



ORIGINAL

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM

November 25, 2008

Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioners Wing
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2996

RE: APS Interim Rate Adjustment Request

E-01345A-08-0172

Dear Chairman Gleason and Members of the Commission:

Valley of the Sun United Way has a long history of investing in the well-being of others by addressing the needs of the underserved in our community. Since 1925, our organization has succeeded by partnering with outstanding Arizona businesses to provide a strong network of health and human services to residents of Maricopa County and beyond. Throughout this history, APS has demonstrated exceptional leadership by supporting our community in both the best and worst of economic conditions.

The vitality and health of the area business community is critical to providing support for quality health and human resource programs upon which Arizona residents depend. APS does this not only in partnership with United Way, but also through its unique energy programs designed to serve area residents most in need. Some examples include the APS Energy Support Program and the Medical Care Equipment Program, both of which offer discounts on energy bills for low-income customers, as well as Project SHARE, a program that provides emergency financial assistance to cover residents' energy costs.

As one of the largest private funders of health and human services in Arizona, Valley of the Sun United Way recognizes the unique value APS brings to our communities and state. Year after year, APS and its employee base have carried on a tradition of giving by providing unwavering support to communities across Arizona. As the wider business community continues to face economic uncertainty, organizations like APS are rising to the occasion with increased participation in United Way fund drive campaigns and innovative business solutions that make a significant difference to residents statewide. Without their continued strength and support, our communities will certainly face additional challenges from both a short- and long-term perspective.

Sincerely,

Merl E. Waschler
President & CEO

Arizona Corporation Commission

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CHAIRMAN