

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9169

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CROWLEY COUNTY, COLORADO, OPPOSING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSED HIGH-POWER TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT AND CALLING FOR TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND LOCAL INPUT

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has determined a need to transport green energy across multiple states, including Colorado, without clear benefit to Crowley County or the State of Colorado as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the DOE has proposed a five-mile-wide corridor for the transmission line, potentially impacting private property owners, agricultural lands, local infrastructure, and natural resources without meaningful consultation with affected communities; and

WHEREAS, the DOE has failed to adequately notify local officials, landowners, and stakeholders in Crowley County regarding the scope, purpose, and potential impact of this project, and has not ensured transparency through proper publication of public comment periods in local newspapers; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that high-voltage transmission lines and substations may emit toxins that could be hazardous to human health, and it remains unclear what impact these emissions could have on Crowley County's residents, agricultural lands, groundwater sources, and overall environmental quality; and

WHEREAS, the proposed transmission corridor would remove productive farmland, disrupt ranching operations, and negatively impact Crowley County's agricultural economy, which serves as the backbone of the community and supports local businesses, schools, and essential services; and

WHEREAS, the potential loss of significant acreage from agricultural production would have a cascading effect on the county's economy, leading to job losses, business closures, decreased tax revenue, and increased financial burdens on remaining property owners; and

WHEREAS, the DOE has not addressed the long-term financial impacts of this project, including how Crowley County will be compensated for lost property tax revenue essential for maintaining roads, schools, emergency services, and other public resources; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Crowley County is committed to protecting the rights of its residents, preserving the county's agricultural heritage, and ensuring that any major infrastructure projects are conducted with full transparency, proper environmental assessments, and fair compensation to affected property owners and the county as a whole;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CROWLEY COUNTY, COLORADO:

1. That the Board of County Commissioners formally opposes the proposed high-power transmission line project in its current form due to its lack of transparency, failure to properly notify local officials and residents, and its potential to cause economic and environmental harm to Crowley County.
2. That the U.S. Department of Energy must provide a published notice of intent regarding this project, with an extended public comment period allowing for meaningful local input.
3. That the DOE must notify officials of the State of Colorado and Crowley County of any intent to use eminent domain to seize private property for this project.
4. That no further development of the project should proceed until independent environmental and health impact studies are conducted—one selected by the county, one by the DOE, and one agreed upon by both parties—demonstrating that no significant health or environmental hazards exist.
5. That Crowley County will place a moratorium on the project until the DOE assumes full liability for any health, environmental, or economic damages caused by the transmission line.
6. That Crowley County will place a moratorium on the project until the DOE presents a clear and enforceable plan to provide annual compensation for the loss of tax revenue caused by the removal of agricultural land from production.
7. That Crowley County urges the State of Colorado and its elected officials to support local communities in resisting the imposition of large-scale infrastructure projects that fail to benefit local residents and threaten the economic stability of rural counties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Governor of Colorado, the Colorado State Legislature, the U.S. Department of Energy, the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, and all relevant federal and state representatives.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 10th day of February, 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CROWLEY COUNTY, COLORADO



Roy Elliott, Chair



Terry McMillian, Vice-Chair



Vicki Powell, Commissioner

ATTEST: 

Melinda Carter, County Clerk

