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NEWS RELEASE

October 29, 2009
For immediate release

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PUC TO TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED SAN LUIS VALLEY POWER LINE

DENVER – A Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) administrative law judge will take public comment Nov. 9 in Walsenburg and Nov. 10 in Alamosa on proposals by Tri-State Generation and Transmission and Xcel Energy to jointly construct major new electric transmission facilities in southern Colorado.

Tri-State and Xcel are seeking certificates of public convenience and necessity (CPCNs) to build the San Luis Valley-Calumet-Comanche Transmission Project, a proposed 150-mile transmission line and new substation to accommodate expected new solar and wind generation in southeastern and south-central Colorado.

Public hearings are scheduled from 6-9 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 9, at the Huerfano County Community Center, 928 Russell Ave., in Walsenburg; and from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 10, at the Family Recreation Center, 2222 Old Sanford Rd., in Alamosa.

Utilities are required by law to seek PUC authority to build and own certain major electricity infrastructure projects in Colorado. The PUC determines whether there is a need for the project, and whether the application is in the public interest. The proceeding before the PUC will not determine the routing of the line.

Along with authority to construct the project, the companies are asking the PUC for specific findings that the expected noise and electro-magnetic field (EMF) levels associated with the project as designed and quantified in the application



would be reasonable. The two companies also seek approval to transfer ownership interest as needed when the project is completed.

Formal evidentiary hearings on the proposals are scheduled for Dec. 14-18 and Dec. 21 in Denver. A decision on the applications is not expected until early next year.

Depending on the number of people who sign up to speak at the public hearings, each oral statement may be limited to a certain number of minutes. Those unable to attend the public hearings may submit written comments on the proposal. Comments should be sent to the PUC, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, CO 80202, or electronically via the PUC website. Comments should be addressed to Docket No. 09A-324E and should be received by Dec. 11.

DORA is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the marketplace and is committed to promoting a fair and competitive business environment in Colorado. Consumer protection is our mission.

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