



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SECRETARY

January 21, 2020

The Honorable José Rodríguez
Texas Senate District 29
P.O. Box 12068
Capitol Station
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Senator Rodríguez:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter of January 10, 2020, addressed to Chairman Svinicki regarding the application by El Paso Electric Company for transfer of the licenses for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station and Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation. Your letter expresses support for the hearing request submitted by Public Citizen and states your position regarding Public Citizen's standing.

As with your November 2019 letter, your January 2020 letter relates to subjects that may be raised during any adjudication that might result from Public Citizen's request for hearing on the license transfer application. For this reason, the Commission must remain impartial and it would be inappropriate for the Chairman to comment on the matter at this time.

A copy of your letter and this acknowledgment will be served on the parties in the Palo Verde proceeding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Annette L. Vietti-Cook", is written over the typed name.

Annette L. Vietti-Cook



JOSÉ RODRÍGUEZ

STATE SENATOR

SENATE DISTRICT 29

EL PASO, CULBERSON, HUDSPETH, PRESIDIO & JEFF DAVIS COUNTIES

January 10, 2020

Chairwoman Kristine L. Svinicki
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop O-16 B33
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001
Chairman@nrc.gov

RE: Docket ID NRC-2019-0214

Dear Chairwoman Svinicki:

Last November, I submitted a letter in support of Public Citizen's request for hearing regarding Docket ID NRC-2019-0214, which is the proposal by JP Morgan Chase & Co-related IIF US Holdings 2 GP LLC (IIF), through Sun Jupiter Holdings LLC, to purchase the El Paso Electric Company (EPE). It is my understanding that IIF and EPE have challenged Public Citizen's standing.

I write to reiterate my strong support for the hearing request. Public Citizen clearly has standing. Not only is Public Citizen a consumer advocacy group, it has dues-paying members in El Paso, including Joseph Valenzuela.

I am grateful for Public Citizen's work on behalf of consumers, and the nearly 900,000 constituents in Texas Senate District 29. The group's work has been invaluable in understanding the effect of this complex transaction on my constituents and EPE ratepayers, and a hearing would build upon that work for the benefit of the public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "José Rodríguez". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "J" and a long, horizontal stroke at the end.

José Rodríguez

cc: Public Citizen, El Paso Electric

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
)	
EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY)	Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, 50-530
)	and 72-44-LT
Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station)	
(Units 1, 2, and 3 and ISFSI))	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing **Letter from NRC Secretary, Annette Vietti-Cook, to Senator José Rodríguez** have been served upon the following persons by Electronic Information Exchange.

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[Original signed by Herald M. Speiser _____]
Office of the Secretary of the Commission

Dated at Rockville, Maryland,
this 21st day of January, 2020.