

10/21
over looked in my web-mail
SS



0000104115

Sheila Stoeller

From: **ORIGINAL**
Sent:
To:
Subject:

Jeanne & Rob Horsmann [redacted]
Saturday, October 10, 2009 9:07 PM
Stump-Web; Pierce-Web; Mayes-Web; Kennedy-Web
Docket No. E-015754-08-0328, SSVEC's Application for Rehearing

RECEIVED

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

2009 OCT 22 P 2: 01

OCT 22 2009

Dear Chairman Mayes and Commissioners:

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

DOCKETED BY
MA

Unfortunately I cannot come to the open meeting on Tuesday, 13 Oct. due to my work schedule. So I would like you to please consider the following.

SSVEC is firmly committed to coal energy. They are not listening to their members who want clean, renewable, affordable energy. At the SSVEC board of directors' meeting after your decision on their rate request, the SSVEC staff got the board so fired up about your decision that they voted to approve their lawyers to sue the ACC over the decision. However, instead of this action, SSVEC has filed an Application for Rehearing.

It is my firm belief that SSVEC is giving 'lip service' to yourselves and this community in their agreement to conduct a feasibility study. They are stalling, going through the motions, hoping to get the decision reversed. They are not concerned with lowest cost, reliable power to the Sonoita, Elgin, Patagonia area but wish to go ahead with their plan to run the 69 kV line across the Babacomari Ranch for their own reasons. Their filing for a moratorium was a 'punishment' to this community for refusing to buckle under.

I believe that they feel they can wear you down by stalling, spending our money on the Application for Rehearing and the Application for a Moratorium, and wasting your time, the Commission's money, and their member's money.

This community is moving forward with our conservation efforts. The TogetherGreen grant team (a \$24,200 grant we received from National Audubon and Toyota) is currently putting together its Strategic Plan for the program, which is to create a grassroots education network to:

- Encourage individual conservation efforts
- Implement energy efficient upgrades on existing structures
- Install renewable energy systems on homes and businesses
- Promote energy efficiency standards on new construction
- Discover funding sources for residences/businesses/non-profits

This will result in:

- Improved quality of life
- Protection of natural resources
- Decrease the community's dependence on fossil fuels
- Reduce the community's carbon footprint

We are in the process of teaming with other like-minded organizations and obtaining matching funds to expand and enrich our program.

So far this year, 25 permits have been filed with Santa Cruz County for renewable energy systems in the Sonoita, Elgin, and Patagonia areas. One of these systems is approximately 1 MW in size. This is in spite of the fact that SSVEC has run out of SunWatts rebate funds. My husband and I are installing 4.2 kW of solar and we expect to receive a rebate in possibly 2-3 years, if ever.

Please stand firm in your initial decision and know that this community is behind you.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Horsmann

PO Box 

Sonoita, AZ 85637

Sue Downing
HC 1 Box
Elgin, AZ 85611

October 12, 2009

Re: E-015751-08-0328

Dear Chairman Mayes and Commissioners Stump, Pierce, Newman and Kennedy:

Since I am unable to attend SSVEC's Application for Rehearing on October 13th, please accept this letter in my absence. As a long time co-operative member I am disappointed, but not surprised that SSVEC chose to question ACC's decision. SSVEC listens to no one, neither their co-op members; nor the ACC. I believe the decision that ACC made in regard to the 69kV line is within the ACC charter. This issue is not about siting, it is about rates and how SSVEC continues to demonstrate irresponsibility in spending our money. The amount of money they have spent on legal fees is unbelievable and would have been better spent bringing an acceptable renewable energy solution to our community. Since they will not listen to the community or consider all options, they have been forced to spend money on a feasibility study. The Board and management are very angry. We saw evidence of this at the August Board meeting. They have chosen to spend even more money fighting the ACC decision. They are trying to blame the community and ACC for these expenses. They have threatened us with a moratorium and are trying to turn neighbor against neighbor and cause further hurt to our already suffering businesses. Unfortunately the Board believes everything management tells them. The Board is ineffective and they are clueless to what SSVEC management does. We have spent almost two years attending monthly Board meetings and community meetings offering viable solutions to the unwanted 69kV line. They have mismanaged the SunWatts program so there is no money left for homeowners and many have been left holding the bag.

We had hoped that the feasibility study would bring factual information and solutions to the table. However, we have grave concerns about the "independence" of this much needed study. SSVEC is controlling the outcome of the study by injecting subjective information into the data set, while restricting what data the community can include. We had requested community meetings with input, but given the current structure and timeline of the feasibility study this will not occur.

I also noticed that a lot of the information that SSVEC continues to withhold from the community has been submitted for the rehearing, but was not included as evidence in the original hearing.

The community supports your decision requiring an independent feasibility study. A year delay will only result in a more comprehensive study that includes all possible solutions for our community, including ones driven by new green technologies. We really do want to be a model rural community for renewable energy and will continue to work toward this goal.

Sincerely,

Sue Downing