mgalbraith_CETA@outlook.com

From: Taylor, Joseph C < joseph.c.taylor@xcelenergy.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 6, 2024 9:21 AM

To: Maury Galbraith; Holder, Andrew P; Chester, Jennifer L

Cc: Cathy Boies

Subject: RE: CETA Study Session on Community Engagement Principles

Categories: Blue category

Hello Maury. My apologies for the late response, but PSCo does have a few extra comments:

PSCo appreciates the opportunity to provide written comments to the above principles, in addition to the oral comments we made at the public meeting on July 15.

At the July 15 meeting, we addressed the following:

- We recognized the meeting held between GridWorks and Xcel a month or so ago and appreciated that some of our best practices were noted in the Principles.
- We asked if CETA was going to make public its partnership agreements with transmission developers.
- We noted that some of the requirements appear to be beyond what we have seen made publicly available by developers and wanted to make sure that the developers were comfortable with the principles and willing to comply. In this regard, we emphasized that compliance with the Principles be a binding component of any partnership agreement.

In addition and upon further review of the Principles, PSCo provides the following additional comments:

General: PSCo recognizes that the Principles will apply to the contractual relationship between an independent transmission developer and CETA. As a utility regulated by the Colorado PUC, PSCo has a number of processes and procedures in place to comply with PUC and other federal, state and county requirements. This includes the requirement to design, build and operate a cost-effective transmission system. A private developer may be willing to provide additional services and compensation to landowners and communities which provides the opportunity for higher priced projects. As the major supplier of electricity to Colorado customers, the effect of this additional financial flexibility may result in an increase to the cost of transmission, which is translated to higher end-use electric rates.

Specific to the Principles:

- 1. Principle 1: In general, PSCo has several of the processes identified here. As a utility we already have reporting obligations to the Colorado PUC and others. However, smaller projects such as rebuilds should not require such an expansive process.
- 2. Principle 3:
 - a. Fair Landowner Compensation: PSCo has an established process as a regulated utility. Additional financial consideration may be offered by a developer which will increase the cost of the project and ultimately retail electric rates.
 - b. Tangible Community Benefits: As a regulated utility, PSCo needs to know there is ratepayer and PUC support for additional costs that this principle could bring.
- 3. Principle 4:
 - a. Restoration Commitments: This is already a requirement of most of our land use permits.
 - b. Dispute Resolution Processes: As a regulated utility we have mechanisms in place for resolving disputes.

c. Operation Stage Engagement: As a regulated utility we strive to build, own and operate facilities in the most cost-effective manner. These additional activities could put upward pressure on costs.

Let us know if you have any questions or would like to meet. Thank you.

Joe Taylor

C: 303.726.6854

From: Maury Galbraith < mgalbraith_CETA@outlook.com>

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 2:35 PM

To: Taylor, Joseph C < joseph.c.taylor@xcelenergy.com>; Holder, Andrew P < Andrew.P.Holder@xcelenergy.com>

Cc: Cathy Boies <cboies@gridworks.org>

Subject: RE: CETA Study Session on Community Engagement Principles

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Hi Joe,

Thank you for your excellent remarks yesterday. We hope you are able to submit written comments as well. Happy to meet and discuss if needed.

Best,

Maury

From: Taylor, Joseph C < <u>ioseph.c.taylor@xcelenergy.com</u>>

Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:21 AM

To: Maury Galbraith < mgalbraith_CETA@outlook.com >; Holder, Andrew P < Andrew.P.Holder@xcelenergy.com >

Cc: Cathy Boies < cboies@gridworks.org>

Subject: RE: CETA Study Session on Community Engagement Principles

Hi Maury and Cathy. I have a couple of questions and comments I will make on behalf of Xcel Energy-Colorado and have registered.

Joe Taylor

C: 303.726.6854

From: Maury Galbraith <mgalbraith CETA@outlook.com>

Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 10:10 AM

To: Taylor, Joseph C <joseph.c.taylor@xcelenergy.com>; Holder, Andrew P <Andrew.P.Holder@xcelenergy.com>

Cc: Cathy Boies <cboies@gridworks.org>

Subject: CETA Study Session on Community Engagement Principles

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Hi Joe and Andrew,

As you are likely aware, CETA will be holding a study session next Monday, July 15, 1:30-4:30pm MT to consider <u>draft community engagement principles</u>. I see that no representative from your organization is registered to speak at the public comment period starting at 3:15pm. CETA Board directors will be listening carefully to public input, and I encourage you to weigh in. It would be helpful to CETA directors to hear your feedback as they work to finalize these principles in the coming weeks. Find more information about the study session and register for public comment <u>here</u>.

Thank you for considering this request,

Maury

Maury Galbraith

Executive Director



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