

Dear Senator Bingaman, Senator Udall, Congressman Heinrich, Congressman Lujan and Congressman Teague,

Many thanks to you and your staff for meeting with me and the leadership of the towns and cities of Deming, Grady, Corona, Luna and Hildalgo Counties to let you know how important the SunZia transmission project is to our economic future.

We think SunZia's importance to the development of our state's world class renewable resources is potentially being impeded by federal inter-agency politics. We think the development of our clean energy sources is important both for our national security and for the economic benefits to our economically challenged communities. We see clean-energy resource development as a chance for our children to stay on our farms and ranches and to live in the communities where we have been raised.

Without a development like Sun Zia, our economic future will remain cloudy.

With so many alternative resources in the West, wind and solar companies will move to other states if New Mexico lacks the infrastructure to get this resource to market. In fact, LS Power recently decided against building a \$400-million solar project near Deming due to inadequate transmission infrastructure.

We have included a copy of the LS Power letter announcing their withdrawal from New Mexico due to lack of transmission capacity.

We are confident that the environmental review process will allow for the right choices to be made for the Sun Zia transmission line. We think existing military missions and the development of our energy resources can co-exist with careful mitigation. No federal agency should claim an exclusive "mission" in order to try and stop renewable development.

We need your help to ensure this project moves forward.

Our economic livelihood depends on it.

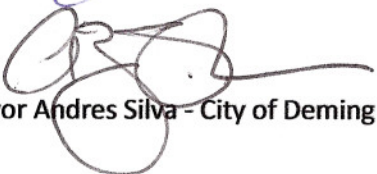
Yours Sincerely,



State Representative Dona Irwin – Luna County



Commissioner Richard Chaires - Hildalgo County Commission



Mayor Andres Silva - City of Deming

City Manager Richard McInturff- City of Deming

