

VILLAGE OF FORT SUMNER
RESOLUTION NO. 2010-18

Declaring Support of the SunZia Southwest Transmission Project

WHEREAS, the SunZia Southwest Transmission Project (SunZia) proposes to construct up to two high voltage 500 kV electrical transmission lines and related interconnecting substations within an area lying between central Arizona and central New Mexico, which will provide new delivery capacity for existing and developing renewable energy resources, primarily wind, solar and geothermal projects in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is rich in these renewable energy resources, and state and local communities stand to benefit greatly from the creation of new jobs, economic development, and resulting revenues from taxes and the necessary provision of local governmental services; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's renewable energy development resources are located primarily in the central and southern part of the state where available transmission capacity is extremely limited, and Sun Zia will provide from 3,00 to 4,500 megawatts of needed transmission capacity; and

WHEREAS, the existence of SunZia creates an opportunity for the development and construction of future wind and solar generation projects and related jobs that would otherwise not occur without transmission lines; and

WHEREAS, renewable energy projects are good for the environment and help to minimize our dependence upon foreign oil, reduce air pollution and diversify energy generation sources; and

WHEREAS, SunZia has submitted a right-of-way application to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for the project and BLM is currently preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); and

WHEREAS, the EIS will provide a detailed analysis of potential environmental impacts of the project and a range of mitigation measures to such impacts, including reasonable routing alternatives; and

WHEREAS, the BLM has conducted nine public scoping meetings in New Mexico and fourteen total scoping meetings throughout SunZia's study area, has expanded the project study area and extended the length of the initial scoping period to address initial public comments, and has held other community meetings to request public input and identify possible issues of concern that may result from the project; and

WHEREAS, the BLM is seeking comments on specific issues and concerns related to alternative routes for the project's transmission facilities, affected environmental resources, or related matters; and

WHEREAS, statements from local governing bodies such as this Village's Mayor and Council are very important to development of a complete record for the EIS.

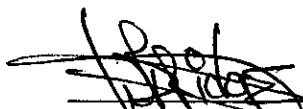
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fort Sumner Mayor and Village Council encourage the development of renewable energy generation and transmission projects in the state of New Mexico, and when possible specifically within the Village of Fort Sumner and De Baca County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Village's Mayor and Council support the construction and operation of additional transmission infrastructure to provide capacity for New Mexico's renewable energy projects; and

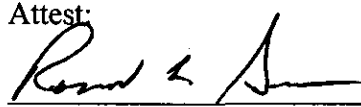
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Village of Sumner endorse the construction and operation of the SunZia Southwest Transmission Project, and urge all cooperating agencies to judiciously expedite SunZia's EIS in order to expand regional economic development opportunities in New Mexico, by creating the necessary transmission capacity to deliver New Mexico's renewable energy resources to western customers and markets; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Village of Fort Sumner implore Senator Bingaman, Senator Udall, Congressman Heinrich, Congressman Lujan and Congressman Teague to take necessary actions to facilitate the implementation of SunZia and similar renewable energy projects in the state of New Mexico through the creation and support of national policies and federal legislation that favor the development of regional renewable energy generation and transmission projects.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND PASSED on this 13th day of September, 2010.



Windell Bridges, Mayor

Attest:


Ronald L. Sena, Clerk