

ORIGINAL

Jennifer Ybarra



0000105179

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM

E-01345A-08-0172

From: Ed Decker [ed.decker@flagstaffrealestate.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2009 10:28 AM
To: Newman-Web
Subject: power line extensions

Dear Commissioner Paul Newman

I would like to express my opinion about the APS power line extension to reinstate "the no cost" utility line extensions up to 1,000 feet provided by Arizona Public Service and other Electric Utility Companies.

About 18 months ago the Commission repealed a policy of granting 1000 feet of "no cost" electric service lines to a residence or business to connection to the nearest main power source. Now costs to the owner for this line, which is owned by APS, are running in the thousands of dollars.

Please consider the following;

1. The "free line" policy has been in effect for 54 years, with about EVERY Arizonan alive benefiting from the utility provided line extensions, especially in rural Arizona.
2. APS is a monopoly in our electricity market, providing no means to obtain competitive bids.
3. The power lines are a cost of doing business which APS should bear, just like other companies.
4. This policy is dramatically reducing property values, as many without power, are no longer affordable for housing.
5. Rural and out-lying Counties are being hit very hard, as they are largely undeveloped, making the repeal of the free extension an enormous hardship for rural residents and developers.
6. Rural and outlying Arizona is a partner in the economy and quality of life that ALL Arizonans enjoy. We pay for our growth with impact fees, building permits, and taxes and provide a huge benefit to the state. The economic downturn and crash of the state's housing market has all but stopped new construction rural Arizona and placed an unprecedented hardship on county businesses, homeowners and the county governments. Reinstating the 1,000 foot "no cost" utility provided line extension would be a helpful and productive action.

M. Ed Decker
Dallas Real Estate
1800 S. Milton, Ste 300
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
928.522-2430 off
522-2431 fax
380-3834 cell

AMERICAN PUBLIC SERVICE
FOCAL

2009 NOV 18 PM 4:02
RECEIVED
DICKSON
10/11/09