



ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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Commissioners Dunn and Tobin Visit with Douglas Officials, Tour Port of Entry

(Phoenix) – Commissioners Boyd Dunn and Andy Tobin this week visited with Douglas Mayor Robert Uribe, city councilmembers and staff to discuss the important work being done to increase trade and protect public safety at the southern border. A key component of the trip included a tour of the Douglas Raúl Héctor Castro Port of Entry in an effort to foster relationships with Douglas officials as well as the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency.

Each year, nearly \$30 billion in imports and exports passes through Arizona's ports of entry, with the Castro port contributing significantly to overall trade. Arizona exports to Mexico last year topped \$9 billion, accounting for nearly 40% of our state's total exports. Additionally, tourists from Mexico spend approximately \$2.5 billion in Arizona each year. All told, these figures represent a vital partnership that accounts for over 90,000 Arizona jobs.

Douglas officials stressed this important relationship as they held open dialogue with the Commissioners about Douglas' unique economy built around jobs related to border trade. Noted was the Commissioners' willingness to contribute to the development of southern Arizona's economy.

Commissioner Dunn expressed his commitment to seeing trade grow. "Arizona is well-positioned to benefit from close collaboration with border officials on trade and public safety," said Commissioner Dunn. "Governor Ducey and the Arizona-Mexico Commission have done an incredible job ensuring thorough communication and a speed-of-business approach, and we look forward to complementing those efforts here at the Corporation Commission."

Shared sentiment came from Commissioner Tobin, who believes that the Commission has a role in increasing economic development between Arizona and Mexico. "Mexico is Arizona's number one trading partner and we want to do everything we can to improve our relationships with key representatives in our border region," said Commissioner Tobin. "Visiting the Castro Port of Entry re-emphasized how critical our border is to the bilateral flow of goods and services."

Prior to the trip, Commissioners Dunn, Tobin and Bob Burns conducted a public comment meeting in Douglas as part of ongoing efforts to include statewide public input on the pending Arizona Public Service (APS) Company rate case.

Established by Article 15 of the state's constitution, the Arizona Corporation Commission is responsible for the regulation of public utilities, overseeing the incorporation or registration of companies wishing to do business in Arizona. Additionally, the Corporation Commission registers and oversees securities offerings and dealers, and enforces railroad and pipeline safety. The five commissioners that make up the Commission are elected by the people of Arizona for a four-year term, with the option of serving for two consecutive terms. To learn more about the Arizona Corporation Commission and the Commissioners, please check out

<http://www.azcc.gov/Divisions/Administration/about.asp>