North Albuquerque Acres Substation Project

COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDER BRIEFING

SPRING-SUMMER 2025

TODAY'S AGENDA

WHY WE ARE HERE.

- Overview and Load Growth Area
- Project Need
- Outreach Conducted
- Proposed Site and Alternatives
- Anticipated Next Steps
- How You Can Help
- Questions

SUBSTATION PROJECT

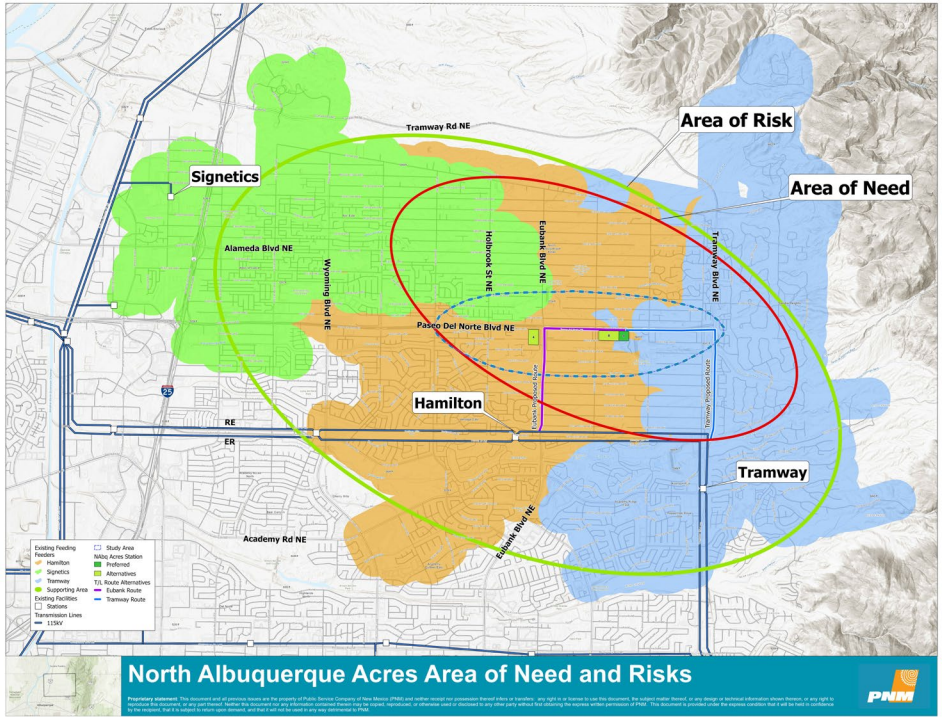
PROJECT OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE

PNM is proposing a new substation in far Northeast Albuquerque to maintain reliable power and meet growing energy demand.

The existing substations serving your area are reaching their capacity. This project is crucial for preventing future power outages in North Albuquerque Acres, Sandia Heights and other communities.

The project includes a new substation and supporting transmission and distribution lines to connect it to the existing power grid.

Bernalillo County is responsible for approving the substation component.



