

E-01575A-10-0308



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ORIGINAL

Pistachio Pass Irrigation District

P.O. Box 50751
Tucson, Arizona 85703

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April 4, 2011

Commissioner Linda Kennedy
Arizona Corporation Commission
Phoenix, Arizona

Re: Docket No. E-01575A - 10 - 0308

Dear Commissioner Kennedy:

Irrigators are some of the largest electric power purchasers of Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative (SSVEC). As one of SSVEC's largest irrigators, we are dismayed at the ACC's staff proposal to raise the REST surcharge by 43%. We consider this proposal " TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION " .

Taxation: Your staff's proposed REST increase would raise our power costs enough to water 1500 pistachio trees for one year.

Representation: As a large irrigator, we are effectively locked out of any renewable power alternatives. There are currently no viable renewable options for large irrigators. We require power 24 hours per day, seven days per week for 5 months of the year. The rest of the year we use almost no power. Our 150, 300 and 500 horsepower motors far outstrip any renewable energy generation source. In addition no lender or financial institution would fund any large irrigation renewable energy installation.

In effect you are asking us to fund a program we can never use.

I seriously hope you reject your staff's REST recommendations and accept the proposed SSVEC recommendations. SSVEC knows the unique needs of its customers and has proposed a rational REST surcharge.

Yours truly,
Alfred Obermaier
Board President

Arizona Corporation Commission

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