

ORIGINAL

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM



0000113642

COMMISSIONERS
KRISTIN K. MAYES - Chairman
GARY PIERCE
PAUL NEWMAN
SANDRA D. KENNEDY
BOB STUMP



Executive Director

RECEIVED

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

2010 JUN 28 P 4:09

47
08

June 28, 2010

To: Docket Control

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

RE: Arizona American Water Company - Customer Comments
Docket Nos. E-01575A-08-0328 and E-01575A-09-0453

Please docket the attached 10 customer comments OPPOSING a rate increase in above cases.

Customer comments can be reviewed in E-docket under the above docket numbers.

Filed by: Utilities Division - Consumer Services

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED
JUN 28 2010

DOCKETED BY

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

2. Did you know that your communities will only need 9Kv over the next 20 years but we want to put in 69Kv which you will pay for at \$30 more a month on your utility bill?

4. Did you know this extra 60kV or even more from lines that could be added on the same pole will probably be used by a mine that most of you know nothing about and that you will not profit from?

Allowing them to do their own phone survey and trusting them to do the right thing is like allowing BP to self regulate their wells.

Commissioner Mayes stated that she wanted to see how this community would respond to the 69kV line by embracing alternative energy. We have done so and SSVEC doesn't want you to know.

We respectfully request that the Commission obtain an updated report on the solar installs in the V7 area before the upcoming June hearings so that a full picture of our community's dedication to clean energy and saving cooperator dollars is clear. A decision acknowledging that there is no need for a 69kV is in the best interest of the public, SSVEC and its cooperative members.

We also ask our national representatives to focus their attention on this issue. This is the front lines of the green movement. We have the best opportunity to go solar in our sun drenched region! If we cant make it work here then WHERE? We need your help!

Thank you.

Seth Grossman,
Patagonia Resident
Green Vista Ventures and Consulting

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: 6/28/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 87602

**ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM**

Andrews Croft
Patagonia, AZ
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: 6/28/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 87603

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Deb Reagan

Phone:

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2010 87605

Date: 6/28/2010

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
N/A Not Applicable

Complaint By: **First:** Shalva **Last:** Ziv-EI Krause

Account Name: Shalva Ziv-EI Krause

Home:

Street:

Work:

City: Patagonia

CBR:

State: AZ **Zip:** 85624

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 & Government Officials:

A friend recently forwarded to me an interesting article (copy attached) about solar energy, discovering that SSVEC had made the Solar Electric Power Association's top ten list and was ranked as the NUMBER ONE solar utility for solar watts installed per customer in 2009 with 56 watts per customer, beating out Maui Elect5ic Company of Hawaii which came in as a distant second with 33 watts per customer.

SSVEC should be tooting its own horn about this award but that wouldn't help its case for the 69kV line would it? Instead SSVEC is mum on solar and the sort of press release they do send out is attached ("SSVEC Eager to Begin Sonoita Line Project"). SSVEC is doing its best to avoid any spotlight on how much the residents of this community are utilizing solar even though many of us will now wait years to get our rebates.

In 2009, the Mountain Empire communities held the 2nd Annual Santa Cruz County Renewable Energy Expo in Sonoita which was attended by over 300 people on a snowy day. Homeowners are utilizing solar like crazy in this area which I am certain will keep SSVEC at number one in 2010. Commissioner Mayes stated that she wanted to see how this community would respond to the 69kV line by embracing alternative energy. We have done so and SSVEC doesn't want you to know.

I respectfully request that the Commission obtain an updated report on the solar installs in the V7 area before the upcoming June hearings so that a full picture of our community's dedication to clean energy and saving cooperator dollars is clear. A decision acknowledging that there is no need for a 69kV is in the best interest of the public, SSVEC and its cooperative members.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Thank you for your consideration.