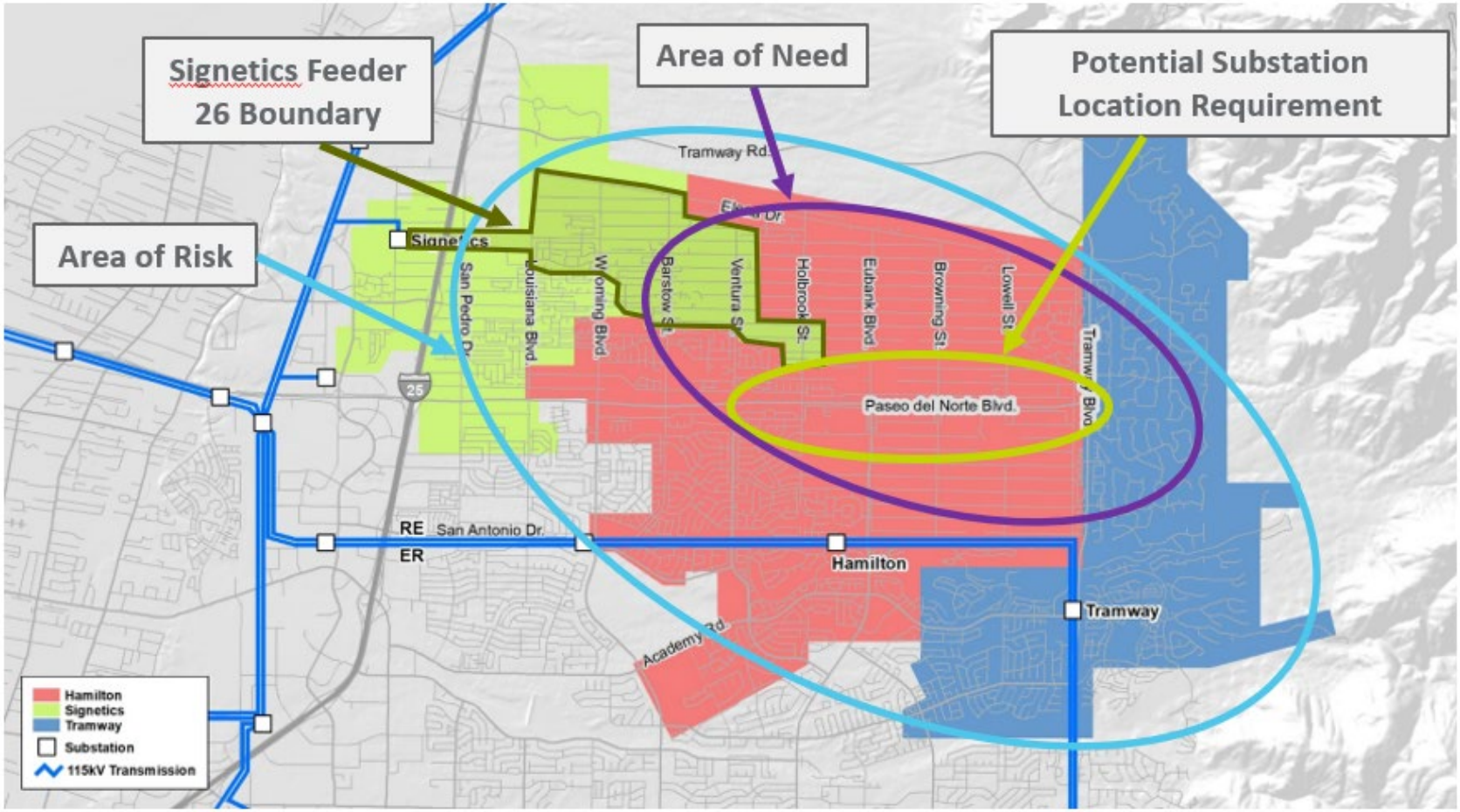
WHY THIS PROJECT IS NEEDED

Many far Northeast Albuquerque customers receive electricity from existing substations that **do not have the capacity** to serve the ongoing growth in the area.

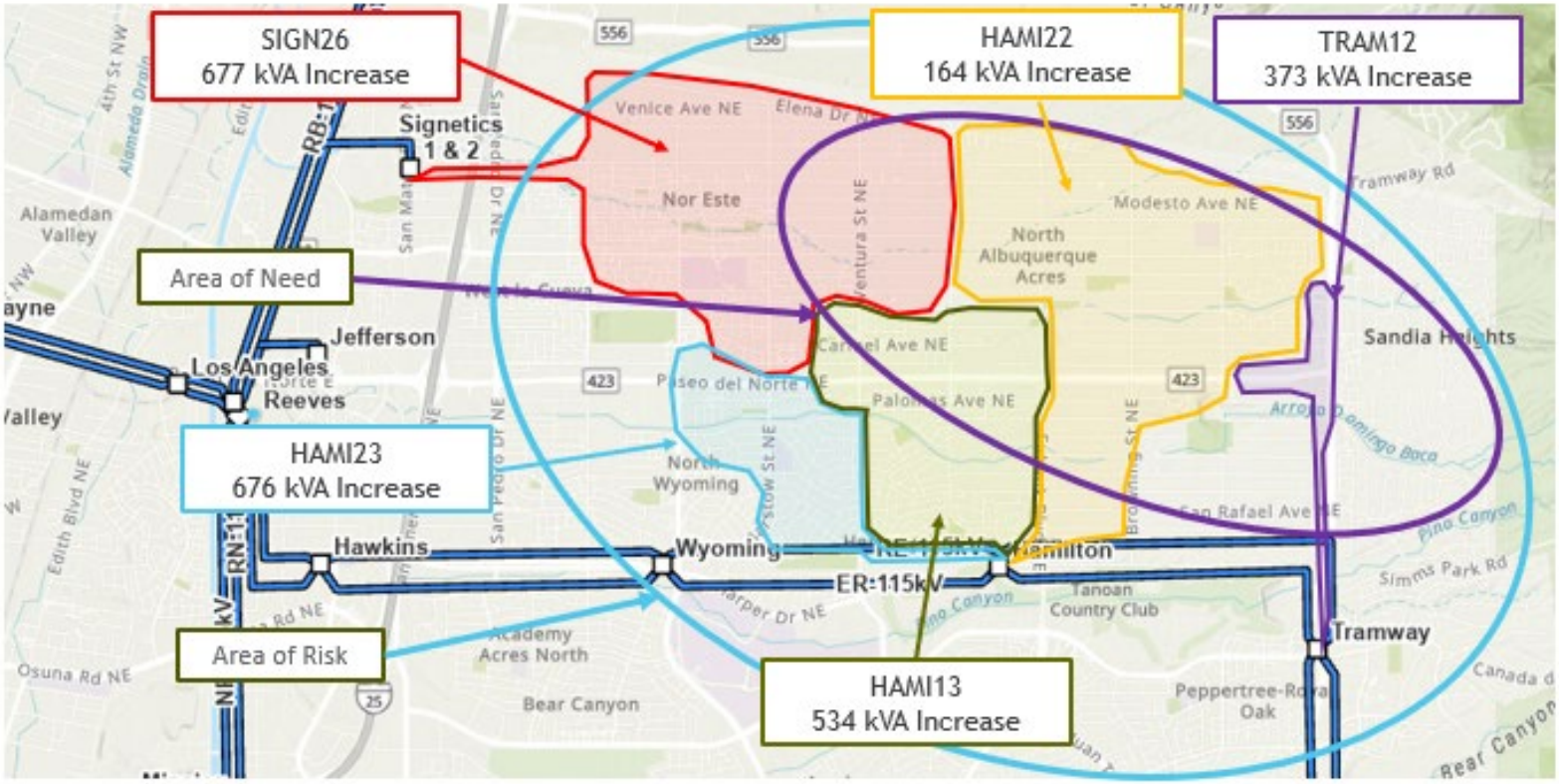
The problem is also increasing. Average energy demand at nearby substations **continues to exceed the capacity of the surrounding existing substations**, resulting in potential outage risks.

