

5 November 2008

Mr. Doug Dean Director, Colorado Public Utilities Commission 1560 Broadway, Suite 250 Denver, Colorado 80202

Attn: Dockets No. 08I-113EG, 08I-420EG, 08I-227E and 08R-424E

Dear Mr. Dean:

On 3 November, the Interwest Energy Alliance held two ex parte meetings with Chairman Ron Binz and Commissioner Matt Baker, pursuant to Commission Decision No. C08-0903.

The topics of discussion covered several dockets, so I am filing this cover letter and the attached summaries with Dockets No. 08I-113EG, 08I-420EG, 08I-227E and 08R-424E.

This disclosure is being filed within two business days following a permitted ex parte communication with a Commissioner. As required, this disclosure letter states the time, date and place of the meeting, lists the persons attending, and contains a summary description of the topics discussed.

No written materials were provided at either meeting.

Thank you, and best regards.

Sincerely,

Craig Cox

**Executive Director** 

cc: Geri Santos-Rach

## **Ex Parte Meeting with Commissioner Matt Baker**

3 November 2008

## **Participants**

- Tony Munoz, Commission Staff
- Geri Santos-Rach, Commission Staff
- Jeff Ackerman, Commission Staff
- Rick Gilliam, SunEdison
- Ron Lehr, representing Interwest Energy Alliance
- Craig Cox, Interwest Energy Alliance

This meeting, held in a Commission meeting room, ran approximately from 3:30 to 5:15 pm and primarily covered dockets 08I-113EG, 08I-420EG, 08I-227E and 08R-424E. This is a summary discussion of the topics discussed by the participants, and I will note the docket of each discussion points by annotating "113," "420," "227" or "424" representing the dockets. No annotation indicates a non-docket discussion topic.

- Discussion of SORECs (424)
- Discussion of RES rules (424)
  - o Retail rate impact cap
  - o Third-party ownership issues
  - Utility ownership issues
  - Solar grid parity issues
  - o Discussion of hedge values of renewables
- Discussion of energy-first planning (113)
- Discussion of cost issues, relating particularly to solar (113)
  - o Possible project development fund?
  - Smart grid discussion
  - Integration issues
- Discussion of transmission issues (227)
  - o Interstate long-line proposals
  - o RTO functionalities/control areas
  - Market-based transmission approaches
  - o Sharing best practices and learning from other jurisdictions
- SB 100 Discussion (227)
- Incentives to do more transmission, more quickly (113, 420, 227)

- o Discussion of policy approaches
- o Discussion of hedge value of renewables and rate stabilization issues
- o Discussion of market-based approaches
- Forecasting issues (113, 227)
  - o Rewarding diversification of portfolio
- Solar incentives (113, 420)
  - o Policy approaches to solar incentives
- Transmission planning issues
  - o Discussion of importance of long-term, coordinated planning
  - o Getting from conceptual issues to projects in the ground
  - Energy-first planning