



“From the Cowboy Way to the Milky Way”

6-28-21

Letter from the Middle Rio Grande Economic Development Association

As Director of the Middle Rio Grande Economic Development Association (MRGEDA), I am writing to express my support for the SunZia Transmission Line.

As a nonprofit organization who has worked collaboratively across multiple counties in the Middle Rio Grande region, we understand better than most about the need to expand industries that fit the needs and interests of our communities. SunZia is a strong example of an up and coming sector that will reap great benefits to our region and uplift the existing industries that sustained our families.

Two key industries that MRGEDA is committed to expanding are renewable energy and agribusiness. SunZia will greatly benefit both industries by means of landowner payments to our farmers whose land is in the path of the transmission line, and by enabling 4,500 MW of renewable energy to be brought online and transported across the state. Beyond directly uplifting these industries, the transmission line demonstrates our need to work collaboratively across the board to ensure the prosperity of all New Mexicans, but especially those in our rural regions who have long been the backbone of our state’s economy.

Though our communities have long demonstrated a strength and resilience that came to light best through a global pandemic, it is time we start bringing new opportunities that ensure our families don’t need to struggle to make ends meet.

We are grateful for the opportunity to participate in the start of a long conversation and look forward to future chances to elevate the voices of our communities.

If you would like more information on the initiatives MRGEDA is working on, please feel free to contact me at director@mrgeda.com or 575-517-0310.

Sincerely,

Kirstin Keller
Executive Director
Middle Rio Grande Economic Development Association