A system overload due to high energy demand has the potential to cause a **power outage** that extends beyond Northeast Albuquerque and affects residents and businesses across the Northeast quadrant of the City.

NORTH ALBUQUERQUE ACRES SUBSTATION STUDY AREA



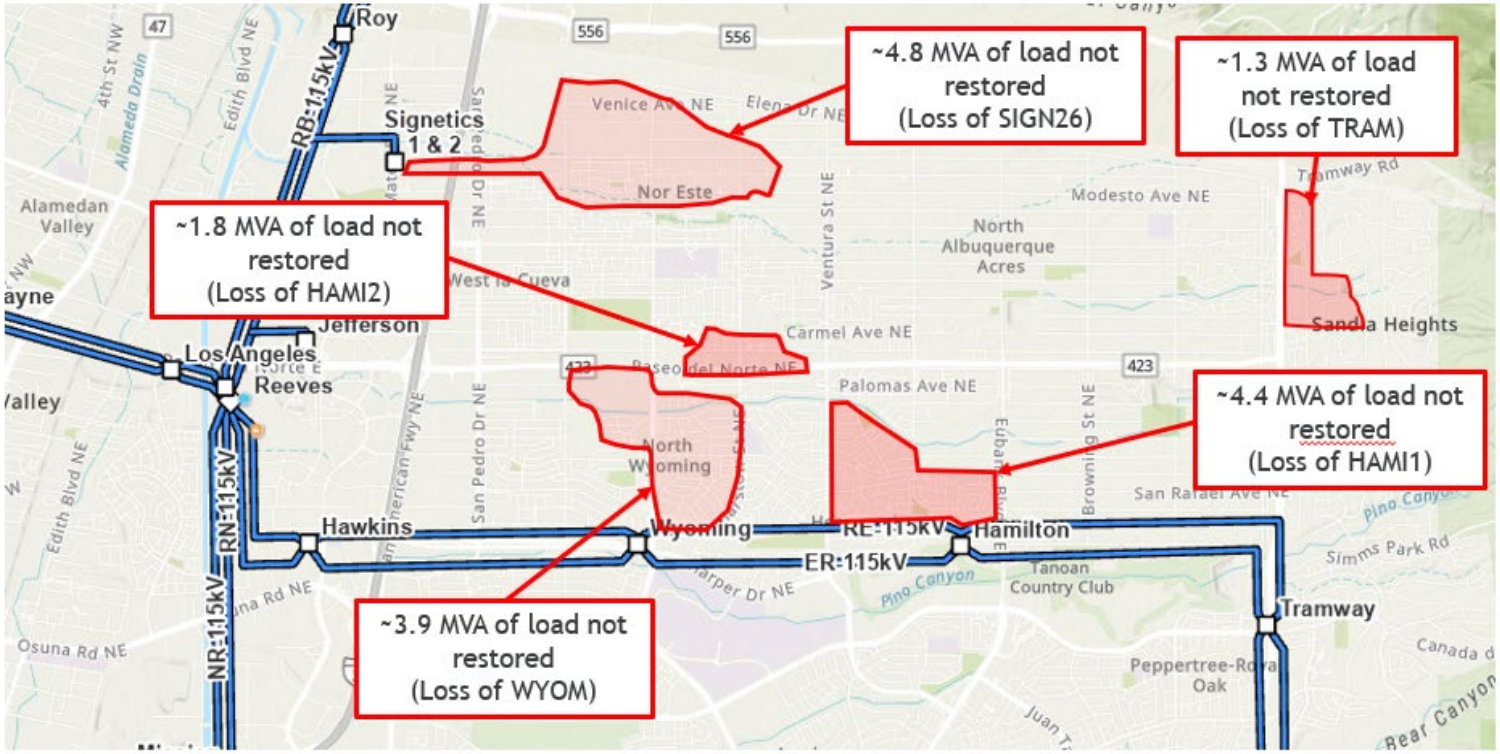
DISTRIBUTION FEEDERS WITH LOAD GROWTH FROM 2021 TO 2024



