

ORIGINAL

Jennifer Ybarra



0000107778

E-01575A-09-0453

From: L & P Thornburg [claythorn@theriver.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2010 12:54 PM
To: Newman-Web
Subject: SSVEC Reliability Project

RECEIVED

200 JAN 29 A 8:31

Dear Commissioner Newman, Re: E-01575A-09-0453 and
~~E-0157A-08-0328~~, Sonoita Electrical Reliability Project

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
SECRET CONTROL

We totally support SSVEC and the proposed 69 Kv line to Sonoita, which will greatly improve the reliability of power. There have been too many power outages.

SSVEC is a great organization. They keep us informed and let us know ways to conserve energy with their publications.

We request that the SVECC is allowed to move forward and install the lines and station soon. It has been clearly researched and verified by professionals as the best solution to this problem.

Respectfully, Laurel & Paul Thornburg (longtime local residents 27+ and 40+ years) P.O. Box 443 Sonoita AZ 85637

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

JAN 29 2010

DOCKETED BY	<i>[Signature]</i>
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Jennifer Ybarra

E-01575A09-0453

From: Stephen White [mariahkw@cox.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 4:52 PM
To: Newman-Web
Subject: Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative (In Defense Of...)

To: Commissioner Paul Newman

**Re: Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc
(SSVEC)**

From: Stephen and Lauvon White

2087 Piccadilly Court

Sierra Vista, AZ 85653

520-459-2714

Date: 26 January 2010

It has been brought to our attention that you have received letters from the residents in the Sonoita-Elgin area in opposition to the proposed power line in that area. It is one thing to disagree with this matter, but quite another to accuse the SSVEC of not communicating with its members. We receive the member magazine, "Currents", annual reports, regular press releases and a wonderful communications insert in our monthly bill. In fact the monthly bill insert has been a mainstay of support for the Sierra Vista Community Chorus. It regular announces upcoming performance dates for the chorus. The Sierra Vista Community Chorus is a non-profit organization and the benefits from

these announcements are immeasurable. This "Co-operative Update" insert keeps the community informed of SSVEC news as well as community activities. Wayne Crane, Manager of the newsletter is to be commended for his efforts to support and keep our community informed. The SSVEC is to be commended for supporting our schools through scholarships, the Washington Youth Tour and the Science Fair. These school supports are accomplished without raising our rates and are paid for by the SSVEC Foundation. We have lived in Sierra Vista for over thirteen years and have found the SSVEC Cooperative and believe that they operate in an open and honest manner.

Jennifer Ybarra

E-01575A-09-0453

From: Telly Stanger [tvstanger@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2010 6:17 PM
To: Newman-Web
Subject: Cases: E-01575A-09-0453 & E-01575A-08-0328

Dear Commissioner Newman,

I am sending this e-mail to you to communicate my satisfaction with Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative (SSVEC) and my displeasure with the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC). I believe that SSVEC communicates well with it's owner members the issues the cooperative is facing, their financial well-being, and current issues in the industry that ultimately affect us as members. They have done this with the issues of the Sonoita line that they have been trying to build to provide quality electrical service to the customers in that area. I am displeased with the ACC and their demands of SSVEC, especially at the cost of the cooperative's entire membership. It proves that the commission is more interested in its' political aspirations than the majority of a utilities customers. This is proven in the fact that the ACC knew from the beginning of this debacle that it had no jurisdiction in the matter, yet exercised a heavy hand to show some sort of authority.

SSVEC is a valued member of the communities in which it serves. They contribute to local charitable causes, and help young people, and those in current need to a new start in their lives. As with any utility, I understand that there are people that will never be happy, for whatever reason. Overall, I believe that with the rising costs of electricity and all energy, for that matter, we still are being treated fairly with the rates that SSVEC provides us with. They have always been willing to help when it's been needed, answer questions honestly when asked, and provide support and charity in many cases.

In the end, I believe that the few anti-supporters of the Sonoita line and the ACC will look quite sheepish due to the demands they have imposed on the Cooperative and the fact that they have proven SSVEC correct from the beginning. It's wrong that a government entity should impose such demands on a member owned utility without considering everyone that pays.

I can honestly tell you that I'm especially displeased with you as a commissioner. I do not believe you are in touch with the issues and the reality of what it takes to operate a utility. I am also surprised at your remarks toward the residents of Cochise County. While I do not speak for them as a whole, I feel quite confident that you will have a hard time finding a vote for you in the future from anyone in this county. I know you won't find one in my household.

Telly Stanger

Jennifer Ybarra

E-01575A-09-0453

From: Wayne Crane [wecrane@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2010 5:49 PM
To: Newman-Web
Subject: Funding for Cooperative Programs

Commissioner Newman:

I live in Cochise, Arizona, and am a member of Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative.

I wanted to write you regarding a couple of points.

I had been following the local newspapers' coverage of the banter regarding net metering (and delayed rebates) and the line extension in the Sonoita-Elgin area. Both lead me back to a point that I've very concerned with.

When it comes to paying for rebate programs or feasibility studies or other regulatory costs, it is the members who pay. I find it interesting that many of my neighbors have no idea that the money for the rebate program comes from a monthly assessment on each member's bill! Obviously the same is true for any other costs mandated by the Commission.

