

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 20, 2023

Ms. Tracey A, LeBeau
Administrator and CEO
Western Area Power Administration
P.O. Box 281213
Lakewood, CO 80228-8213

Dear Administrator LeBeau:

We have recently learned that the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) is considering final negotiations for Southwest Power Pool Regional Transmission Organization (SPP RTO). This decision to proceed and potential negotiations with SPP RTO would appear to affect WAPA's power deliveries from the Colorado River Storage Projects (CRSP) to Arizona with potentially adverse consequences for the communities that rely on WAPA power to provide reliable and affordable power.

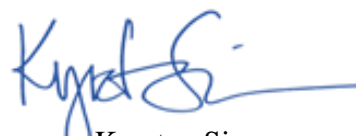
As you are aware, the CRSP power contracts have long provided important capacity, energy, and resource adequacy (RA) benefits to consumer owned utilities in Arizona. As power resources have become scarcer in the Southwest, WAPA resources have helped provide a reliable source of power, notwithstanding the challenges of drought and adverse hydrology in the Colorado River Basin. We understand from conversations with utility representatives in Arizona that the loss of the CRSP resource could have significant consequences.

We recognize that WAPA is still deliberating whether to enter final negotiations with the SPP RTO for the CRSP marketing area, and this decision has been delayed. In moving forward with this decision, we expect that WAPA will protect existing contracts that provide power to existing CRSP contractors. Specifically, we trust WAPA will proceed with negotiations and execute a final agreement that ensures that the CRSP power deliveries will continue in Arizona in a manner consistent with the full expected power deliveries promised under existing contracts.

Because this issue has particular importance for communities in Arizona, we ask that you keep our offices apprised of WAPA's efforts and in particular the steps that your team will take to protect contracts delivering power to Arizona. Your cooperation on this matter would be most appreciated.

Sincerely,


Mark Kelly
United States Senator


Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senator



Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress



Juan Ciscomani
Member of Congress