

HIDALGO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
RESOLUTION NO. 2013-20

WHEREAS, the SunZia Southwest Transmission Project (SunZia) has been thoroughly reviewed by the Hidalgo County Commission and its citizens over the past five years; and,

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County has an abundance of renewable resources that have not been utilized for lack of transmission infrastructure; and,

WHEREAS, New Mexico renewable energy development resources are located in the central and southern parts of the state where available transmission capacity is extremely limited, and SunZia will provide 3,000 to 4,500 megawatts of needed transmission capacity; and,

WHEREAS, the bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Final Environment Impact Statement (EIS) with a preferred route in Hidalgo County that incorporates our past comments; and,

WHEREAS, the Final EIS has provided 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 public and private meetings, to review proposed routes and issues, with all concerned over the past five years, including Hidalgo County; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidalgo County Commission supports the construction and operation of SunZia's transmission infrastructure to provide capacity for the area's renewable energy projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Hidalgo County urges the BLM and all cooperating agencies to judiciously expedite the Record of Decision to enable the SunZia development opportunities in central and southwest New Mexico.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 17TH day of July, 2013

ATTEST:



Melissa DeLaGarza, Clerk


Richard Chaires, Member
Hidalgo County Commission