I have followed some of the hearings (listening when I can and reading newspaper follow-up stories).

To this point I have not heard an acknowledgement by the commission (or the cooperative for that matter) that every cost incurred will be picked up by the individual members on their monthly electric bills.

So in the case of the delay in rebate payments, I can understand someone being concerned that he/she will have to wait weeks/months before getting payments. Can that person understand that there are thousands of us who dutifully pay that surcharge each month to make the rebate possible in spite of not having an opportunity to take advantage of the very program we're all paying for?

I can understand someone being concerned about their view being obstructed by a few power poles (though I don't know how they can blame the cooperative when the cooperative purchased easements before the individuals built their homes). Can those individuals understand that each of us is paying for the upgrade and all the costs associated with continued outages and delays?

As a cooperative member I understand that each member deserves affordable, reliable electric power. I have no problem in helping to upgrade the system for members in Santa Cruz County given the current quality of their power reliability. After all, there are times when upgrades are made in my rural area and all the other members help pay for them. But there are mounting expenses that are coming about because a small group of individuals are blocking efforts by the cooperative to do its job as mandated by the Corporation Commission!

Please understand who ends up paying the bills and look out for us!

Thank you.

Wayne E. Crane
Cochise, Arizona

Hotmail: Free, trusted and rich email service. [Get it now.](#)

Jennifer Ybarra

E-01575A-09-0453

From: AZfrogger [AZfrogger@msn.com]
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2010 4:41 PM
To: undisclosed-recipients
Subject: SSVEC

Dear Commissioners,

I have been an SSVEC customer for over 20 years. Soon after I moved to Sierra Vista from California there was talk about a new line to Sonoita. There was "push back" then from the community and SSVEC responded by finding ways to make things better and was able to delay building the line. What I understand is there are no options left to "upgrade" the existing line. It's time to put in the new line and be done with it. I read that the people complaining the loudest are the ones who didn't read their disclosure statements when they purchased the lots and ignored the existing utility easement. SSVEC was forward looking then at obtaining easements which is good for all the member owners. Why should I pay more because a few loudmouths chose to ignore the easements.

So these "not in my backyard" people from Sonoita cost me as a member owner for this extra third party review which supported what SSVEC and the ACC staff recommended. WHY?

SSVEC does so much for the local communities. Need a meeting room for group or organization? If you aren't trying to make profit you can use the SSVEC Board rooms in Willcox or Sierra Vista for free. Let's look at all the youth programs they support in all the schools. You can't tell me that SSVEC doesn't care about its members.

Do we need renewable energy shoved down our throats? I wish the media would finish the sentence when they talk about how many homes a PV project will support. They say that "PIE-in- sky" project will power up 2,000 homes, what they leave out is "for 6-8 hours per day when the sun is shining". Then they will be telling the whole truth about PV.

Yes I am frustrated, I have a good job but I don't have extra money to invest in PV but I have a surcharge on my electric bill to help the people who live at the golf course or a gated community put it on their homes. It may not be a program meant only for the rich but is surely is not a program for the blue collar worker or those who rent their home or apartment. If PV is so good let them compete for my money like everyone else.

SSVEC is a great company I just hate to see them put in a bad light by the uniformed or those with a personal agenda.

David

Jennifer Ybarra

E-01575A-09-0453

From: Jay Kiplinger [jkiplinger@cox.net]
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2010 10:24 AM
To: Newman-Web
Subject: Cases E-01575A-09-0453 E-01575A-08-0328

Commissioner Paul Newman,

I am writing in reference to the proposed Sonoita 69 KV transmission line, Cases E-01575A-09-0453 E-01575A-08-0328.

I sincerely appreciate the complex decisions you as commissioners have to make are difficult and not always popular.

I am quite versed with the notion that economic growth does not happen without controversy, capital expenditure and above all far seeing minds.

I also believe I understand the concerns of the few people who wish the line not to be built. At this time in my life I would choose not to pay for what they want in terms of alternate energy sources and changes to the proposed transmission line.

I believe SSVEC is being prudent and responsible in trying to install the needed electric infrastructure to handle the current and future growth towards Sonoita.

Therefore, I would hope you choose to do what is feasibly and reasonably correct in letting SSVEC take care of their cooperatives needs.

It's a shame that the health and welfare of the many is not as important as the picturesque view of a few.

A concerned member of SSVEC,

James Kiplinger

Jennifer Ybarra

E-01575A-09-0453

From: Jeff Bohlender [bossfarm@vtc.net]
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2010 7:43 AM
To: Newman-Web
Subject: Senoita power line

January 24, 2010

Arizona Corporate Commission
1200 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Regarding case numbers: E01575A-09-0453 and E01575A-08-0328

Dear Commissioner Newman:

It has come to our attention as cooperative members of SSVEC that a few landowners near Senoita are resisting the building of a needed power line in their area. It is my understanding that nearly all of those few landowners also bought their property with full knowledge that SSVEC had a previous easement to build a line near their property if and when it became necessary.

