



OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM
Sulphur Springs Valley Electric

A Touch



311 E. Wilcox Dr. ▪ Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

May 16, 2013

Docket Control
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: DSM Docket #E-01575A-11-0223

To Whom It May Concern:

Please file the attached article from the Sierra Vista Herald into the above referenced docket.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Roxanne Williams
Member Services Assisant

2013 MAY 20 AM 10 07
AZ CORP COM
DOCKET CONT
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RE: DSM Docket #E-01575A-11-0223



Our View: Leadership by example

| HERALD/REVIEW

Wed, 04/24/2013 12:10am

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It may have been overlooked as national news consumed our attention last week, but a letter received by Sierra Vista Mayor Rick Mueller earlier this month represents a true accomplishment for our city.

The federal Environmental Protection Agency acknowledged Sierra Vista for being the first in the nation to enact a building code that embraces the WaterSense standard.

WaterSense is the EPA's trademark for products and services that have been certified to be at least 20 percent more efficient without sacrificing performance.

In our case, the city building code was recently revised to require the installation of WaterSense products in the construction of new homes.

The change is consistent with other local efforts aimed at intelligent water conservation practices, including rainwater harvesting, "on-demand" hot water systems, and other products.

As we should be, residents of Sierra Vista and Southeast Arizona are keenly aware of what can be done to reduce and conserve water. Our responsibility to preserve and maintain the San Pedro River has, at times, seemed like a burden that other communities do not bear.

In fact, this precious resource and our mutual understanding that it is our duty to keep the river and its ecosystem thriving, has pushed us to embrace higher standards for water conservation.

The EPA's acknowledgement offers both a reward for that accomplishment, and an indication the rest of the country has to catch up to the standards established here.

Water is a precious resource everywhere, even more so in the high desert region of Arizona.

And speaking of innovative and exciting new ways to embrace tomorrow's technologies while saving the environment, consider what Bisbee has on the drawing board.

The city council listened to a presentation last week to convert the electric power source for its wastewater treatment plant to solar.

Over a 20 year period, if the conversion happens, Bisbee is projected to save money on the operation costs of the plant and reduce the amount of electricity it purchases from Arizona Power Service, its utility provider.

Southeast Arizona, thanks to the forward thinking leadership demonstrated by these communities, is quickly developing an identity as a leader for these conservation practices and new technologies.