

**Dalton Danz**

---

**From:** David [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 2, 2026 5:26 AM  
**To:** COB\_mail  
**Subject:** TEP Rate Hike

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

CAUTION: This message and sender come from outside Pima County. If you did not expect this message, proceed with caution. Verify the sender's identity before performing any action, such as clicking on a link or opening an attachment.

Please vigorously oppose!

Dave Andrew  
Green Valley

*DAV*  
MAY 04 26 AM 08:40 PC CLK OF BD

Dalton Danz

From: Marylou Bembe [REDACTED]  
Sent: Saturday, May 2, 2026 9:47 AM  
To: COB\_mail  
Subject: TEP proposed rate hikes

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

CAUTION: This message and sender come from outside Pima County. If you did not expect this message, proceed with caution. Verify the sender's identity before performing any action, such as clicking on a link or opening an attachment.

Morning,

I am AGAINST the 14% rate hike proposed by TEP .This is unacceptable for the average homeowner. \$16 a month more for average TEP customers is way too much.

I would accept a lower rate hike, if reasonable.

Please consider my opinion.

Thank you very much,

Mary Bembe

Current TEP customer in Green Valley AZ.

*Marylou Bembe*

MAY 04 26 AM 02:40 PC CLK DF BD

Dalton Danz

---

**From:** Jane Orient [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 2, 2026 5:32 PM  
**To:** District2; District3; District4; District5; COB\_mail; District1  
**Subject:** TEP and data centers

**CAUTION:** This message and sender come from outside Pima County. If you did not expect this message, proceed with caution. Verify the sender's identity before performing any action, such as clicking on a link or opening an attachment.

Please support the resolution to put our county ahead of data centers, and then ban data center from Pima County

They are a hazard to humans and wildlife. We do not have adequate water resources.

--  
Jane M. Orient, MD  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

MAY 04 26 AM 09:40 PCC CLK OF BD  
*[Handwritten signature]*

Dalton Danz

From: Mary [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, May 3, 2026 6:53 PM  
To: District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; COB\_mail  
Subject: Board of Supervisors May 5th meeting agenda

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

**CAUTION:** This message and sender come from outside Pima County. If you did not expect this message, proceed with caution. Verify the sender's identity before performing any action, such as clicking on a link or opening an attachment.

Item #4: Opposing Tucson Electric Power Rate Increase Resolution

Whole heartedly support this resolution to put people Pima County citizens ahead of data centers. Then take the next step and BAN data centers completely from Pima County.

Studies have shown miles away from the Hugh data centers TEP proposes have serious effects on life.

Naming just a few:

- > motion sickness
- >NAUSEA
- >lack of sleep
- >loss of honeybee, butterfly, and bird populations
- >cardiovascular disease
- >loss of bone density in children
- >infertility in humans
- >soil contamination
- >loss of cintrol of power grid,etc.

Too many side effects to justify.

Very concerned Pima County Citizen for 35 years.

Mary Abatecola  
11520 W Royalty Dr  
Tucson, AZ 85743

MAY 04 26 AM 08:48 POC CLK DF BD

AGENDA MATERIAL

DATE 5/4/26

ITEM NO. RA 4

**From:** [robert alcaraz](#)  
**To:** [District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; COB\\_mail](#)  
**Subject:** electric rate hikes data centers oppose iten#4  
**Date:** Monday, May 4, 2026 7:20:35 AM

---

**CAUTION:** This message and sender come from outside Pima County. If you did not expect this message, proceed with caution. Verify the sender's identity before performing any action, such as clicking on a link or opening an attachment.

Forwarded this email? [Subscribe here](#) for more

# PIMA BOARD WATCHERS

## TEP Rate Hikes and Data Centers

Covering the Pima County Board of Supervisors

PIMA COUNTY BOARD WATCHERS

MAY 2



**TUESDAY, May 5, 2026, 1:30 p.m., is the next Pima County Board of Supervisors (BoS) VIRTUAL Special Meeting.** We are a nonpartisan group of volunteers who are active in several affiliated Pima County groups whose main focus is to hold local government accountable. This newsletter is to alert you of the upcoming Board Agenda Items and to take ACTION prior to the next meeting's vote! If you want to subscribe to this newsletter, please either do so directly via Substack or email [pimabw@yahoo.com](mailto:pimabw@yahoo.com) and ask to be added to the email list. If you email the BoS and want your comments to be made a part of the public record, you MUST copy the clerk on all your emails.

