

**ORIGINAL**

**Board of Supervisor**



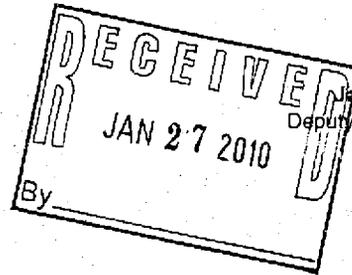
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Ann English  
Chairman  
District 2

Richard R. Searle  
Vice-Chairman  
District 3

Patrick G. Call  
Supervisor  
District 1

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Michael J. Ortega  
County Administrator

James E. Vlahovich  
Deputy County Administrator

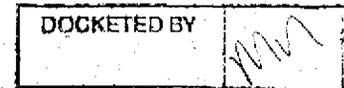
Katie A. Howard  
Clerk

January 26, 2010

Arizona Corporation Commission  
Commissioners Wing  
1200 West Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2996

Arizona Corporation Commission  
**DOCKETED**

JAN 29 2010



Re: Case Numbers [REDACTED] E-01575A-08-0328  
SSVEC 69kV Transmission Power Line proposed from Mustang Corners are to Sonoita

Dear ACC:

It has come to our attention that you are withholding approval of the construction of the referenced power lines pending additional public meetings on SSVEC's proposal. The Cochise County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests that you approve the construction of the much needed power line in the very near future.

Based on our understanding of the facts, ACC staff and an independent consultant reached the same conclusion: that the location SSVEC is proposing for this power transmission line is the best for all involved. Hence, we urge you to allow this important project to continue and stop the needless waste of rate payer money.

We understand from media accounts that some of you may question the integrity of SSVEC. The Cochise County Board of Supervisors needs to go on record as supporting SSVEC as a community partner and stands behind their open and honest practices. They have been a sponsor through the SSVEC Foundation of many local organizations and youth programs, allocating money on an annual basis for 20 scholarships. SSVEC is also a good employer within many of our communities and they encourage civic engagement on the part of their employees.

SSVEC also shared with us at a Board of Supervisors meeting, the results of an independent public relations poll that was just conducted. The results of this poll showed that 88% of its members were happy/satisfied with SSVEC service, 67% thought they communicated well with their members, and 83% thought the Sonoita line should be built as is (72% of Sonoita residents also agreed).

We also see the economic benefits related to the construction of this line. Specifically, some local subcontractors will be used for construction. In addition, other contractors will come to the area and spend money on housing and meals during construction. Although these may not be long term, both would add much needed sales to our economy.

Another factor important to us is the looming deadline for the use of Federal Stimulus money for the completion of the Smart Grid Project. These monies are currently available and will be lost to the area if not used within the required time.

Ultimately, the additional expense the ACC is forcing on SSVEC to appease a few unhappy people is costing the rate payers, most of which are also taxpayers in Cochise County. During this difficult economic time, as elected officials, we should be looking for ways to assist our corporate partners and taxpayers, not adding unnecessary requirements that lead to more cost.

Sincerely,



Pat Call  
Supervisor, District 1  
Member



Ann English  
Supervisor, District 1  
Chair

Richard Searle  
Supervisor, District 1  
Vice-Chair