

RESOLUTION NO. 23-02

A RESOLUTION JOINING THE MOON LAKE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC. AND THE NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC RELIABILITY CORPORATION IN WARNING OF AN IMPENDING U.S. ENERGY CRISIS

WHEREAS, Duchesne County, Utah receives 100% of its electrical power supply from the Moon Lake Electric Association, Inc. (“Moon Lake”). Moon Lake is a non-profit rural electric cooperative operating in Northeastern Utah and Northwestern Colorado. Established in 1938, Moon Lake possesses: (1) a total of 24,121 electric meters; (2) 70,903 power poles; (3) 287 miles of underground distribution line; (4) 3,524 miles of overhead distribution line; and (5) 367 miles of transmission line as of year-end 2022. As a rural cooperative, Moon Lake serves a diverse group of members including residential property owners, farmers, ranchers, commercial, medical, governmental, school and industrial stakeholders, the Ute Indian Tribe and many others; and

WHEREAS, Moon Lake’s Mission Statement focuses on Reliability, Accountability, Transparency, and Safety. Each tenet is patently manifested daily through the actions of Moon Lake’s board of directors, management team, and employees. In addition to the mission statement, Moon Lake takes great pride in the affordability of its power rates for the membership – residential customers pay approximately five (\$0.05) cents per kilowatt hour which contributes to a higher standard of living for many low-to-moderate income and underserved communities within Duchesne County; and

WHEREAS, Duchesne County and Moon Lake are deeply concerned with the United States’ (“U.S.”) impending energy crisis. There is a growing trend of decommissioning many of the existing dispatchable power generation resources across the country without viable replacements. Demand for energy continues to increase to meet the needs of a growing population while the supply of reliable and affordable electricity follows a downward trajectory leaving the nation’s populous with an electricity deficiency. As the electricity deficiency progresses, it will result in higher cost of electricity for all Americans. Those with greater financial means will be able to afford electricity, when it is available, while the less fortunate will have to go without or severely reduce their consumption. The largely non-dispatchable nature of new generation resources also has great potential to result in grid instability and blackout conditions. These threats not only impact the current standards of living and the nation’s economy, but more importantly, our national security. This looming crisis is entirely preventable and cannot be tolerated; and

WHEREAS, the current U.S. Energy Policy does not align with the best interests of the American people. The federal government and specifically the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, are promoting the premature closure of numerous coal-fired power plants, that provide reliable, non-intermittent base load electricity to communities throughout the country, commencing in 2025. Regionally, coal-fired power plant units located in Craig, Colorado, Hayden, Colorado and Delta, Utah are all scheduled to decommission without any announced base load replacements with proven fuel stock; and

WHEREAS, Duchesne County and Moon Lake fully support an “all-of-the-above” approach to fuel sources that include: hydroelectric power, clean coal, natural gas, solar, wind, geothermal, nuclear, and other proven fuel stocks; and

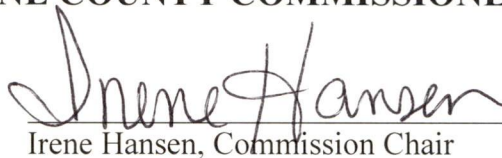
WHEREAS, The North American Electric Reliability Corporation recently released, on May 19, 2023, an article that questions America’s ability to keep the lights on (see: <https://nreca.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0yNzQzMDI1JnA9MSZ1PTUzMjc3MDk4MyZsaT0yOTIwMzM5OQ/index.html>). Contributing factors to this impending crisis are:

- Premature retirements of conventional generation;
- Substantial increase in electricity demand;
- Increases in widespread summer heat events;
- Recent Environmental Protection Agency rules that may force generators to meet “emissions restrictions primarily by limiting hours of operation;”
- Supply chain issues;
- Fuel Delivery risks related to the availability of natural gas and coal; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Duchesne County Commissioners that federal, state, tribal and local governmental officials nationwide are hereby warned of the impending dangers to current standards of living, the nation's economy, and our national security as stated by the Moon Lake Electric Association, Inc. and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation. Duchesne County beseeches all government officials to immediately and forcefully articulate, promulgate, and implement "common sense" rationale to the U.S. energy policies thereby mitigating the foreseeable, avoidable energy crisis and the calamities that await. As a rural county with numerous low-to-moderate income and underserved communities, Duchesne County implores all governmental officials to take appropriate action now.


PASSED this 3rd day of July 2023 by the Board of County Commissioners. Members: Irene Hansen, Greg Miles and Tracy Killian. All present and voting in favor thereof.

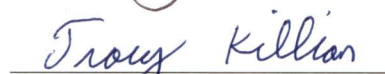
THE BOARD OF DUCHESNE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Irene Hansen, Commission Chair

Attest:


Greg Miles, Commissioner


Chelise Jessen
County Clerk/Auditor


Tracy Killian, Commissioner