COMMISSIONERS
BOB STUMP - Chairman
GARY PIERCE
BRENDA BURNS
BOB BURNS
SUSAN BITTER SMITH

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

Bob Stump
Chairman

Direct Line: (602) 542-3935
Fax: (602) 542-0752
E-mail: bstump@azcc.gov

February 1, 2013

RECEIVED
FEB - 6 2013
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
PHOENIX DISTRICT OFFICE

Sun Valley to Morgan Transmission Line
Attn: Mr. Joe Incardine
National Project Manager
BLM Phoenix District Office
21605 North 7Th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85027-2929

RE: Comments of the Arizona Corporation Commission on BLM's Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Sun Valley to Morgan Transmission Line
Docket No. L-00000D-08-0330-00138

Dear Mr. Incardine:

As elected officials of the Arizona Corporation Commission, we appreciate the important and comprehensive review the Bureau of Land Management conducts during a right of way application. Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for the BLM's draft Environmental Impact Statement released on November 16, 2012 in regards to Arizona Public Service's right of way application for the Sun Valley to Morgan 500/230 kV transmission project.

As you are aware, the ACC approved a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility ("CEC")[1] for this proposed transmission project which is consistent with the route identified by Arizona Public Service Company's Proposed Action. In approving this CEC, the ACC received extensive input from stakeholders including municipalities, public agencies, homeowner associations, property developers, the environmental community and general public and strictly followed Arizona law which specifies the criteria required for a CEC. This transmission line is extremely important as the connection between the Sun Valley and Morgan Substations would be the final segment in completing a continuous 500 kV supply from the Palo Verde hub area to the northeast Phoenix metropolitan area, providing much needed reliability.

We appreciate the BLM's commitment to a thorough review process and the significant consideration of environmental, cultural, visual and socioeconomic impacts incorporated into the draft EIS. After our review of the draft EIS, we support the Proposed Action route as the Agency Preferred Alternative route of the proposed transmission line. We understand the draft

[1] ACC Decision 70850, Docket L-00000D-08-0330-00138.

EIS's finding that although there may be potential modifications, those modifications would still enable the transmission line to stay within the ACC certificated route.

We would like to encourage the BLM to move forward and issue a Notice of Availability for a Final EIS and Resource Management Plan Amendment and ultimately issue a Record of Decision approving APS's right of way application.

Sincerely,

Bob Stump
Chairman

Gary Pierce
Commissioner

Brenda Burns
Commissioner

Bob Burns
Commissioner

Susan Bitter Smith
Commissioner