



ANDRES Z. SILVA, MAYOR

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April 21, 2012

Bureau of Land Management
Secretary Ken Salazar
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

RE: EIS Release SunZia Transmission Project

Dear Secretary Salazar:

The City of Deming wishes to express its support of SunZia Southwest Transmission Project's application to build up to two major high-voltage transmission lines in southern and central portions of New Mexico. The SunZia Project would enable New Mexico to enhance its transmission capacity and also strengthen the region's electrical grid infrastructure.

The Bureau of Land Management is conducting a complete environmental review of the project. It is our understanding the Pentagon has determined that the SunZia Project is compatible with military missions in the Project area.

It has come to the City's attention that the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was supposed to be released by the BLM in October of 2011. The City is in favor of meeting the requirements of the EIS process, but here it is, six months after the expected release date.

Although the project will bring significant benefits to both the private and public sectors, those benefits diminish the longer the project is delayed.

The City requests your assistance in encouraging your department to dedicate the necessary resources to move the review process forward. Time is of the essence.

Sincerely,

Mayor Andres Z. Silva

CC Bob Abbey