

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM



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February 1, 2016

ORIGINAL

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6431 N. Cascabel Road
Benson, Arizona 85602
January 31, 2016

2016 FEB -1 P 1:08

Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioners Wing
1200 W. Washington - 2nd Floor
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

AZ CORP COMMISSION
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FEB 01 2016

Re: Docket # L-00000YY-15-0318-00171

DOCKETED BY *KE*

Dear Commissioners,

The SunZia project baffles me. I frequently drive to Las Vegas, and, until a few years ago, made an annual trip to San Diego. I travel the backroads and the Interstates. I have seen numerous, vast solar installations as I have traveled the various routes I have discovered over the years. Some of the solar installations in Nevada are so enormous that, when I first saw them, I thought they were large lakes. There is a large solar array north of I-10 near Buckeye, and several huge solar installations along I-8. I have also seen fields of wind turbines in California on the way to the Sierras. Why is SunZia proposing to build very expensive, extremely controversial, insecure and unsightly transmission lines to bring wind and solar power over five hundred miles from New Mexico to Phoenix and California, when there is already ample sun and wind very close to the neighborhoods they claim to be serving?

Please examine the rationality of the assumptions inherent in this project. Yes, we need to expand our use of alternative energy, but is SunZia's plan a practical, effective way to achieve those goals? Please follow the bread crumbs and discover what lies under the glitter of the politically correct words. If the goal is delivering alternative energy, then SunZia's proposal is deficient economically, environmentally and in terms of security from fanatics or natural disasters. As intelligent, creative, practical, efficient people, we can do way better.

I urge you to reject the Sunzia proposal and encourage local efforts to generate and distribute energy. Such efforts will create jobs and profits which will stay in the community, will protect the security of our grid and will preserve our beautiful desert environment for its human, avian, plant and animal (by which I include mammal, reptile, amphibian and insect) denizens. And I bet that local efforts will be much, much less costly (and not just in dollars).

I trust you are already familiar with the information that the Audubon Society and the Cascabel Working Group have put forward. They have done an excellent job presenting the arguments for protecting the San Pedro Valley, while elaborating the obvious and not so obvious consequences of SunZia's proposal. If you haven't become familiar with what these groups have already expressed, I encourage you to take the time to do so before making a decision.

Also, I strongly urge you to spend some quiet time in the areas where transmission lines are proposed. Let your heart speak to you in silence, and then decide.

Thank you for your attention. I most likely will not be able to attend the hearing on February second, but know that I feel very strongly that the SunZia proposal is a deeply flawed, ill-founded idea. I applaud the goal of expanding our supply and distribution of alternative energy and deplore SunZia's approach to this worthy goal. Please deny SunZia the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (CEC).

Sincerely,

Dorothy Motheral