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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

Commissioner Calls TEP to Evaluate Impact of Possible NGS Closure

(Phoenix) Commissioner Andy Tobin is proposing that Tucson Electric Power (TEP) evaluate how the potential closing of the Navajo Generating Station (NGS) will impact customers and the reliability of the electric grid. The Commissioner filed an amendment to the docket concerning TEP's rate case which will be heard by the Commission on Wednesday in Tucson during the second day of February's Open Meeting.

This comes less than a week after Commissioner Tobin sent a letter to Salt River Project (SRP) President David Rousseau to consider alternatives to shutting down its coal-fired NGS units when their lease expires in 2019. Tobin indicated it would cause economic hardship for the Navajo Nation, Hopi Tribe, and other stakeholders.

TEP and Arizona Public Service (APS) are also owners with SRP at NGS. The Commission does not regulate SRP, but the Commissioner is calling for all stakeholders to conduct an Emergency Summit.

The Commissioner wants TEP to provide a report that would include an analysis of the closing, the possibility for TEP to purchase additional NGS shares, and the economic impacts of a NGS closure among other things. In addition, the amendment would prohibit TEP from supporting closure of NGS without a full, Commission review.

The Commissioners will consider a vote on Commissioner Tobin's amendment and TEP's full rate case Wednesday, February 8th during the Open Meeting starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission's Tucson Hearing Room 222 at 400 West Congress in Tucson. The full amendment can be found by going to azcc.gov and click on eDocket. The docket number is E-01933A-15-0239 and E-0193A-15-0032.