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August 3, 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

AUG 3 2009

The Honorable Kristen K. Mayes, Chairman
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

DOCKETED BY

Re: Extension Policy – 1000-Foot Free Line Extension
Docket # E-01345A-08-0172

Dear Commissioner Mayes:

At its August 3, 2009 meeting, the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors, by majority vote, authorized a request that the Arizona Corporation Commission reconsider the decision which allowed Arizona Public Service to rescind its 1000-foot no-charge line-extension policy.

The recent study by Elliot D. Pollack & Co. identified a number of adverse impacts from this policy change which could affect property owners, new home buyers and public entities, particularly in non-urban areas of the state. Direct impacts identified included higher costs of home construction and acquisition, reduced property values and delayed or cancelled construction projects. Furthermore, the study suggests that cities, towns, counties and other taxing jurisdictions will suffer indirect consequences including loss of local and shared sales tax revenues attributable to delayed/cancelled construction, loss of property tax revenues and loss of local/shared sales taxes that would otherwise be generated by new residents.

The current economic downturn has already taken its toll in terms of reduced property values, depressed home-sales activity and reduced revenues for state and local governments. Policy decisions that threaten to exacerbate this precarious situation must be carefully considered, taking into account both direct and indirect impacts.

In light of compelling evidence in support of the 1000-foot no-charge line-extension policy, we urge the Commission to take action as necessary to implement its restoration at the earliest opportunity.

Very truly yours

Thomas Thurman, Chairman
Yavapai County Board of Supervisors

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