Shalva Ziv-EI Krause
Executive Assistant to Gabriel Cousens, M.D.
Executive Director of GabrielCousens.com

email:

phone:

fax:

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: 6/28/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 87605

**ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM**

the public, SSVEC and its cooperative members.

Thank you for your consideration.

Katie Krikorian

Patagonia, AZ 85624

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: 6/28/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 87606

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Deb Reagan

Phone:

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2010 87607

Date: 6/28/2010

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
N/A Not Applicable

First:

Last:

Complaint By: Courtney

n/a

Account Name: Courtney n/a

Home:

Street:

Work:

City: Patagonia

CBR:

State: AZ **Zip:** 85624

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 Commissioner Mayes and Commissioners:

A friend recently forwarded to me an interesting article (copy attached) about solar energy, discovering that SSVEC had made the Solar Electric Power Association's top ten list and was ranked as the NUMBER ONE solar utility for solar watts installed per customer in 2009 with 56 watts per customer, beating out Maui Elect5ic Company of Hawaii which came in as a distant second with 33 watts per customer.

SSVEC should be tooting its own horn about this award but that wouldn't help its case for the 69kV line would it? Instead SSVEC is mum on solar and the sort of press release they do send out is attached ("SSVEC Eager to Begin Sonoita Line Project"). SSVEC is doing its best to avoid any spotlight on how much the residents of this community are utilizing solar even though many of us will now wait years to get our rebates.

In 2009, the Mountain Empire communities held the 2nd Annual Santa Cruz County Renewable Energy Expo in Sonoita which was attended by over 300 people on a snowy day. Homeowners are utilizing solar like crazy in this area which I am certain will keep SSVEC at number one in 2010. Commissioner Mayes stated that she wanted to see how this community would respond to the 69kV line by embracing alternative energy. We have done so and SSVEC doesn't want you to know.

I respectfully request that the Commission obtain an updated report on the solar installs in the V7 area before the upcoming June hearings so that a full picture of our community's dedication to clean energy and saving cooperator dollars is clear. A decision acknowledging that there is no need for a 69kV is in the best interest of the public, SSVEC and its cooperative members.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Thank you for your consideration.

Wealth in Health,

Courtney
Guest Services Supervisor

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: 6/28/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 87607

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Deb Reagan

Phone:

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2010 87608

Date: 6/28/2010

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
N/A Not Applicable

Complaint By: **First:** Yosef **Last:** Funke

Account Name: Yosef Funke

Home:

Street:

Work:

City: Patagonia

CBR:

State: AZ **Zip:** 85624

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 Commissioner Mayes and Commissioners:

A friend recently forwarded to me an interesting article (copy attached) about solar energy, discovering that SSVEC had made the Solar Electric Power Association's top ten list and was ranked as the NUMBER ONE solar utility for solar watts installed per customer in 2009 with 56 watts per customer, beating out Maui Elect5ic Company of Hawaii which came in as a distant second with 33 watts per customer.

SSVEC should be tooting its own horn about this award but that wouldn't help its case for the 69kV line would it? Instead SSVEC is mum on solar and the sort of press release they do send out is attached ("SSVEC Eager to Begin Sonoita Line Project"). SSVEC is doing its best to avoid any spotlight on how much the residents of this community are utilizing solar even though many of us will now wait years to get our rebates.

In 2009, the Mountain Empire communities held the 2nd Annual Santa Cruz County Renewable Energy Expo in Sonoita which was attended by over 300 people on a snowy day. Homeowners are utilizing solar like crazy in this area which I am certain will keep SSVEC at number one in 2010. Commissioner Mayes stated that she wanted to see how this community would respond to the 69kV line by embracing alternative energy. We have done so and SSVEC doesn't want you to know.

I respectfully request that the Commission obtain an updated report on the solar installs in the V7 area before the upcoming June hearings so that a full picture of our community's dedication to clean energy and saving cooperator dollars is clear. A decision acknowledging that there is no need for a 69kV is in the best interest of the public, SSVEC and its cooperative members.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Thank you for your consideration.

