

E-01575A-08-0328
E-01575A-09-0453



0000107155

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISS

ORIGINAL

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Deb Reagan

Phone:

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2010 84750

Date: 2/4/2010

Complaint Description: 08E Rate Cases Items - In Favor
N/A Not Applicable

First:

Last:

Complaint By: Scarlett

Collins

Account Name: Scarlett Collins

Home:

Street: n/a

Work:

City: n/a

CBR:

State: AZ Zip: n/a

is:

Utility Company: Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Division: Electric

Contact Name: Lainie Keltner

Contact Phone:

Nature of Complaint:

***** E-01575A-08-0328 AND E-01575A-09-0453 *****

*** REFERRED FROM COMMISSIONER STUMP'S OFFICE ***

Customer sent the following -

From: Scarlett Collins [mailto:
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2010 4:34 PM
To: Newman-Web; Pierce-Web; Mayes-WebEmail; Kennedy-Web; Stump-Web
Subject: SSVEC in the news

Dear Commissioners:

Can you please file the following two articles that appeared in the Sierra Vista Herald under the following two dockets? Thank you.

E-01575A-09-0453
E-01575A-08-0328

Respectfully,

Scarlett Collins

Utility poll: Survey finds favor for SSVEC electric line
Wed, 01/27/2010 - 02:09

By Dana Cole

RECEIVED
2010 FEB - 4 / P 4: 16
AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

FEB - 4 2010

DOCKETED BY
[Signature]

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

AVIATION

Herald/Review

SIERRA VISTA - Based on a survey conducted by an independent company, SSVEC members strongly favor constructing a subtransmission line from Whetstone to Patagonia. The 69kV subtransmission line has been the subject of heated debate in recent months.

Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative is proposing to construct the 23-mile power line to improve service to the Sonoita, Elgin and Patagonia areas. Opponents of the line object to its proposed route, which would follow easements on the Babocomari Ranch, an area rich in biodiversity.

The random public opinion poll - conducted by RBI Strategies and Research and compiled by Severson and Associates - was a phone survey performed from Jan. 18 through Jan. 20.

SSVEC's summary report of the survey states: "By landslide margins, the member-owners of SSVEC favor building the 68kV line to the Sonoita, Elgin and Patagonia area. Within that area itself, ground zero for the opposition, the new line is favored by 70 percent (of those polled) with 18 percent opposed and 11 percent undecided."

Among the cooperative's entire membership that had been polled, "63 percent favor the line while 8 percent oppose it and 29 percent are undecided," the survey stated.

"We want to thank Transworld Network for conducting the survey without charging SSVEC, which means it doesn't impact our members," said Jack Blair, SSVEC chief member services officer.

The poll's results, Blair added, reaffirm what SSVEC already believed, based on "many conversations and meetings with our members."

The survey comes on the heels of a recently completed feasibility study that the Arizona Corporation Commission ordered SSVEC to conduct. The independent, third-party study was ordered after commissioners heard objections from a number of people who oppose the line. During an SSVEC rate case hearing in Tucson, the opponents addressed the commission and expressed concerns about the line's potential environmental impact to the Babocomari Ranch and surrounding area. The commission ordered the feasibility study and told SSVEC to stop the line's construction. In addition, the cooperative is to hold a number of public forums to discuss the study's findings and answer questions.

SSVEC argues that the line's opponents are mainly residents who purchased property along the proposed route after SSVEC had purchased the easements almost 30 years ago.

Cochise County supervisors support power line

Wed, 01/27/2010 - 02:14

By Shar Porier

Herald/Review

BISBEE - The Cochise County Board of Supervisors stood behind the new 69kV subtransmission line and substation proposed by Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative in the western part of the county.

At their meeting Tuesday, Supervisors Richard Searle, Ann English and Pat Call agreed that the upgrade to the failing power line in the Whetstone-Patagonia area was necessary for current county residents and future growth. They agreed to send a letter to the Arizona Corporation Commission to show their support.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Currently, SSVEC's line that serves the area is at capacity and subscribers can encounter 270 hours of power outages a year. The idea is to run a heavier line from Mustang Corners at Highway 90 and Highway 82 in Whetstone to Patagonia, said Jack Blair, SSVEC's chief member services officer. The project includes a new substation.

Blair gave the supervisors an overview of the response received from the co-op's subscribers in a poll that was overwhelmingly supportive for the project.

Eighty-eight percent said they were satisfied with SSVEC service and 84 percent said the line should be built. Eleven percent of the customers they spoke with opposed the new line.

