



SAN LUIS VALLEY
DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES GROUP

May 18, 2009

Tri-State G&T
1100 West 116TH Ave.
Westminster, Co. 80234

Attn: Karli Nelson

To Tri-State Generation & Transmission,

On behalf of the San Luis Valley Development Resources Group, please accept our support for your efforts to analyze, design, and build a transmission system to ensure power delivery into and out of the San Luis Valley. We know that there are only three transmission lines into the San Luis Valley and all of these lines are from the North. Essentially our power comes from the same single source. Economic and community development require redundancy and the current system is straining to meet our current use.

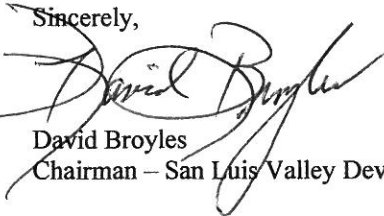
We need an even more reliable power supply, with better stabilized delivery systems and the increased capacity to meet our constantly growing demands for power. There are many aspects of this project that will be beneficial to our own development efforts. We really are at system limits due to continued residential and agricultural growth as well as the radial nature of the existing system.

The new 230 line will bring power from an additional source allowing the existing infrastructure to become a looped system to help eliminate voltage collapse, provide greater efficiencies as a transmission system and the new switching station allows for easier interconnection of renewable energy sources. We support your intentions to upgrade the existing transmission system in the region and to prevent voltage collapse under our peak loads. We support your efforts to provide transmission capacity for renewable development and to boost economic/community development opportunities for new commercial/industrial operations as well as our base of small businesses. We are anxious to explore the opportunities of solar and wind energy resources, as an export, to major load centers and gain the benefit of interconnection for additional projects.

Please also accept our appreciation and thanks for the open process that you have used to identify a transmission line route that balances the need for reliable electric service with environmental concerns, public input, engineering needs, economics, and legal and regulatory requirements. You are good partners to us all. Thanks also for your participation with the Colorado Long Range Transmission Planning Group as a consortium of utilities that jointly explores the development of a coordinated transmission network. We are fortunate to have Colorado's two biggest transmission operators, Tri-State and Xcel Energy, working together to determine the feasibility of jointly constructing new transmission projects for the benefit of the San Luis Valley.

"We are investing in ourselves."

Sincerely,



David Broyles
Chairman – San Luis Valley Development Resources Group