

# SAGUACHE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

501 FOURTH STREET  
SAGUACHE, COLORADO  
AREA CODE 719 ZIP CODE 81149



February 3, 2009

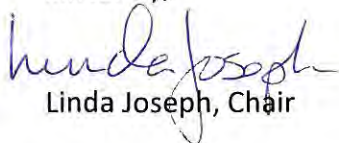
Board of Directors  
San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative  
c/o Jim Claire  
Hwy 160  
Monte Vista, CO 81144

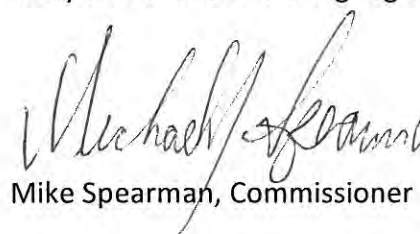

Dear Board Members,

It is the understanding of the Saguache County Board of Commissioners that Tri-State, of which SLVREC is a member, is considering a potential partnership with Xcel Energy for a transmission project that would reach from the San Luis Valley to Pueblo County in southern Colorado. Tri-State identified this project to improve system reliability in the region, while Xcel Energy has requirements under Colorado Senate Bill 100 to develop transmission to designated renewable energy zones. The proposed alliance with Xcel facilitates the export of future solar resources from the Valley and provides a more robust transmission infrastructure to meet future growth. The Saguache County Board of Commissioners would like to express our support for this transmission project. We have attended and appreciated some of the informational meetings presented by SLVREC and Xcel Energy. As a result we better understand the importance of this project to the future of economic development in the San Luis Valley. We recognize the benefits of improving system reliability and the prevention of voltage collapse under peak loads.

Saguache County is looking forward to participating in the development of renewable energy resources. We believe that Solar Energy will be one of the most important to Saguache County and the San Luis Valley. We agree that the new transmission lines, into and out of the San Luis Valley, will be necessary for renewable energy to become a source of future economic development in the San Luis Valley and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

  
Linda Joseph, Chair

   
Mike Spearman, Commissioner      Sam Pace, Commissioner

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