In December, due to public outcry, an independent study was ordered by the Corporation Commission. Protesters said the new line would create environmental impacts to fragile grasslands and biodiversity in the Babocamari area.

The power company agreed to pay \$360,000 for the study, even though the Corporation Commission has no say in transmission lines under 110 kV, Blair said. The study, paid for by SSVEC members, was conducted by Navigant Consulting of Massachusetts to determine a route and the necessity. The route selected by Navigant offered the least imposition on viewsheds and affected the fewest residents.

In hopes that the utility company doesn't have to jump through any more hoops at the cost to subscribers, the supervisors agreed to send the letter of support.

Supervisor Pat Call said he was upset with Newman's description of county residents, but felt that the bigger issue was the bullying tactics of the Corporation Commission on a small company.

"We need to consider the rogue nature of the current ACC board," added Call. "The ACC is obviously concerning itself with matters it shouldn't."

Though Ann English's husband sits on the SSVEC board of directors, deputy county civil attorney Britt Hanson said it was not a conflict of interest for her to vote on the matter.

Supervisor Richard Searle pointed out that SSVEC has a long history of serving residents in the county and that it is "a solid company."

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

Customer comments entered for the record and filed with Docket Control.

End of Comments

Date Completed: 2/4/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 84750

E-01575A-08-0328
E-01575A-09-0453

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Deb Reagan

Phone:

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2010 84763

Date: 2/4/2010

Complaint Description: 08E Rate Cases Items - In Favor
N/A Not Applicable

First:

Last:

Complaint By: Wayne

Coates

Account Name: Wayne Coates & Patricia Wiercinski

Home:

Street: n/a

Work:

City: Sonoita

CBR:

State: AZ Zip: 85637

is:

Utility Company: Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Division: Electric

Contact Name: Lainie Keltner

Contact Phone:

Nature of Complaint:

***** E-01575A-08-0328 AND E-01575A-09-0453 *****

***** REFERRED FROM CHAIRMAN MAYES' OFFICE *****

Customer sent the following -

From: Wayne Coates [mailto:\
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2010 1:49 PM
To: Newman-Web; Pierce-Web; Kennedy-Web; Mayes-WebEmail; Stump-Web
Subject: SSVEC and the the 69KV line re cases E-01575A-09-0453 and E-01575A-08-0328

To the following:

Paul Newman - Newman-web@azcc.gov
Gary Pierce - Pierce-web@azcc.gov
Sandra Kennedy - Kennedy-web@azcc.gov
Kristen Mayes - Mayes-web@azcc.gov
Bob Stump - Stump-web@azcc.gov

In our opinion SSVEC has done a good job of trying to find the best solution for the Sonoita line, a judgment confirmed by the ACC's own staff, the administrative law judge, and a third party study.

SSVEC has diligently worked with the community trying to resolve all of the issues being raised by a few vocal community members, but these few individuals simply will not drop the matter for reasons that are completely unclear. At a recent forum held at the school it was evident that these individuals really did not understand the

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

implications of what they were demanding be done, or what the costs (financial as well as reliability) would be to the members.

SSVEC is a valued part of the community and a good cooperative that is responsive to the needs of the members. In our dealings with employees, etc they have been completely up front in answering all questions (not just in regard to the line issue but other matters as well), and have exhibited professionalism leading us to have confidence in the employees, management, and directors of SSVEC to serve us reliably and at the best rate possible.

As we stated in an earlier email, it is time to stop wasting money and get the line built as soon as possible.

Given the fact that an independent study (which cost the members dearly) concluded the line was the best solution, what other possible reason is their to delay construction? Are these few individuals going to keep on with these delaying tactics while costing the members more money (ie the lawyer fees SSVEC is paying, more studies, supplying more documentation to them, etc. etc.) simply so they can try and make a point that lacks validity.

Please listen to the majority of residents in the area. They are speaking loudly by NOT arguing against construction of the line. They want and need to line to ensure quality and reliable service for all,

Please allow SSVEC to go ahead immediately and put the line in.

Sincerely,

Wayne Coates/Patricia Wiercinski

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

Customer comments entered for the record and filed with Docket Control.