MAY 04 26 AM 09:26 PC CLK OF BD

**Action Alert** for the upcoming May 5, 2026, Pima County [BoS Agenda](#) and [Addendum](#).

**\*This is a VIRTUAL Special Meeting at 1:30pm.**

Subscribe for free to receive new posts.



#### **Item #4: Opposing Tucson Electric Power Rate Increase Resolution**

*RESOLUTION NO. 2026 25, of the Board of Supervisors, opposing the proposed rate increase by Tucson Electric Power (TEP). (District 3)*

This special BoS meeting is being held for the sole purpose of discussing the above item – the proposed Tucson Electric Power rate hike and its relationship to the nationwide data center explosion.

First, some important background on TEP, and we want to give another shout-out to Three Sonorans who've been tracking this story for the past several months. In this [article](#), they provided these statistics:

#### **TEP Rate Increases (2020-2025)**

- 2023: 9.55% increase approved (TEP requested 14%)
- 2025: 14% increase requested (still pending)
- Total potential increase: ~25% over 5 years

#### **Arizona Household Energy Burden**

- Arizona households paid the 12<sup>th</sup> highest electricity prices nationally in 2022
- Rate increases have accelerated faster than national averages

- Low-income households spend disproportionately more of their income on utilities

And [these articles](#) provided important background about TEP itself:

“Tucson Electric Power (TEP) isn’t locally owned. It’s not even American-owned. TEP is a subsidiary of [UNS Energy Corporation](#), which is owned by [Fortis Inc.](#), a Canadian conglomerate based in Newfoundland. When you pay your TEP bill, the profits go to Canada. Your electricity costs fund dividends for Canadian and international investors.

Fortis Inc. 2024 financial highlights:

- \$1.6 billion in profits
- Operations across the US, Canada, and the Caribbean
- Investors based primarily in Canada and international markets
- Profits leave Arizona entirely

And Fortis has told investors it plans to spend \$1.5 to \$2 billion on power generation for hyperscale data centers — the same massive, energy-devouring server farms that are devastating communities from Maine to Memphis to Montana to Marana.

From TEP’s corporate perspective:

- **Residential customers:** Small, fluctuating demand; rate increases generate political opposition; customers can conserve
- **Data center customers:** Massive, constant 24/7 demand; premium rates; long-term contracts; no conservation

The 14% rate hike for residential customers helps subsidize infrastructure to serve data centers, while TEP locks in corporate contracts that guarantee profits for decades. A recent Bloomberg analysis found that electricity costs rise 267% near data centers. Fortis wants to build the data centers. You pay the 267%. That is the deal.”

The BoS Resolution states, “that the Board formally endorses the proposed rate increase recommendations of Attorney General Kris Mayes and directs

the County Attorney to support the AG in the pursuit of that lower rate.” On April 22, 2026, the Arizona Corporation Commission held its final hearing for public comment regarding TEP’s rate increase. The decision on the rate increase is expected later this year according to this [news story](#).

[Attorney General Kris Mayes](#) filed expert testimony back in February 2026. She stated, “TEP’s proposal is blatant corporate greed plain and simple,” said Attorney General Mayes. “Our expert analysis proves that customers are being asked to pay far more than is needed. Instead of a 14% rate hike, the expert testimony we just filed with the ACC shows that TEP can achieve the same reliability with just a 4% increase by aligning what customers pay with TEP’s actual costs.” You can read her [full testimony here](#). “The expert testimony demonstrates that TEP is asking customers to pay shareholder profits that are significantly higher than what it actually costs the company to maintain reliable service—resulting in an unnecessary wealth transfer of approximately \$148 million per year from Tucson families to TEP’s shareholders.”

In April, [Mayes](#), who previously served on the ACC, held a [Town Hall for Tucson residents](#) to voice their concerns about the rate increase.

Meanwhile, the City of Tucson and TEP are working toward developing an [Energy Collaboration Agreement](#). The City says that the costs will be covered by the shareholder. No company has ever held expenses. They are always passed to the customer.

And we cannot forget that data centers, mining ventures, and other resourc