The colored areas on the map are the locations of load growth from 2021 to 2024. The load increase measured in each area is shown in kilovolt-amperes (kVA).

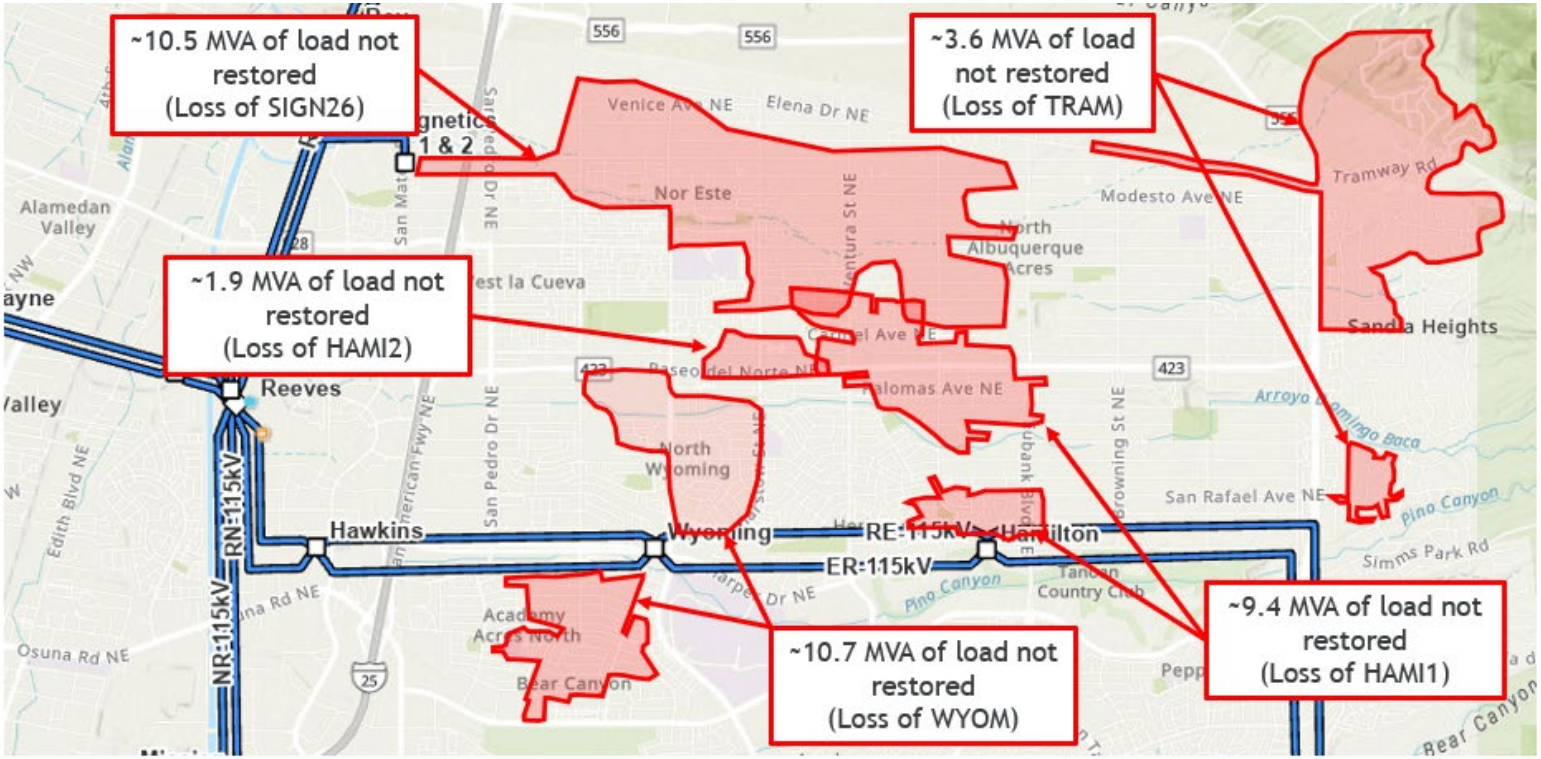
For reference, about 100 kVA can serve 10-14 average sized homes.