End of Comments

Date Completed: 2/4/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 84763

E 01575A-08-0328

E 01575A-09-0453

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Brad Morton

Phone:

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2010 - 84731

Date: 2/4/2010

Complaint Description: 08E Rate Cases Items - In Favor
N/A Not Applicable

Complaint By: First: David Last: Bryan

Account Name: David Bryan

Home: (000) 000-0000

Street: n/a

Work:

City: n/a

CBR:

State: AZ Zip: 00000

is:

Utility Company: Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Division: Electric

Contact Name:

Contact Phone:

Nature of Complaint:

OPINION THROUGH CHAIRMAN MAYES

From: David Bryan etj
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2010 7:49 PM
To: Mayes-WebEmail
Subject:

I urge the Arizona Corporation Commission to immediately allow SSVEC to begin construction on the much needed Sonoita 69kV line. SSVEC, the ACC staff engineers, and now an independent third party have all reviewed this line and have come to the same conclusion. Delaying construction of this line does nothing but increase costs for all SSVEC members and make the ACC look bad as the comments below show:

There are always going to be cry babies whenever any type of improvement is planned. What, would they rather have black-outs? Fry their electric appliances due to low voltage? These people are absolutely ridiculous.

Mr. Neuman-I guess we were looking at different facts. You mentioned 200 members did it in good faith. They did it for lower costs and rebate. There is a waiting list for rebates. Kind of like when you are waiting for one from the government, and some politicians are playing games. You mention SSVEC has the privilege of serving some of AZ. finest citizens. Are these the same ones with the redneck thinking? Did you really mean this article and your concern. Or are you bitter because the independant study proved SSVEC correct? I do have a question Mr. Neuman, do you have solar on your house and office?

When there is growth it is necessary to have utility upgrades. The growth of the Babocomari Ranch area is not a thing that has been ongoing for decades, so in light of foresight of SSVEC back in 1982 they purchased the easements for expanding their services for an area that was bound to grow. They (SSVEC) have followed the Arizona Corporate Comissions demands for a third party study before going with this project further. The reality is that even with the downturn in the economy of late it is still a necessity to make these upgrades! If these

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

upgrades are not carry through many people will encounter further times of lose of power in the immediate future. Please remember this when and if you lose power in the future, you have done more harm than good. Reality has a tendency to bite you when you least expect it!

SSVEC bought the easements in 1982. MS Downing starts following the activity in 1991, 9 years LATER. SSVEC wins. MS Downing states that SSVEC is frivolously spent money. Well, if folks like her just tended to their own

business and allow SSVEC to tend to theirs, we would all be getting a rebate. Here is an idea. Those in Sonoita and other 'concerned' areas remove yourself from the grid entirely, to include the removal of all existing power lines,

at your expense; restore the area to the way it was 100 years ago. Remove any asphalt you may have (it leaches); disconnect and remove your water and gas lines as well. Then you can complain. MS Downing: Set the example! Lead, follow or get out of the way!

Mr. Newman may consider it "redneck" economics but if rooftop solar photovoltaics are such a good deal maybe the individual consumer (private citizens and business) would install them on their own. If it makes economic sense as Mr. Newman claims, then a government beauracracy and it onerous regulations would not be necessary. People, on their own would install these. Enough of these citizens and the utility company would see demand go down for their electricity. Exactly what Mr. Newman wants. But reality is that no matter how Newman paints it, the photovoltaic cells still don't compare to other electric producing technology, to include coal and nuclear power. So

Newman will support laws raising everybody's electric rates until we are forced to reduce our consumption. It may be a redneck thing to do, but maybe we all need to "monetize" Newman's big brother interference with our local utility companys.

Ms Downing, you seem to not like the fact SSVEC wants to build a substation and power line. Get over it and get a life. There was an independent study done. And proved SSVEC was correct. I'm tired of MY bill going up to cover

the costs of survives just because a FEW have objections. If you are that concerned about the wildlife build a perch by the lines and sit there like a scarecrow so the birds won't be affected. At a ratio of 3 to 1 most people in your area want the improved service. And when it comes to paying extra because of your nonsense I'm sure the ratio is a lot higher. I'd be able to understand your feelings more if SSVEC took the land. But SSVEC had the easement first before many homes were there. That is like building next to I-10 and then complaining there is noise from the cars. You've been following this case since the 1990s. Maybe you should have followed it before you bought AFTER SSVEC already owned the easement. I'm tired of paying for YOUR foolishness.

Apparently, Paul Newman of the Arizona Corporation Commission commented that Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative had a "redneck" attitude because he could not effectively counter the accuracy of remarks by SSVEC's Jack Blair that solar panels are only for the wealthy. Anyone who has seriously considered a home installation system knows they start around \$12,000. Even with rebates, the cost is still around \$8,000.

you don't have to own property to pay an electric bill. Also I moved here June 06, the independent study was required in 2009. There were 2 survives done. It should be dropped unless the few that object want to pay for a 3rd

or 4th survey. I don't want my rates higher just because of a few loud people cost the rest of us \$360,000 to date. Bet Sue Downing wasn't in the area when SSVEC purchased the easements in 1982, nor bothered, that lines were stretched to her place.

