

# NOGALES-SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VISITOR & TOURISM CENTER



June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Christopher Lawrence  
United States Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Re: Nogales Interconnection Project Presidential Permit Application

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

We are writing this letter in urgency for the U.S. Department of Energy to support the APPLICATION FOR PRESIDENTIAL PERMIT OE DOCKET NO. PP-420 NOGALES TRANSMISSION, L.L.C.

With the opening of recent Mexican energy reforms, cross-border energy with Mexico is going to grow considerably in the upcoming years, creating a new market for true competition in electricity.

Energy import and export prospects have generated a renewed interest in cross-border infrastructure and in turn, creating more requests for presidential permits.

According to United States Department of Energy, the criteria used by the agency to determine if a project like the Nogales Interconnection Project will earn a Presidential Permit is the following, 1), environmental impact, identified pursuant to National Environmental Policy Act; 2), impact on electric reliability, obtained by determining whether the proposal would negatively affect the operation of the U.S. electric power supply system under normal and contingency conditions; and 3), that it will be consistent with the public interest.

It appears after examining the proposal, that all three of the aspects included in the criteria have been met, therefore the Nogales-Santa Cruz County Chamber of Commerce will endorse this project. Being that the dependency of energy in the Nogales-Santa Cruz County area is increasing; the Nogales Interconnection Project is greatly needed for the future of energy usage. I urge you to support the APPLICATION FOR PRESIDENTIAL PERMIT OE DOCKET NO. PP-420 NOGALES TRANSMISSION, L.L.C.

Sincerely,

Olivia I. Ainsa-Kramer  
President/CEO

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