

**DOÑA ANA COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Doña Ana County Government Center  
845 North Motel Boulevard  
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88007  
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Commissioner Rawson  
Initiating Department

January 9, 2018  
Meeting Date

Commissioner Rawson  
Contact Person

17  
Agenda Item Number

**TITLE OF AGENDA ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED**

**APPROVE A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION DOCKET AN INVESTIGATION REGARDING POTENTIALLY UNNECESSARY UTILITY CAPITAL INVESTMENTS**

**SUMMARY OF ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED**

Residents of Doña Ana County have brought to the attention of the County apparent El Paso Electric Company ("EPE") capital expenditures on new utility distribution and transmission investments which expenditures cost ratepayers millions of dollars. The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) does not currently review the necessity of these capital expenditures, nor does it review the cost effectiveness of these new distribution and transmission investments. EPE, without NMPRC review or approval, has proposed to spend millions of dollars on a new substation and additional distribution lines, which investment may be completely unnecessary given demonstrated advancements and alternatives to these costly expenditures. A significant number of County residents have signed a petition requesting that the County urge the NMPRC to investigate EPE's proposed investment in this new infrastructure

**DESCRIPTION OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED**

Proposed Resolution

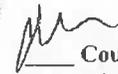
**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Unknown. Potential legal expenses in participating in investigation.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

\_\_\_ Finance

\_\_\_ Legal

  
\_\_\_ County Manager/  
Agenda Review

\_\_\_ Purchasing

\_\_\_ Human Resources

\_\_\_ Assistant County Manager

\_\_\_ Planning

\_\_\_ Other

**DOCUMENT CONTROL**

Original/s for signature?:  Yes  No      For Recording?:  Yes  No

Return original/s to: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Dept.: Legal \_\_\_\_\_

Send copy of recorded original/s (resolution and ordinances only) to: Name: N/A Dept.: N/A

Deadline for return of document/s?:  Yes, return by: \_\_\_\_\_  No

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
COUNTY OF DOÑA ANA

DOÑA ANA COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 2018-\_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION  
COMMISSION DOCKET AN INVESTIGATION REGARDING POTENTIALLY  
UNNECESSARY UTILITY CAPITAL INVESTMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Doña Ana County Board of Commissioners is tasked to represent and address the needs of its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, residents of Doña Ana County have brought to the attention of the County apparent El Paso Electric Company (EPE) capital expenditures on new utility distribution and transmission investments which expenditures cost ratepayers millions of dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) does not currently review the necessity of these capital expenditures, nor does it review the cost effectiveness of these new distribution and transmission investments; and

**WHEREAS**, demonstrated advancements in demand management, energy efficiency initiatives, distributed renewable energy alternatives and electric energy storage technology have created alternatives to traditional capital expenditures related to new distribution and transmission facilities including new power lines and substations; and

**WHEREAS**, EPE, without NMPRC review or approval, has proposed to spend millions of dollars on a new substation and additional distribution lines, which investment may be completely unnecessary given demonstrated advancements and alternatives to these costly expenditures; and

**WHEREAS**, a significant number of County residents have signed a petition requesting that the County urge the NMPRC to investigate EPE's proposed investment in this new infrastructure; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Doña Ana County Board of Commissioners strongly urges the NMPRC to docket an investigation which would require EPE to justify and support its capital expenditures in new utility distribution and transmission investments, and, to demonstrate that its proposed expenditure in new distribution and transmission facilities is the least cost alternative.

**Resolved in the Board session this 9th day of January, 2018.**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
DOÑA ANA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**

**Billy G. Garrett, District 1**

**For / Against**

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**Ramon S. Gonzalez, District 2      For / Against**

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**Benjamin L. Rawson, District 3      For / Against**

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**Isabella Solis, District 4      For / Against**

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**John L. Vasquez, District 5      For / Against**

**ATTEST:**

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**Scott A. Krahling  
County Clerk**