From what I can observe, the time has arrived to build that line. SSVEC has already wasted enough members's time and money trying to appease these few people who evidently don't realize what an easement is. It appears to me that SSVEC has bent over backwards trying to keep them happy, exploring all other options, but finding no other viable option than the one originally planned and prepared for years in advance.

From what I hear, those few landowners have now resorted to smearing SSVEC's reputation. However, having done business with SSVEC for over 10 years now, I can testify to SSVEC's integrity and ability to provide excellent service. The smear campaign of a few selfish landowners appears to be a bunch of smoke in an attempt to preserve their private views of nature. Therefore, I urge you to carefully listen to SSVEC's side of the case. I believe SSVEC is the legitimate one in this case, representing the legitimate interests of thousands of area wide members, representing also the economic well-being of the community as a whole. If those few landowners wanted no new power lines near their property, they should have bought property that didn't have an existing SSVEC easement nearby.

If you check into this case carefully, I think you will find the overwhelming majority of us out here want to see that line be built as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Jeff Bohlender
Bohlender San Simon Farm

Jennifer Ybarra

E-01575A-09-0453

From: Cassie Levitt [cassie.levitt@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 4:28 PM
To: Newman-Web
Subject: E-01575A-09-0453& E-01575A-08-0328

Dear Commissioner,

SSVEC is a great cooperative; they are involved in our community and are very honest with their members. They support the schools and other local organizations. We receive a newsletter every month with updates, and are always made a top priority when we call. The Sonoita line has been proven to be the correct choice made by SSVEC and agreed upon with ACC and outside researchers. Their correct decision is now costing them undue time and money. The negative feedback by the Sonoita members is painting an incorrect picture of SSVEC, and these members knew of this line when they bought property. I hope that this is quickly solved and the line is put in immediately not longer wasting time and money.

Cassandra Levitt

Your E-mail and More On-the-Go. Get Windows Live Hotmail Free. [Sign up now.](#)

Jennifer Ybarra

E-01575A-09-0453

From: Mark Boyle [mark@sierrafloors.com]
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 4:18 PM
To: Newman-Web
Subject: SSVEC

Re:
SSVEC 69 kv line that runs from Mustang Corners down to Sonoita.

As a coop member I find this to be a giant waste of SSVEC time and of the members money. This is not a case of emanate domain, but a clear cut case of ownership of land the coop and it's members purchases years ago. Now we are being punished for havening the foresight to plan head, and look towards the future and save some money. But in todays world it just don't pay to work hard and plan ahead ,for the majority is the enemy, and it takes such a small minority to stop progress in it's treks. Where is the common scene in this matter or is there a plan to have Tucson Eclectic bring in the power from that direction, I wounder.

Stop wasting my money and get this approved.

Mark Boyle
Benson, AZ

Jennifer Ybarra

E-01575A-09-0453

From: David MacCollum [maccollum1@cox.net]
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 4:15 PM
To: Newman-Web
Subject: Proposed Sonoita Powerline

January 22, 2010

TO: Arizona Corporation Commissioner Paul Newman
Arizona Corporation Commissioner Gary Pierce
Arizona Corporation Commissioner Kris Mayes
Arizona Corporation Commissioner Sandra Kennedy
Arizona Corporation Commissioner Bob Stump

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

I have been a member of Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative (SSVEC) since 1965. In 1969 I was elected to the SSVEC Board of Directors and served for nine years until 1978. I am a licensed Professional Engineer in both Arizona and California and an engineering consultant with a national and international practice. I am proud of our excellently managed Cooperative and its development of a well-designed electrical distribution system to serve its members. I have reviewed in detail the engineering study by Navigant as ordered by your Commission.

At a rate hearing a year ago in Sierra Vista, a small group voiced concerns against the construction of a 69,000-volt transmission line. A quarter of these people did not even reside within our Cooperative's service area.

It is my professional opinion that this in-depth engineering study clearly shows that the concerns of this small group are totally without merit. Further, to best serve SSVEC's members in Elgin, Sonoita and Patagonia, the construction of this environmentally friendly transmission line and substation should be granted immediately by the Arizona Corporation Commission. Any further delay creates a wrongful and economic burden on SSVEC.

Respectfully,

David V. MacCollum, P.E., CSP
1515 Hummingbird Lane
Sierra Vista, Arizona 85635
Telephone: 1-520-458-4100
E-mail: maccollum1@cox.net

Jennifer Ybarra

E-01575A-09-0453

From: Cassie [cassie@sierracycles.com]
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 4:13 PM
To: Newman-Web
Subject: E-01575A-09-0453& E-01575A-08-0328

Dear Mr. Commissioner,

SSVEC has been a part of my community my whole life, they are very supportive of the local school and are always open and honest with our dealings. I have heard nothing but negative views of SSVEC during this sonata line dilemma, which are creating a distorted view of the cooperative. Since the SSVEC staff, ACC Staff, and the outside researchers are in agreement SSVEC's time and money is being wasted by people that knew of this when they bought their property. Since it was determined by Chairman Mayes that the ACC does not have jurisdiction they should not allow them to assert it anyways. SSVEC has always been a fabulous company to work with and a great asset to our community.

Cassie Cleere