

28-NRK

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From: Mel Fields
To: Gody, Tony
Date: Tue, Jul 6, 2004 10:00 AM
Subject: Westwing substation fire

Tony - while not related to your AIT activities, here is some info on a current fire that I got off of Arizona Republic website this morning...just a FYI.

A fire at the Westwing substation eliminated 20 percent of the Valley's supply. The fire at four transformers in the West Valley substation had not diminished Monday evening [July 5th], 24 hours after it began.

The station, near Loop 303 and Happy Valley Road, has 13 transformers that convert power from 500,000 volts to 230,000 volts. Four transformers are burning and a fifth is in danger of igniting, authorities said. The structures are cooled with a mineral oil. About 100,000 gallons of that oil is fueling the fires and was spreading black smoke from the northwest part of the Valley, they said. Redden said the smoke dissipated later in the day.

Authorities from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Department of Homeland Security visited the scene Sunday night as a precaution to check for criminal activity.

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