AREAS OF RISK – LOSS OF SUBSTATION TRANSFORMERS PROJECTED 2025



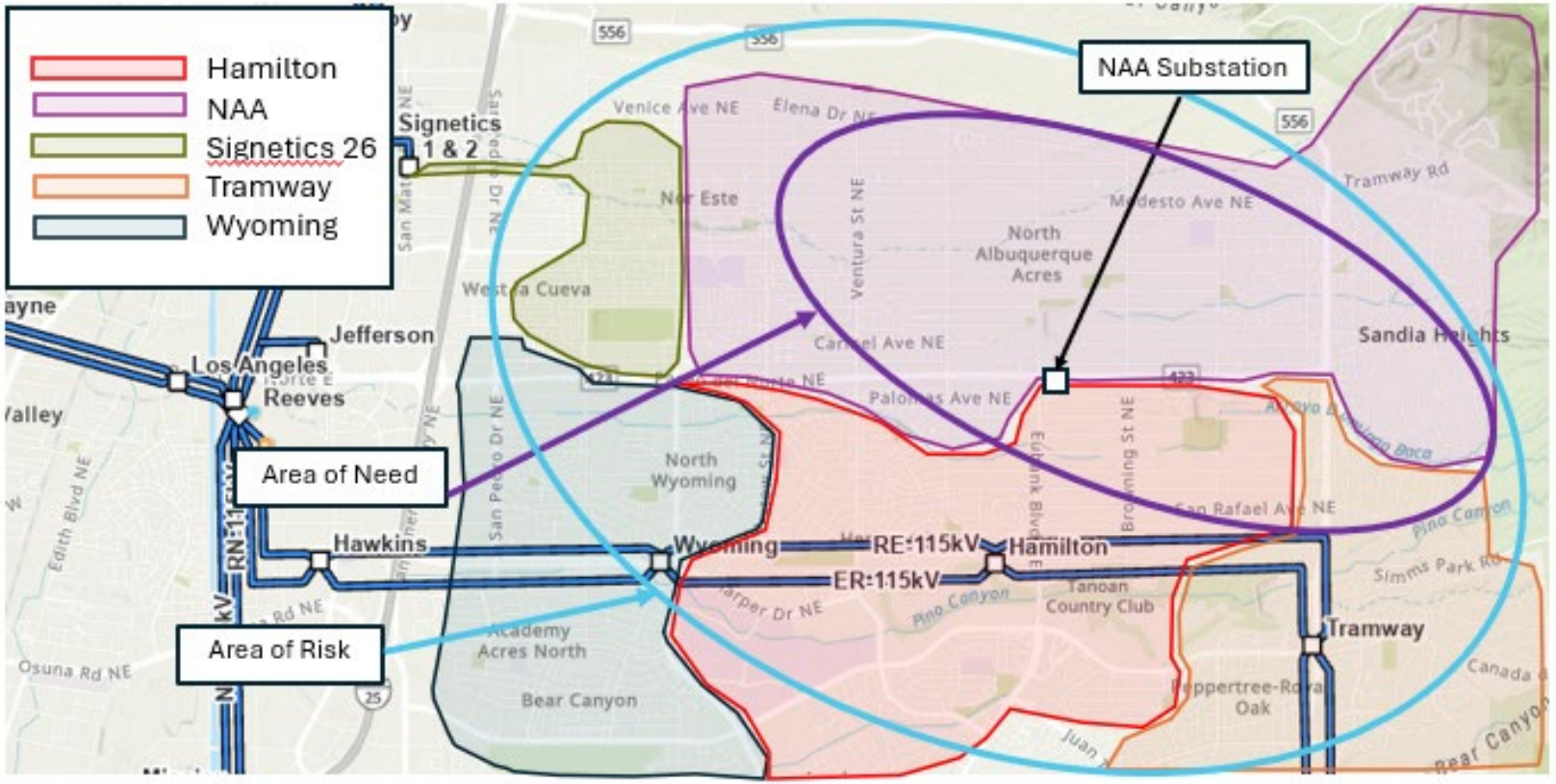
The red areas are potential areas at risk for brownouts in the event of a Substation Transformer outage during peak load timeframes. These are not co-incident, but per each area substation outage as noted for each Substation. A brownout is a decrease in service to accommodate system overloads and allow equipment to cool down from the heat created by the load flowing through the equipment because sufficient back up capacity is not available. A brownout could occur multiple days in the late afternoon/evening hours until repairs to a Substation Transformer can be made.