Yosef Funke

General Manager
Tree of Life Rejuvenation Center

toll free:

mobile: (

fax:

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: 6/28/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 87608

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

the public, SSVEC and its cooperative members.

Thank you for your consideration.

Debra Bredican

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: 6/28/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 87609

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Deb Reagan

Phone:

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2010 87604

Date: 6/28/2010

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
N/A Not Applicable

Complaint By: **First:** Meghan **Last:** Dwyer

Account Name: Meghan Dwyer **Home:**

Street: **Work:**

City: Patagonia **CBR:**

State: AZ **Zip:** 85624 **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 Chairman Mayes and Commissioners:

We want Renewable Energy to supply our energy needs in the future.

With so many alternatives available we are on the cutting edge for a community using Renewable Energy.

We will have those present to appeal from the standpoint that our communities want to preserve our lifestyle: ranching, birding, tourism, and healthy lifestyle. The Tree of Life will be helping and they are a major business in Patagonia.

There are many recommendations in the Feasibility Study that are reviewed, electric heater replacement was the top on the list - which would only cost \$180,000 - much less than \$14 million. This was discarded, because we probably couldn't get 100 people to participate. We will conduct a survey before the hearing. (Seth I will send you the info on this for the survey)

In the first draft of the study they said SSVEC should consider energy storage, and then removed it from the final draft because it wasn't proven and would take up to a year to get a delivery. (??)

SSVEC has basically stopped any upgrades on our system, since the decision to stop the line. So upgrades and maintenance would probably help a lot to improve service.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Also since we have installed so much solar power - I think we have reduced the demand locally.

We will bring large photos of local Solar Installations(W), children reading letters, petitions locally and online, letters to Docket, and a few other things.

WE need to convince the Commission that what we want to do is possible. It is possible in other place and is also possible here.

Engineers are problem solvers, unless they work for SSVEC.

--

In Joy, Love, & Grace,
Meghan
Tree of Life Guest Services

Dear Commissioner Mayes and Commissioners:

A friend recently forwarded to me an interesting article (copy attached) about solar energy, discovering that SSVEC had made the Solar Electric Power Association's top ten list and was ranked as the NUMBER ONE solar utility for solar watts installed per customer in 2009 with 56 watts per customer, beating out Maui Elect5ic Company of Hawaii which came in as a distant second with 33 watts per customer.

SSVEC should be tooting its own horn about this award but that wouldn't help its case for the 69kV line would it? Instead SSVEC is mum on solar and the sort of press release they do send out is attached ("SSVEC Eager to Begin Sonoita Line Project"). SSVEC is doing its best to avoid any spotlight on how much the residents of this community are utilizing solar even though many of us will now wait years to get our rebates.

In 2009, the Mountain Empire communities held the 2nd Annual Santa Cruz County Renewable Energy Expo in Sonoita which was attended by over 300 people on a snowy day. Homeowners are utilizing solar like crazy in this area which I am certain will keep SSVEC at number one in 2010. Commissioner Mayes stated that she wanted to see how this community would respond to the 69kV line by embracing alternative energy. We have done so and SSVEC doesn't want you to know.

I respectfully request that the Commission obtain an updated report on the solar installs in the V7 area before the upcoming June hearings so that a full picture of our community's dedication to clean energy and saving cooperator dollars is clear. A decision acknowledging that there is no need for a 69kV is in the best interest of the public, SSVEC and its cooperative members.

Thank you for your consideration.

--

Meghan Dwyer

Tree of Life Rejuvenation Center
End of Complaint

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

Comments entered for the record and filed with Docket Control.

End of Comments

Date Completed: 6/28/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 87604

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Deb Reagan

Phone:

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2010 87610

Date: 6/28/2010

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
N/A Not Applicable

Complaint By: **First:** Sandra **Last:** Wolf

Account Name: Sandra Wolf

Home:

Street:

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 3 e-mails -

Dear Commissioner Mayes,

I know that we've spoken before....Now more than ever I need your attention.

