



SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION

Jamie Harvey	Commission Chair
Silvia Stubbs	Commission Vice-Chair
Bruce Adams	Commissioner
Mack McDonald	County Administrator

March 5, 2024

Mr. Josh Dillinger
Empire Electric
801 North Broadway
Cortez, Colorado. 81321

The purpose of this letter is to document the partnership and commitment to the community between San Juan County (County) and Empire Electric Association, Inc. (EEA).

The County has an interest in protecting property and critical infrastructure in the wild land-urban interface. The County also seeks to share information and ensure a broad collaboration of Federal, State, and local interests.

The County strongly supports EEA's system hardening project, as defined in EEA's application for grant funding under funding opportunity number DE-FOA-0003195. EEA's project aligns with the objectives of the County and is designed to reduce the likelihood of disruptive events such as wildfire, extreme weather, and other natural disasters affecting the essential services which includes the electric grid; which will increase electric reliability for the disadvantaged communities in the County, and the low-income families who are disproportionately affected by such disruptive events.

EEA will engage with the County to identify opportunities to improve operations efficiency for the benefit of the community. Opportunities to save and partner with resources includes coordinating, where possible, construction activities with the County Road Department and other entities such as UDOT projects; and communicating planned projects in San Juan which can be used to identify areas where this partnership can coordinate projects in an effort to assist projects with potentially sharing the cost of a trench for underground utilities in the area.

Respectfully,

SAN JUAN COUNTY

EMPIRE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

Jamie Harvey, Commission Chair

Josh Dellinger, General Manager