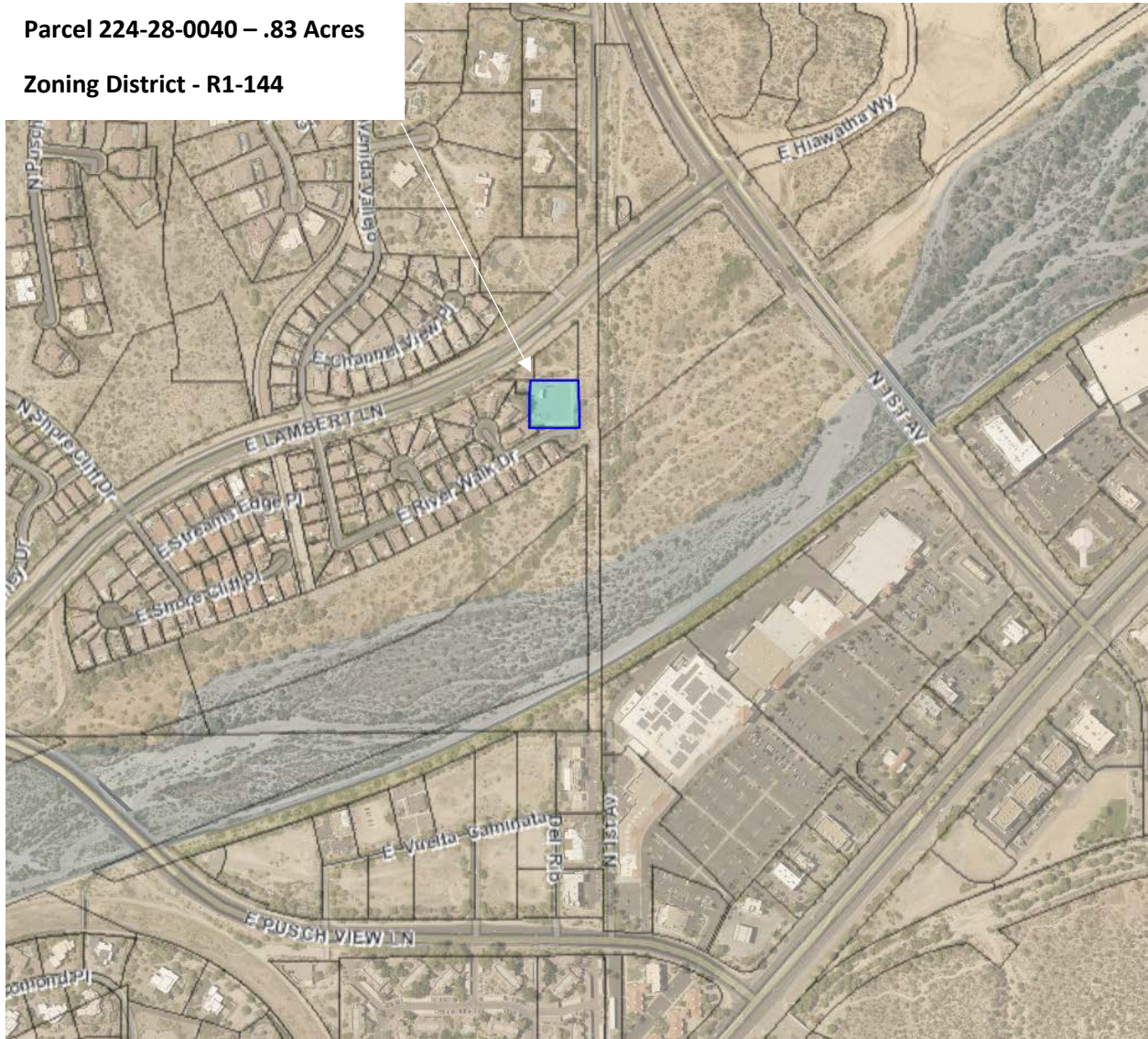


Figure 1: Location Map