

JUAN CISCOMANI  
6TH DISTRICT, ARIZONA

1429 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0306  
(202) 225-2542

1636 N. SWAN ROAD, SUITE 200  
TUCSON, AZ 85712  
(520) 881-3588

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0306**

**COMMITTEES:**

**APPROPRIATIONS**

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ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

September 16, 2023

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue S. W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Granholm:

I write regarding an application of significance to my district for the Department of Energy's Transmission Facilitation Program (TFP). Please give this application full and fair consideration.

The applicants, Grid United and Black Forest Partners, are co-developing the Southline Transmission Project (Southline), a 280-mile, double-circuit, high voltage transmission line and associated substation facilities. 136-miles of the proposed transmission line and its upgrades are within Arizona's sixth congressional district.

According to the project partners, the design provides the capability to transport power bi-directionally and would enable wind and solar resources from the desert southwest to reach neighbor markets while improving the grid reliability of this rural border region.

The development of large-scale new transmission lines and upgrades to existing transmission, as well as the connection of microgrids in select States and U.S. territories, are stated objectives within the TFP. These key building blocks help to ensure not only the reliability of our grid but to improve the affordability of services by reducing the potential for volatility due to weather or other risk factors.

Southline aims to connect the electrical transmission systems of the El Paso and Tucson metropolitan areas and comprises new facilities between the Afton, New Mexico and Apache, Arizona substations, as well as upgrade Western Arizona Power Administration facilities between the Apache and Vail, Arizona substations.

As you make this important funding decision, I respectfully ask that you give the Southline proposal full and fair consideration under all applicable rules and laws. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Juan Ciscomani  
United States Congressman