AREAS OF RISK – LOSS OF SUBSTATION TRANSFORMERS PROJECTED 2031



Projected 2031 potential areas at risk for brownouts in the event of a Substation Transformer outage during peak load timeframes.

NEW SUBSTATION NORMAL CONFIGURATION



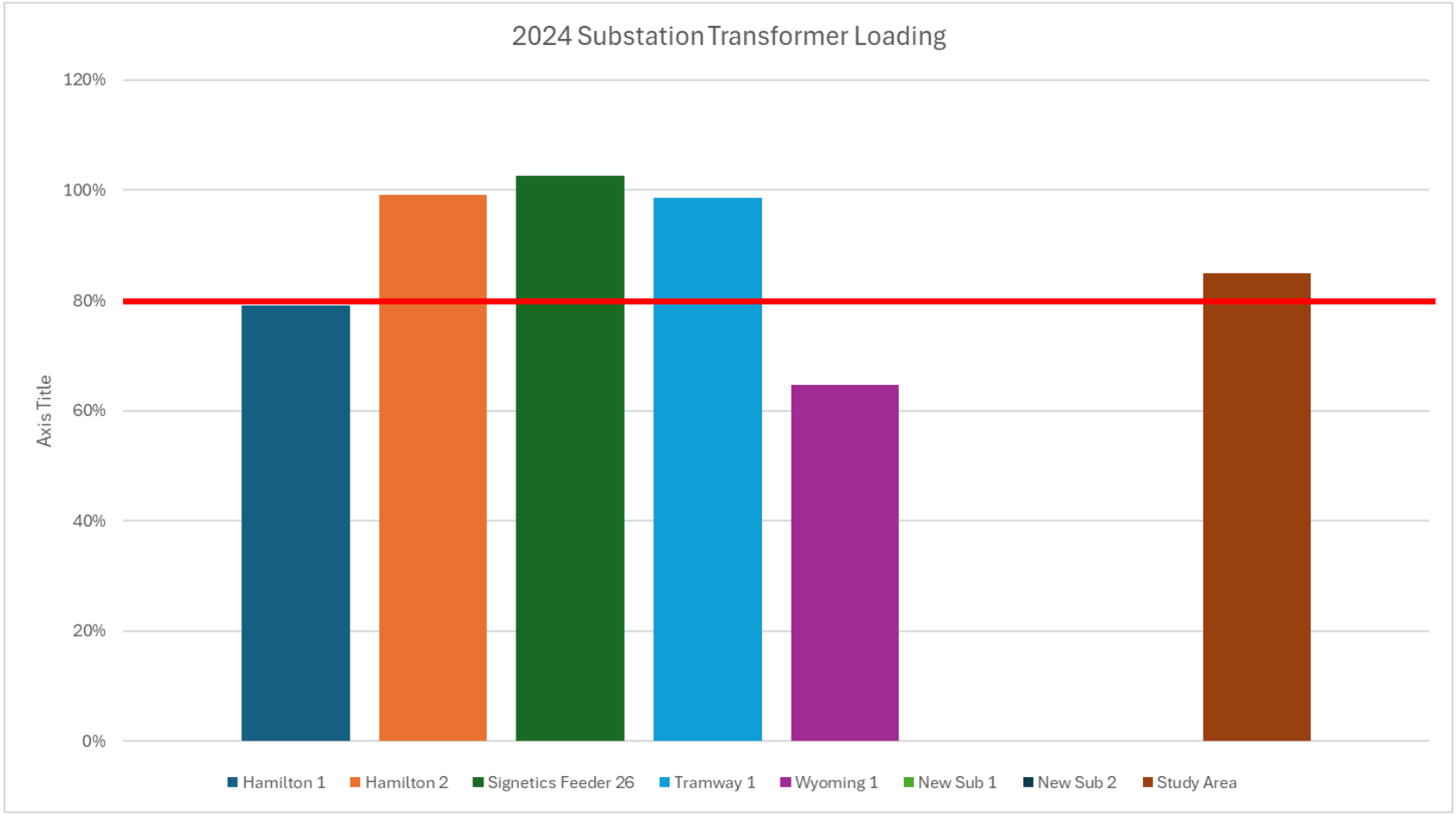
The location of the New Substation is not shown as the exact location; it is just for reference to the load it will serve.

