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Monte Vista, CO 81144

August 18, 2009

Jim Clare
SLVREC
3625 US HWY 160 W
Monte Vista, CO 81144

To Whom It May Concern:

We raise potatoes and barley on a 1760 acre irrigated farm in the San Luis Valley. We spend in excess of \$70,000.00 annually on electricity for our eleven center pivot systems. During each summer we will have over one million dollars worth of food crops at risk. If we don't have a reasonably priced and reliable source of power, we will not be able to stay in business. All of our electricity happens to be supplied by SLVREC. In the past they have been **very** reliable and priced fairly. As our valley's electric need continue to grow and the profitability of farming continues to be tenuous to say the least, it will be very important for more affordable power to be available. Also with the big push from the State and Federal government for more "**green**" power the need for a new transmission line is now! We all need to realize that even with "**green**" generation we will need to get the power to where it is consumed.

I very much support the purposed joint venture between SLVREC and Xcel Energy to bring a new transmission line from near Walsenberg Colorado into the San Luis Valley. Because it is well thought out and attempts to keep cost to the customer as low as possible, I favor the current purposed route.

I would much rather see a power line in the daylight than to have no light to see at night! I hope that everyone reading this letter will join me I supporting this much need project.

Sincerely,



Michael M. Mitchell
Farmer