

MY TURN
JEROME LUCERO

CEO's end run around the protesters to the PRC

This last week's *Taos News* My Turn by the CEO of Kit Carson Electric Coop was a laugher.

Mr. Reyes cannot believe that the people/consumers of the electric coop have had enough of his projects — that to date have lost more than \$25 million.

As a result of the PRC hearing in Santa Fe on Jan. 10, where he did not get his wish of disqualifying the major ity of the submitted protests, he is now trying another one of his favorite tactics — the end run. He approached one of the protesters last week to see if he was interested in being part of a committee of local influential people to come up with a new rate strategy to present to the PRC.

The problem with this idea is that he stacks the committee with his cronies thus guaranteeing the outcome of the committee in his favor. Mr. Reyes, we see through your transparency and we will not let you do this.

Had Mr. Reyes started the rate proposal with input from the community when he initially submitted his rate request to the PRC, then maybe that might have had a chance of working, but at this point it is a lot too late.

The rate request is in the hands of the PRC and that is where it should be handled, but keep in mind that Mr.

Reyes believed that he alone could invalidate our protests.

It is time for Mr. Reyes and his big ideas to go and you the coop consumer need to see that this happens.

When I star ted my work to identify the goings-on at the co-op my goal was to get Mr. Reyes to change his behavior.

But because of his actions during the last two months where he tr ied to hold the county hostage at the new courthouse complex, because the county had the gall to question his rate proposal by resolution, it is clear that the co-op's governing board lets him do whatever he wants.

For this reason they all need to go except for the two board members that stood for the people in this whole fiasco — Luisa Mylet and Virgil Martinez. Mr. Reyes, we see what you are doing and we are not going to let you do it at least not without a fight. Your rate request is in the PRC's hands and you need to let them do their work and that work includes a complete forensic audit of your books from the inception of the propane business.

The fact that you are not wanting the PRC to investigate just creates more doubt about what you are trying to hide.

Jerome Lucero is a resident of Taos.

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