EXISTING SUBSTATION TRANSFORMER LOAD WITH 2% GROWTH FORECAST

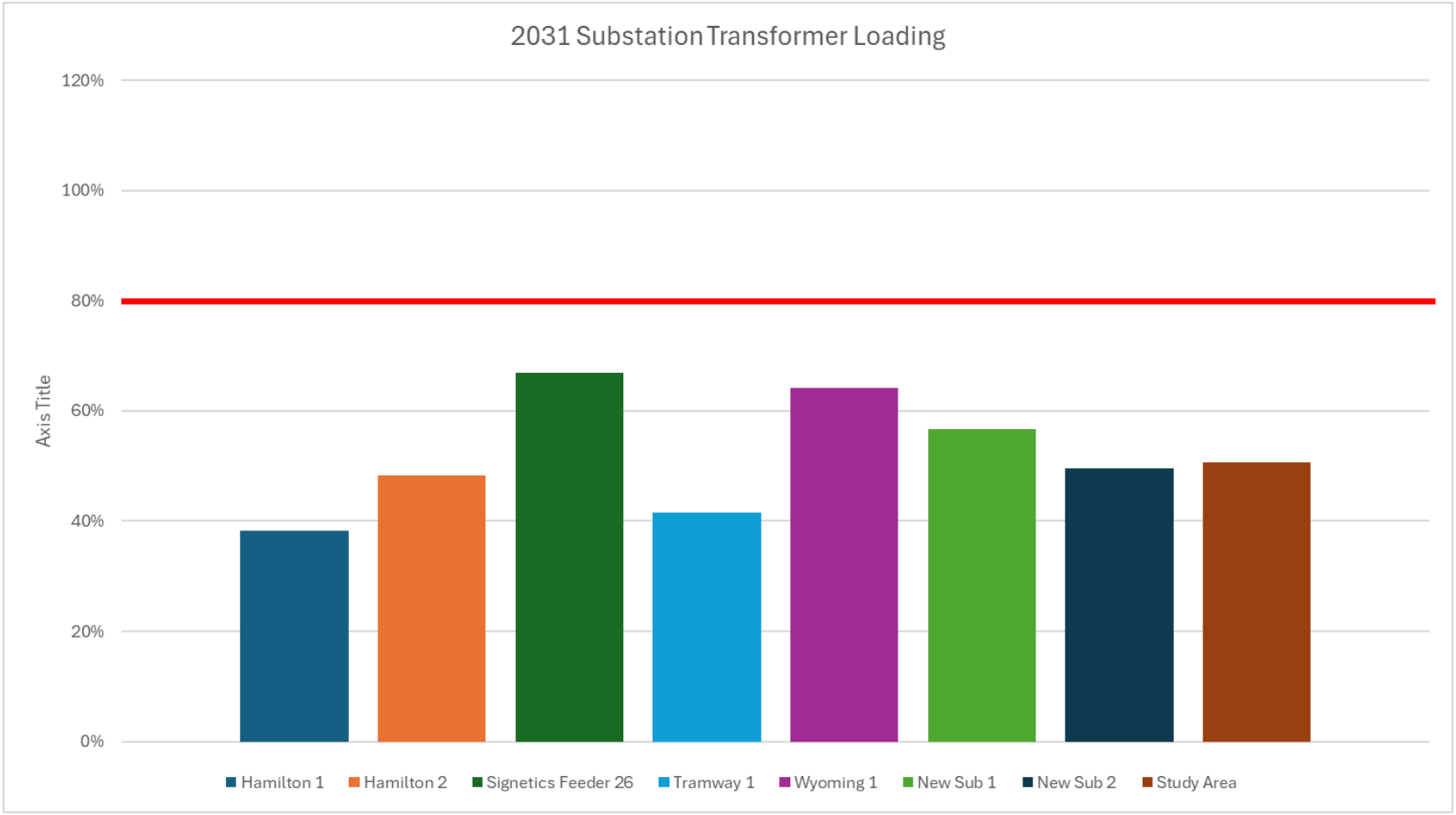
Table 2-5: 10-Year Substation Transformer Net Loading Forecast

Transformer/ Feeder	Normal Rating MVA	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034
Hamilton 1	22.4	79%	81%	82%	84%	85%	87%	89%	91%	93%	94%	96%
Hamilton 2	22.4	99%	101%	103%	105%	107%	109%	111%	114%	116%	118%	121%
Signetics Feeder 26	11.2	103%	105%	107%	109%	111%	113%	116%	118%	120%	123%	125%
Tramway	22.4	99%	101%	103%	105%	107%	109%	111%	114%	116%	118%	121%
Wyoming	33.7	65%	66%	67%	69%	70%	71%	73%	74%	76%	77%	79%
Study Area	**112.1**	**85%**	**87%**	**88%**	**90%**	**92%**	**94%**	**96%**	**98%**	**100%**	**102%**	**104%**