D Bryan

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

Opinion docketed

End of Comments

Date Completed: 2/4/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 84731

E-01575A-08-0328
E-01575A-09-0453

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Deb Reagan

Phone: (

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2010 84743

Date: 2/4/2010

Complaint Description: 08E Rate Cases Items - In Favor
N/A Not Applicable

First:

Last:

Complaint By: PETITION

PETITION

Account Name: Scarlett Collins

Home:

Street: n/a

Work:

City: n/a

CBR:

State: AZ Zip: n/a

is:

Utility Company: Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Division: Electric

Contact Name: Lainie Keltner

Contact Phone:

Nature of Complaint:

***** E-01575A-08-0328 AND E-01575A-09-0453 *****

***** REFERRED FROM CHAIRMAN MAYES' OFFICE *****

Customer sent the following -

Dear Commissioners:

Can you please file these additional petitions under the following two cases:

E-01575A-09-0453

E-01575A-08-0328

as SUPPORT for the Sonoita 69kV line.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Scarlett Collins

Customer filed a petition signed by 25 customers and stating -

"We urge the Arizona Corporation Commission to immediately allow SSVEC to begin construction on the much needed 69kV line. SSVEC, the ACC staff engineers, and now an independent third party have all reviewed this

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

line and have come to the same conclusion. Delaying construction of this line does nothing but increase costs for all SSVEC members.

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

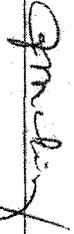
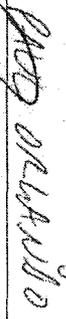
Comments entered for the record and filed with Docket Control.

End of Comments

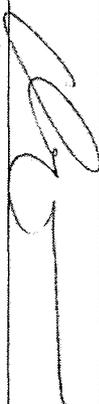
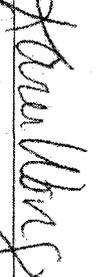
Date Completed: 2/4/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 84743

We urge the Arizona Corporation Commission to immediately allow SSVVEC to begin construction on the much needed 69kV line. SSVVEC, the ACC staff engineers, and now an independent third party have all reviewed this line and have come to the same conclusion. Delaying construction of this line does nothing but increase costs for all SSVVEC members.

Printed Name	Signature	Address
Cheyenne Fletcher		4505 Calle Cibola Sierra Vista AZ 85635
CHRIS ZOCHER		4503 CALLE CIBOLA SIERRA VISTA AZ 85635
Scott Gould		6030 S. Apache Rose TR Hereford, AZ 85615
Corey Seidli		5072 E. Marble Dr. Hereford, AZ 85615
JAMES E BURR		2828 VIA DEL OESTE SIERRA VISTA AZ 85635
Bonnie McDonald Fletcher		4503 Calle Cibola Sierra Vista AZ 85635
Amelina		1504 Canada Ave SI AZ 85650
Christina Bridges		4605 Territorial Loop SU, AZ 85635
Paula Walker		7580 S Rockwood Drive Hereford, AZ 85615
Richard Bryan		621 S. 1st Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
Brad Nolan		5400 ME View Rd Hereford AZ 85615
Nadia Tackett		3157 S. Sioux Ave Sierra Vista AZ 85635

We urge the Arizona Corporation Commission to immediately allow SSVVEC to begin construction on the much needed 69KV line. SSVVEC, the ACC staff engineers, and now an independent third party have all reviewed this line and have come to the same conclusion. Delaying construction of this line does nothing but increase costs for all SSVVEC members.

Printed Name	Signature	Address
Leo James		2189 Banff Ct. Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
Eileen R. Stepany		5437 S. Sagune Ave Sierra Vista, AZ 85632
Marita Curry		365 Sherburny St. S.V. AZ 85635
Farah M. Hader		306 A Third, Thatcher City, AZ 85616
Theresa Selam		5111 Evergreen Dr. SV AZ 85635
JOHN V. KING		1270 E. BUCKHORN DR, SV, AZ 85635
Ruth L. Roush		10847 E. Raindance St. Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
Kimberlee James		2189 Banff Ct. SV, AZ 85635
Andrea Sellack		5162 S. Cheyenne Ave. Sierra Vista, AZ 85632
Ricard m'Young		3755 S. F-mic Bend Pl.
Karen Wong		233 Judd St, SV, AZ 85635
Gloria Dolby		5980 S. Wild Rose Rd. Hereford AZ 85615