Sulpher Electric is asking you for a rate hike....this will help pay for the 69K powerline. The FEASIBILITY STUDY found that this area needs only 2000additional killowates not a 69KV line. They've probably also said that it is for future growth. Patagonia hasn't grown in the last 20 years....and we really don't expect our population to grow 10x in the next few years (or ever)..

I've heard it said that they want to put this in because of a mining operation in Patagonia...They deny that....but why else would they want this up immediately? We certainly don't need that much electricity...

Our needs can be met by upgrading the current line, and also by using more solar energy. Since our last meeting many new solar units have been installed in this area. As a matter of fact, Sulphur electric won the distinguished award of most solar something in the entire U.S.

I am asking you not to grant them permission to proceed with this, until we really know how much of this is fact and how much fiction.

If we commit to this project our lands we will be committed to Coal burning fuel--which as you know is an enviornmental disaster waiting to happen. (something like off shore drilling). The Apache Generating Station

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

near Wilcox is on the list of "high hazard" materials. Is this how you visualize our future? I certainly would like to think my children as breathing in clean air.

By supporting the 69KV line, you are in essence supporting air pollution. I've been in Az for 35 years....The air-quality is horrible....we are warned not to go out on high pollution days....Is this the best AZ can do?

Please-- think this through.....what is the REAL COST of coal-fired power plants--- You add up the health, environmental and quality of life issues relating to this.

I thank you for your time and consideration of this extremely/urgent matter.

Sincerely,
Sandy Wolf
Sonoita Resident

Sulpher Electric has just sent a letter to their entire servicing area....it is pretty comprehensive, but again very one sided.

They have left out the major point in this case....we only need 2000 kw until the year 2029. By upgrading the existing line, we can take care of this issue of reliability for years--- therefore giving us time to develop new technology and becoming less reliant on fossil fuels. **THEY IGNORE THAT COMPLETELY.**

I'm in favor of a better, more efficient system....but not when it's going to cost millions of our dollars, make us dependant on old technology and take away from the quality of life.

Aren't there enough air quality warnings?

We can solve every problem that they stated in their 2 page, single spaced letter by upgrading the current line...That would give us time to prepare for the future in a reasonable way.

The public forums were just a place that Sulper Electric touted their plan. We were not included in those meeting, other than having to be defensive about our issues, which they completely ignored. By the way this area is not growing by leaps and bounds-- from what i understand Patagonia hasn't grown much in years...Our population is around 1800 people....even if it triples we would not need this lineWhy I ask do we need to pay for it??

I'm sure that if more people understood what was really at stake, they would think twice about putting in the unnecessary line.

Another issue is that we don't have outages as bad as they make it out....of course there's always room for improvement....BUT let's do it in a sensible manner. I'd like this little area to be a mecca - A LEADER IN PROVIDING CLEAN AIR.

Again, thanks for reading this....I appreciate you're time and understanding of this very important issue.

Sincerely,
Sandra S. Wolf

I don't know where to start.....this is such an important issue, but I'm going to keep it brief- so that it can get read.

A vote for the power line is a vote for dirty coal burning fuel. Is this what we want for our state, country, planet? Technology is overflowing with new ideas.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

I am quoting Paul Newman, from a guest article in our local paper "The Bulletin", which i will bring on Tuesday. "Coal is the main culprit in heating up our planet while nuclear power depends on a depleting fuel source with unresolved waste issues. Boiling water with the sun makes sense here in the sunniest state in the U>S. " "Simply put, Arizona has a whole lot to gain from developing baseload CSP. Innovation is our best asset. Local generation means local jobs. Let's combine the sun and ingenuity for a bright future for our children"

Please don't let Big Business operate as usual....The time to plan for the future is now. The Feasibility Study stated that we needed only 9000killowates. Let's upgrade the line, put our money into technology, and not get tied into outdated, dirty power.

