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ARIZONA CORPORATION
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Direct Line: (602) 542-3682
Arizona Corporation Commission

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AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

December 6, 2013

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RE: Commission's Inquiry into Potential Impacts to the Current Utility Model Resulting from Innovation and Technological Developments in Generation and Delivery of Energy Docket No. E-00000J-13-0375 (pertaining to closed Docket No. E-00000W-13-0135, Commission's Inquiry into Retail Electric Competition)

Dear Commissioners and Interested Stakeholders:

I recently expressed my concerns related to public relations campaigns in the Commission's net metering docket. As I have expressed publicly, I am also troubled by the apparent magnitude and cost of public relations campaigns related to the Commission's inquiry into retail electric competition. I am concerned that such extensive public relations campaigns will become the norm, routinely accompanying Commission inquiries.

Although the Commission's docket on its inquiry into retail electric competition is closed, my concerns related to the public relation campaigns in that matter remain. My view is that the public relations campaigns seemed to have been waged in an attempt to influence the Arizona Corporation Commission. I am also concerned that ratepayer money might fund these campaigns vis-à-vis inclusion as expenses in a future rate case or through person-hours worked by individuals whose salaries are paid by ratepayers. Although the Commission does not regulate all of the stakeholders who were actively involved in the matter, I am also interested in knowing how much money the other stakeholders expended on their campaigns related to retail electric competition.

Consequently, I am requesting the following information from Arizona Public Service Company, Tucson Electric Power Company, UNS Electric, Inc., and each of the electric cooperatives. I am also asking the other stakeholders and their related organizations to answer these same questions.

Here are the questions:

- (1) How much money did your company, organization, shareholders and/or parent company spend to support your positions on retail electric competition? Your answers should include funds spent to support lobbying efforts and contributions to organizations that lobby or retain lobbyists to promote views that you support. Your answers should also include general service contractors who were retained in any capacity but perhaps were not required to register as lobbyists by virtue of a contractual agreement.

- (2) *Please identify the approximate number of hours your salaried staff spent on the public relations campaign to support your positions.*
- (3) *If you are a regulated utility, will you be requesting compensation in a future rate case for funds expended to promote your views?*

Please respond by December 20, 2013. Your timely responses will be helpful to me as the Commission moves forward with this new docket.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert L. Burns". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "R".

Robert L. Burns
Commissioner