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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

February 21, 2017

Tom Forese, Chairman
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington St., Second Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Chairman Forese,

As you know, I am a major proponent of local contact by this Commission. In less than one year, I have held Open Meetings in Yuma, Kingman, Window Rock, Casa Grande, and Safford, and joined fellow Commissioners in Nogales, Pearce, Parker, and Lake Havasu, to name a few, for public hearings. To do our job adequately, we must hear from all Arizonans, not just those living in Maricopa County. I applaud your leadership on this issue by approving my recommendation to bring the Commission to Tucson earlier this month to vote on the rate cases for Tucson Electric Power (TEP) and Trico Electric Cooperative.

Commissioner Burns has requested that a public hearing for the Arizona Public Service Company (APS) rate case be held in Flagstaff. While Flagstaff is a major population center in the APS service territory, there are actually 21,000 more APS customers in Prescott/Prescott Valley. When considering the major towns surrounding Prescott compared with Flagstaff, the Prescott area has approximately 41,000 more customers than the Flagstaff area. Moreover, there are 20,000 customers in the Payson area. Please consider choosing the Verde Valley as the location for a Northern Arizona public hearing, giving Arizonans in Coconino, Yavapai, and Gila Counties an opportunity to be heard by this Commission.

Western Arizona deserves a chance to share their views on the APS rate case, too. I have received several calls and letters inviting us to come to Yuma; there are 77,000 APS customers in the Yuma area, and I ask that you consider it as another location for a public hearing.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andy Tobin".

Andy Tobin
Commissioner