As a last note, the federal government is proposing public comment regulating coal ash storage and disposal. One set of proposed rules would designate coal ash as 'special waste' and bring ash impounds at coal-fired power plants under federal regulations. Hazardous -waste treatment of coal is long overdue, with risks of cancer and other health problems. AZ has 9 of the 44 most hazardous coal coal ash sites in the U.S. The Apache Plant near Wilcox is on an EPA list of sites with 'high hazard' potential because of their proximity to populated areas and the attendant risk to human health. By the way, if the Apache plant needs to upgrade, the cost will be high....and we will again be asked to pay for it!!!!

We can quickly upgrade our current system at a fraction of the cost (saving coop member many dollars)...then move forward for a "Cleaner Air" qualify solution.

Please.....this is not about where to place the line---it's about choices that affect our future and generations to come.

thanks again
sandy wolf
sonoita resident
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: 6/28/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 87610

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Re: Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Rates/Moratorium)
Docket E-01575A-08-0328 and E-01575A-09-0435

Dear Chairman Mayes and Commissioners,

As an intervenor in one of the above captioned dockets I submit:

I am and will be on a work assignment in Texas through early July and cannot attend the June 29 Open Meeting. I have submitted my comments in the joint Intervenor's Exception filing on 10 June. My witness Mr. Magruder submitted his separately.

Because the cooperative has insisted this 40-252 issue be handled expeditiously on the "fast track", requesting a delay would probably be denied, however, a two-week delay should be acceptable so that two of the three Intervenor's (myself and Ms. Scott) can be present.

My conclusions and recommendations remain as stated throughout these proceedings, that there are other options, including a combination of those in the Feasibility Study that are less expensive and have less environmental damage, that improve reliability and increase capacity, and that will lead to the Sonoita, Elgin, and Patagonia area being a renewable energy "model" for rural communities. This is my vision and I hope for your concurrence at this Open Meeting.

Our cooperative cannot envision any other solution than the one they thought of nearly 30-years ago, late in the last century, which is most unfortunate for our communities.

At the hearing in March 24-26, 2010 SSVEC monopolized the hearing taking 2 ½ days of the 3 hearing days leaving little time for our case, as the hearing was to be terminated on the 3rd day. Mr. Magruder, my star witness, was not given a chance to rebut the continued attacks on his direct testimony by SSVEC in the prior 2 ½ days. He was called to the stand after 5 PM on the Friday before the long Memorial Day weekend. The Staff had not presented its case. Nearly his first words were "we might be here till midnight" but he was rushed off within 45 minutes barely responding to a few of the many misleading comments by SSVEC's "public comments" and witnesses.

Mr. Magruder was also recovering from a heart attack and connected to remote heart monitoring devices at the hearing. I believe it would have been just and prudent to call for a recess, giving Mr. Magruder time to recover and properly take his seat at the witness stand to testify and respond to cross-examination on a different day.

Since this time was not allotted, Mr. Magruder submitted a written response to clarify prior testimony at the hearing. The cooperative could have responded, but chose to strike Mr. Magruder's response, possibly because Mr. Magruder's testimony contained too many facts that incriminated the cooperative.

I respectfully request the Commission reject the Recommended Opinion and Order and return this proceeding to the ALJ to conclude the hearings. This also will allow him to fully testify without prejudice to his medical condition.

I have submitted comments in the joint Exception of June 10, 2010, and now I respectfully request that the Commission's final review and decision be postponed on this 40-252 petition for two weeks to allow myself and another Intervenor to attend.

In addition, I respectfully request that the venue for this matter be moved to Tucson. This is far too important to our communities to not conduct it at a time place where many of the concerned Citizens and intervenors can attend.

In addition I would like to thank you for your consideration.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Respectfully yours,

Sue Downing
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: 6/28/2010

Opinion No. 2010 - 87625
