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AZ CORP COMMISSION

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TO: RENZ JENNINGS, CHAIRMAN

COPY: COMMISSIONER MARCIA WEEKS
DOCKET CONTROLFROM: COMMISSIONER CARL KUNASEK 

DATE: SEPTEMBER 10, 1996

RE: RETAIL ELECTRIC COMPETITION: RULEMAKING TIME LINE
U-0000-94-165

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Like you, I have received numerous requests to slow the ACC's retail electric competition rulemaking process to allow more input from interested parties. These parties include all of the state's electric utilities and, perhaps more importantly, the Residential Utility Consumer Organization. As it does not appear you or staff are inclined to extend the process, please clarify for me the TIME LINE you will impose, beginning with the presumed September 27th initial adoption of the proposed rule.

My understanding from staff is that we would allow 30 days from the time of initial adoption for written comments. And on the 31st day we could begin public hearings.

If it is your intention to have public hearings, I suggest that we have as many as possible in a wide variety of locations across the state.

So that there is no mistake, let me be clear about my position. I believe that competition will result in rates established by the market place, as are charges for all other commodities, for large and small consumers alike. However, I want us to be careful as we adopt the initial rules. Regardless of what we adopt, we will need to modify the rules as we go, so we need not expect or beat ourselves up trying to achieve perfection in the initial rule. However, I want to move carefully so that we put together the very best document possible from the beginning. That may or may not take some additional up-front time. I hope that you will remain open minded.