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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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2013 JUN 11 A 9:49

**Chairman Robert Stump
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2996**

JUN 11 2013

AZ CORP COMMISSION
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Re: Tucson Electric Power Company's Rate Application, E-01933A-12-029f

Dear Chairman ~~Stump~~ and Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Tucson Electric Power Company's (TEP) Rate Application. I represent a business in Arizona's growing energy efficiency industry. As an energy efficiency contractor, we work with TEP to make energy efficiency improvements—from installing better insulation, more efficient lighting and lighting controls, to providing customers with better information on their energy use to help them lower their bills. We are proud of the work we have been able to accomplish to date.

As the Commission reviews TEP's request, we urge you to consider how the events over the past several years have impacted those of us who work in the program. From 2011-2012, our industry experienced a period of tremendous growth. Robust funding for TEP's efficiency programs allowed us to invest in training, certification, equipment, and new hires. In short, we were able to expand our businesses and most importantly help homeowners save hundreds on their annual energy bills. In the initial year one alone we saw:

- Over \$500,000 in incentives returned to homeowners who made energy efficiency improvements to their homes.
- Nearly one million kWh savings
- A robust workforce of local Tucson-area contractors that employ local citizens and contribute to the Tucson economy
- A 24% month over month increase in customer participation.
- ACEEE Exemplary Energy Efficiency Award Winner in 2012

Tucson now has the workforce and the know-how to continue to achieve the state's aggressive savings goals cost effectively. We strongly encourage the Commission to approve TEP's Rate Application consistent with the Judge's recommended order, which will allow TEP to scale-up programs to levels consistent with the Arizona Energy Efficiency Standard. Customer demand to participate in the incentive programs will drive the momentum that was lost when the Residential Energy Efficiency Programs were ramped down in March of 2012.

Energy Efficiency has a local effect beyond controlling the need for large future investments in additional generation facilities. Jobs generated by energy efficiency projects employ many here in Arizona in the decimated construction sector, and lead to an increase in disposable income for both

program and non-program participants as energy bills decline. What's more, profits from energy efficiency tend to remain local, helping to fuel further local economic development.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. With the cooling season already underway, we are hopeful the Commission expeditiously approves TEP's Rate Application.

We look forward to further engagement in the stakeholder process in the coming weeks and months.

Signed:

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