

Press Release  
August 2, 2010

Following are two pages of a letter from Dennis Francish, Attorney, to the Board of Trustees which has as its subject heading, "Re: Kathy Torres' Charge of Discrimination Against Electric Cooperative, Inc., Filed July 7, 2010 With the EEOC and NM Human Rights Bureau."

The contents of this letter which is a part of the smear campaign against Trustee Charlie Wagner precipitated the third document which is from "employees of the SEC." This unsigned letter was mailed from the SEC office using SEC stationery and the co-op's Pitney Bowes postage register. It is a plea for help from the board and an accusation of corrupt practices within the SEC. This unsigned letter indicates a lack of confidence in the SEC's Whistleblower's policy.

These communications are available to the SEC member-owners as insurance against any attempt at concealment of these related matters. Any discussion and/or action should occur at an open meeting under the rules of the Open Meeting Act and with members present. A board committee has neither the knowledge or jurisdiction to conduct such an investigation. Witness all the allegations made against Trustee Wagner without any documentation or reality which the board assumes are true without any facts.

The board to a man (Prescilla Mauldin was the only trustee who demanded facts) condemned Charlie Wagner as guilty on the basis of unverified accusations. These smears have backfired. No one and that includes the subjects of the employee's letter should be adjudged guilty without proof.

As a first step at this open meeting, the SEC Whistleblower policy must be examined and strengthened so that these employees can relate their concerns and knowledge of wrong doing without fear of retribution. There can be no justice until that is done. And without member access to everything that is happening in the SEC Co-op, there can be no trust.