

(Date)

Public Utilities Commission
1560 Broadway, Suite 250
Denver, CO 80202

RE: Xcel Energy's Colorado Energy Plan (proceeding 16A-0396E)

Dear Commissioners:

The Pueblo Library District is in support of Xcel Energy and its plans to drive significant investments in renewable power and other clean energy sources with its recently submitted Preferred Colorado Energy Plan Portfolio. We strongly believe Xcel Energy's proposal outlines a resource plan that represents an important step forward for Pueblo.

Xcel Energy's preferred portfolio would increase total net employment, GDP and disposable personal income throughout Colorado and in Pueblo, where a significant portion of the future generation development would occur. While the plan will benefit the entire state, it provides great economic opportunity for Pueblo, the long-time home of Comanche 1 and Comanche 2.

Based on findings from the Leeds Business School at the University of Colorado, economists predict the proposal would add nearly 2,000 jobs and generate more than \$200 million statewide in its first five years.

Pueblo County would gain more than 500 jobs and \$44 million in economic growth between 2018 and 2023. The community would also benefit over the approximately 23 years of the study period, with an added 133 jobs. Real GDP would increase by \$9.8 million in Pueblo County. Over the same period, disposable personal income in Pueblo County would increase by \$8.6 million.

The utility's proposal also injects new development in the area through investments in solar generation and energy storage projects, while taking advantage of existing energy assets, like transmission lines. These comprehensive investments can help keep businesses and the job market strong and healthy in Pueblo.

We urge the Commission to support Xcel Energy's Preferred Colorado Energy Plan Portfolio, which will deliver long-term value for the entire state and the Pueblo community in particular.

Sincerely,