



NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

FROM THE OFFICE OF DISTRICT 2 COMMISSIONER PATRICK H. LYONS

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Southwest Power Pool Approves Millions in New Infrastructure for Eastern NM *As SPP committee member, PRC's Pat Lyons works to approve funding for massive project*

SANTA FE – Patrick H. Lyons, Public Regulation Commissioner for District 2, and a Southwestern Power Pool Regional State Committee member, is pleased to announce the SPP's approval of more than \$550 million for new transmission lines and substations in eastern New Mexico to benefit customers of Xcel Energy and its subsidiary Southwest Public Service Company.

According to Xcel, the company will use the money to add more than 400 miles of high-voltage lines and 12 new substations. The improvements will likely provide a boost to burgeoning economic growth spurred on by the oil and gas industries in places like Hobbs and Clovis.

SPP, which oversees grid reliability across an eight-state region, including New Mexico and Texas, approved the funding in April.

Lyons, whose rural District 2 represents most of the eastern part of the state, believes the new infrastructure will help build upon the economic success of not only oil and gas development in the area, but also potash mining and uranium enrichment.

“This infrastructure will help create jobs and economic development, as well as create additional severance tax from more oil and gas development,” Lyons said.

Xcel also has separate plans to add an additional 240 miles of new distribution to customers in Lea and Eddy counties.

For more information on SPP, visit www.spp.org.

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