

**RESOLUTION  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OURAY COUNTY**

**Re: Encouragement for Tri-State to Pursue  
Alternative Energy Sources**

**Whereas**, the demand for electricity in Ouray County is met by the San Miguel Power Association, Inc. (SMPA); and

**Whereas**, SMPA purchases the power it sells to its retail customers in Ouray County from the Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State); and

**Whereas**, Tri-State proposes in its new draft resource plan, published on January 3, 2007, to build two new pulverized coal (PC) power plants totaling 1200 megawatts of capacity to help meet the wholesale demand for power by SMPA and other Tri-State members; and

**Whereas**, in its new plan Tri-State acknowledges the possibility that demand-side and wind power might play a role in helping Tri-State meet its obligations to its members but has not pursued combined heat and power (CHP) and, for the time being, coal gasification technologies; and

**Whereas**, opportunities exist for conservation, energy efficiency, demand-side management, renewable resources, CHP and new coal gasification technology; and

**Whereas**, in 2004 sixty percent (60%) of the votes cast in Ouray County on Amendment 37 were in favor of a state renewable energy standard clearly indicating the majority support for renewable energy; and

**Whereas**, many of the citizens of Ouray County are engaged in individual efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

**Whereas**, Tri-State's decision to build two new PC power plants is a risky financial decision in an era in which, during the expected 50- to 60-year lifetime of these new power plants, greenhouse gas emissions are likely to be regulated or taxed; and

**Whereas**, SMPA has an all-requirements contract with Tri-State under which SMPA must purchase all but 5% of its requirements from Tri-State through 2040; and

**Whereas**, Tri-State has asked SMPA by April 1, 2007 to execute a ten-year extension of its power purchase contract with Tri-State to 2050 for the purpose of financing the PC plants;

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved**, by the Board of County Commissioners of Ouray County, Colorado to request that SMPA:

1. Seek to have Tri-State continue to work on its plan so that it fully integrates energy efficiency, energy conservation, demand-side management, renewable resources, CHP and new coal gasification facilities capable of economically capturing carbon dioxide, to the degree these facilities are commercially viable,
2. Develop and make available programs that promote energy efficiency and support the use of renewable resources, especially those renewable resources that are available locally,
3. Encourage Tri-State to employ the energy technologies listed above,
4. Use whatever resources SMPA has to protect Ouray County access to power, and
5. Explore avenues that would allow SMPA to purchase other sources of power that would accurately reflect the views of the co-op members.

**Adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of March, 2007.**

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO

Attest:

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Don Batchelder, Chair

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Heidi M. Albritton, Vice Chair

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Michelle Nauer, Clerk and Recorder  
By: Linda Munson-Haley, Deputy Clerk of the Board

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K. Keith Meinert, Member