



EDUCATION FUND



SOCIETY



October 3, 2022

To Members of the Salt River Project Board and SRP Management,

Attached please find the People's Energy Plan to provide clean energy alternatives to the proposed portfolios currently being considered by Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District (SRP) in your Integrated System Plan (ISP). The proposed portfolios we present are supported by various communities and stakeholders, including those who have signed this letter, who are concerned about a clean energy future for Arizona. Strategen, a consulting firm focused on decarbonizing energy systems, has done the modeling and analysis for the People's Energy Plan.

The People's Energy Plan presents a comprehensive and detailed resource plan that lays out a roadmap for how SRP can meet its clean energy obligations to SRP ratepayers and stakeholders, as well as the people of Arizona. SRP has the potential today to help Arizona address climate change. The People's Energy Plan is a culmination of direct feedback from everyday hardworking people, community leaders and stakeholders who have strongly voiced what they would like to see from SRP as the Integrated System Plan moves forward.

Unfortunately, SRP has been doubling down on fossil fuels with its efforts to expand the Coolidge Generating Station with 16 additional gas units that would contribute to environmental injustice in the community of Randolph, a proposal to keep the Coronado Generating Station running longer, gas expansions at Agua Fria and Desert Basin, and most recently, proposed gas at Copper Crossing. SRP's plans to spread out gas turbines to various locations in smaller configurations come at a higher cost for ratepayers and avoids oversight by the Arizona Power Plant and Line Siting Committee and the Arizona Corporation Commission. This is the wrong direction for a utility that indicates it is dedicated to sustainability.

The People's Energy Plan provides a reliable alternative to more gas and continued reliance on coal and finds the following:

- A more ambitious 85% carbon emissions reduction target, reducing CO2 by 85% from 2005 levels by 2035, is feasible and can result in additional emissions savings.
- The Coolidge gas plant expansion is not part of a least cost portfolio.
- Retiring and replacing SRP's coal-fired generating units with clean energy could save SRP customers \$620 million and avoid 43 million tons of cumulative CO2 emissions. Even higher savings and reduced emissions are possible with the new federal support that is part of the Inflation Reduction Act.
- SRP's current 2035 sustainability goals don't drive any new incremental emissions reductions, and are readily achieved by previously announced coal retirements

Recommendations in the People's Energy Plan include minimizing investments in new gas, reassessing the retirement dates for coal-fired generating units at Four Corners and Coronado, continuing to support demand side resources, setting more meaningful carbon reduction targets, and exploring the incentives available through the Inflation Reduction Act.

We invite SRP leadership and Board members to thoroughly review the People's Energy Plan, and engage with the People's Energy Plan coalition to ensure that the ISP represents a fair and

transparent process that results in the cleanest and most equitable possible path forward for Arizonans. We expect the People's Energy Plan will be a useful resource that SRP can implement to benefit ratepayers, Arizona communities, and the environment. SRP can and should be a leader among the state's utilities in developing clean renewable energy, promoting energy efficiency and integrating further adoption of distributed energy resources. The People's Energy Plan demonstrates how SRP can achieve these goals and move away from reliance on coal and gas.

Sincerely,

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