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

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2010 FEB -8 P 1:20

February 5, 2010

Arizona Corporation Commission
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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
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Members of the Arizona Corporation Commission:

I am writing to the members of the Commission to express my sincere appreciation for the professionalism and customer service oriented operations of the Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative (SSVEC). I moved to this part of Arizona in 2003. Shortly after we arrived, there was a massive storm that moved through the area that destroyed homes, businesses and damaged many others. It created severe havoc with the infrastructure SSVEC. I was very impressed with the rapid response of SSVEC to the situation. Power was restored in an amazingly short time considering the devastation. This was my first impression of SSVEC and to date nothing has happened to tarnish that image. Their reputation in my eye has continued to increase.

Recently I retired as the superintendent for the Willcox Unified School District. As an executive who was responsible for the health and security of over 1500 individuals, I was always impressed with the rapid and positive response of SSVEC to any situation that arose in the District. Additionally, SSVEC worked diligently with the District in auditing power consumption and looking at ways to reduce energy consumption. They were a first class business partner.

SSVEC is a valued member of our community. They invest funds to actively support many community endeavors that are necessarily in the realm of providing electrical services. They are a true community partner in every sense of the word from providing programs to assist the needy to supporting a variety of youth activities.

Recently, SSVEC has come under attack from a small group of individuals over the Sonoita Project. A careful review of the facts will more than vindicate SSVEC. SSVEC is responsive to the needs of its patrons and to the communities that it serves. It has carefully developed strategic long range plans to adequately provide for growth and technological advancement. A good of example of this is the Sonoita Project. The present right of way was purchased years ago to provide for the day when the Sonoita area growth would demand more services. The very people who are complaining about the so called ineptness of SSVEC are also the ones who are attempting to block the construction of the new line. SSVEC has conducted several highly advertised public meetings about this matter (more than expected).

I have been most distressed at the reactions and actions of the Commission as it relates to SSVEC and this project. I am very concerned that the lack of support by the Commission

will create more undue stress and expense on the rest of the Coop's patrons as well as negatively impact the Sonoita area. Your actions have raised the following questions for which I would like answers:

1. Why did Chairman Mayes in Sierra Vista public hearing and the Administrative Law Judge in her ruling both say the ACC didn't have jurisdiction but the ACC asserted jurisdiction anyway?
2. Now that SSVEC, the ACC staff, as well as the independent third party study have all looked at the same evidence and drawn the same conclusion, why is the Commission still wasting SSVEC's money and my money by still stalling on the building of the line?
3. Why has the Commission failed to examine the authors of the complaints? I feel sure that such an examination will demonstrate that these have all been filed by the small groups of individuals as part of concerted effort to publicly discredit SSVEC.
4. Why has the Commission not been able to recognize that this organized campaign has distorted the view that the commission has of SSVEC? You need to realize that SSVEC is a good cooperative, a good neighbor, and actively participates in helping the community at large that it serves.

I want to encourage you to realize that SSVEC is an excellent electric cooperative and deserves your support. I encourage you to grant permission for SSVEC to proceed on this project as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely,



Donald L. Roberts