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TOWN OF CLARKDALE
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Marc Spitzer
Az Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, Az. 85007

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCUMENT CONTROL

Environmental Portfolio Standard
Docket No. RE-00000C-00-0377

Dear Marc,

The Corporation Commission has many traditional responsibilities. More recently, the Commission has been viewing its role as one that looks to Arizona's future. In that regard, you have discussed the Environmental Portfolio Standard (EPS) and how non traditional energy sources like wind and solar can be used to complement our energy supplies.

Now, there is another option to the energy production mix. Biomass energy production can be developed from the waste that is created from forest thinning and cleaning. Right now, the waste products from forest projects are stacked in slash piles and burned. Biomass energy can be created from these slash piles and added to the power grid. This seems to be a viable way to dispose of the waste from forest clean ups and eliminate the hazardous smoke from open burning.

In order to make Biomass energy production viable it would be necessary to extend the EPS beyond its sunset on 2012, allow for Power Purchase Agreements for longer than 10 years (so that investors see a return on their investment) and allow for a part of the EPS to be dedicated to Biomass.

The Commission has a rare opportunity to assist in the development of a clean energy source and at the same time help in forest clean up. I urge you to take the important steps necessary to make this happen.

Sincerely,

Michael Bluff,
Clarkdale Mayor

Arizona Corporation Commission
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