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Gary Pierce
Commissioner
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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

May 18, 2010

VIA FACSIMILE & US MAIL

Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Office of the Mayor
200 North Spring St., Room 303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Los Angeles' boycott of Arizona

Dear Mayor Villaraigosa:

I was dismayed to learn that the Los Angeles City Council voted to boycott Arizona and Arizona-based companies—a vote you strongly supported—to show opposition to SB 1070 (Support our Law Enforcement and Safe Neighborhoods Act).

You explained your support for the boycott as follows: “While we recognize that as neighbors, we share resources and ties with the State of Arizona that may be difficult to sever, our goal is not to hurt the local economy of Los Angeles, but to impact the economy of Arizona. Our intent is to use our dollars—or the withholding of our dollars—to send a message.” (emphasis added)

I received your message; please receive mine. As a state-wide elected member of the Arizona Corporation Commission overseeing Arizona's electric and water utilities, I too am keenly aware of the “resources and ties” we share with the City of Los Angeles. In fact, approximately twenty-five percent of the electricity consumed in Los Angeles is generated by power plants in Arizona.

If an economic boycott is truly what you desire, I will be happy to encourage Arizona utilities to renegotiate your power agreements so Los Angeles no longer receives any power from Arizona-based generation. I am confident that Arizona's utilities would be happy to take those electrons off your hands. If, however, you find that the City Council lacks the strength of its convictions to turn off the lights in Los Angeles and boycott Arizona power, please reconsider the wisdom of attempting to harm Arizona's economy.

People of goodwill can disagree over the merits of SB 1070. A state-wide economic boycott of Arizona is not a message sent in goodwill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Pierce".

Commissioner Gary Pierce

cc: Councilmember Ed P. Reyes
Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Councilmember Dennis P. Zine
Councilmember Tom LaBonge
Councilmember Paul Koretz
Councilmember Tony Cardenas
Councilmember Richard Alarcon
Councilmember Bernard C. Parks
Councilmember Jan Perry
Councilmember Herb J. Wesson
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Governor Jan Brewer
Senator John McCain
Senator Jon Kyl
Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick
Congressman Trent Franks
Congressman John Shadegg
Congressman Ed Pastor
Congressman Harry Mitchell
Congressman Jeff Flake
Congressman Raul Grijalva
Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords
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Don Brandt, President and CEO of Pinnacle West and Arizona Public Service Company
David Rousseau, President of Salt River Project
Richard Silverman, General Manager of Salt River Project
Paul Bonavia, President and CEO of Unisource Energy