

October 22, 2008

Jim Clare
SLVREC
3625 U.S. Highway 160W
Monte Vista, CO 81144

Dear Jim:

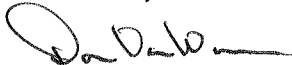
The Upper Rio Grande Economic Development Council (URGEDC), an organization dedicated to the economic prosperity of the upper Rio Grande region, has unanimously agreed to support the efforts of the Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association and its partners in the development and construction of a 230-kilovolt transmission line from Walsenburg to the San Luis Valley.

After exhaustive studies Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association has identified as critical the need to increase electrical capacity to the San Luis Valley. The proposed transmission line will upgrade the existing transmission line, improve system reliability, help prevent voltage collapse under peak loads, and provide necessary transmission support for renewable energy development in the San Luis Valley.

The new transmission line is long overdue and without the increased capacity the San Luis Valley will not have the adequate infrastructure available to attract new businesses and industries that would help improve the quality of life for our historically impoverished region.

In closing, I would like to reiterate that the URGEDC finds the proposed 230-kilovolt transmission line project be of utmost importance to the economic development and economic sustainability of those residing in San Luis Valley.

Sincerely,



Don Van Wormer, President
Upper Rio Grande Economic Development Council