CURRENT SUBSTATION TRANSFORMER LOAD



SUBSTATION TRANSFORMER LOAD AFTER NEW SUBSTATION CAPACITY IS ADDED



PROJECT BENEFITS

SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED RISK OF POWER OUTAGES IN NORTHEAST ALBUQUERQUE

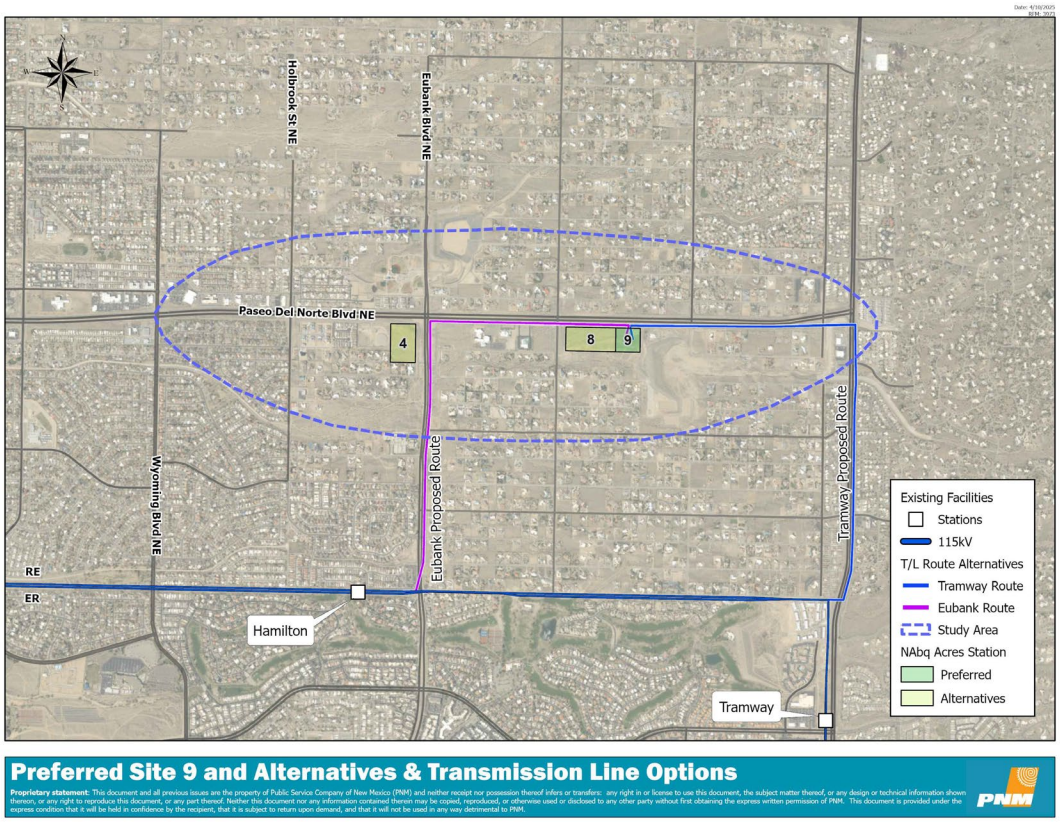
- Will bolster the Northeast Albuquerque metro area’s electric grid, reducing the risk of outages and other service interruptions in the area.
- Will help meet the area's current demand for electricity, keeping the lights on in dozens of neighborhoods north and south of Paseo del Norte.
- Will build a substation near load growth, bolstering PNM’s electric system and avoiding power outages in far Northeast Albuquerque now and in the future
- Will address increased demand from new homes and businesses, electric vehicle adoption, and other factors

OUTREACH CONDUCTED TO DATE

- Launched in August 2024.
- Sent update emails to 29 neighborhood and homeowners associations.
- Met with neighborhood and homeowners associations.
- Conducted eight follow-up briefings with association leadership, as well as meetings with:
    - The New Mexico Homebuilders Association
    - New Mexico Apartment Association and NAIOP
    - Store managers at nearby retailers
    - State and local elected officials
- Held two open houses, which were publicized via direct mail postcard, voicemail messages, and customer emails.

PROPOSED SITE AND ALTERNATIVES

PREFERRED SITE 9 AND ALTERNATIVE SITES 8 AND 4 IDENTIFIED WITH EXTENSIVE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK.



ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

BERNALILLO COUNTY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SUBSTATION APPROVAL.

- PNM submitted application: July 2025
- Bernalillo County Planning Commission held meeting: September 2025
- Bernalillo County Planning Commission vote: December 2025
- Bernalillo County Commissioners vote: Early 2026
- PNM expects to begin project construction: 2027
- PNM expects project to be in service: 2028


PNM