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OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM

E-01575A-08-0328

From: Dave Grieshop [38daze@cox.net]
 Sent: Sunday, August 23, 2009 9:31 PM
 To: Newman-Web
 Cc: Mayes-WebEmail
 Subject: SSVEC Rate Hearing, Tuesday, August 25, 2009

ORIGINAL

Commissioner Newman:

It was regrettable you made a motion last week during the SSVEC rate hearing (aka, the Sonoita 69 KV line caper) to go against the administrative law judge and the ACC staff recommendation to require an independent review of the alternatives to the only viable course of action for upgrading the 69 KV line to improve reliable service to the Sonoita area residents. Had SSVEC not seriously studied the alternatives over the last few years for upgrading the line in question and addressing the grass land issues of the area, then I would have agreed with your motion. Unfortunately, you and all but one of your fellow commissioners allowed politics to get in the way of good corporate governance. SSVEC had done their due diligence; the ACC, led by you on this matter, capitulated!

From a jurisdictional perspective, anything less than 100KV is not within the purview of the ACC at several levels the most grievous being Constitutional. Second, a small group of self appointed "experts" from Sonoita held not only the vast majority of Sonoita residents' hostage but their vociferous vocal blather corralled a majority of the ACC itself. As if that was not bad enough, the statement in essence "for SSVEC to recoup the cost (\$250K) of the independent study in a SSVEC future rate increase request defies belief.

Personally I am not impacted by the 69 KV line upgrade, per se. But as a member of the SSVEC, I will be impacted (as will all coop members) when the additional cost of the independent study is passed along to the members. You have caused a substantial additional expense to be incurred by SSVEC and have delayed reliable upgraded electrical service to the Sonoita area. I fully expect a year from now that the independent study and analysis you have demanded will result in the same conclusions SSVEC engineering reached years ago. In short, political gain will delay reliable electricity to all resident of Sonoita and the SSVEC members will incur an unnecessary expense on behalf of your ego.

Stay tuned because a lot of folks in the SSVEC service area already are.

David Grieshop
Sierra Vista

Arizona Corporation Commission
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