November 9, 2018
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

RE: Lake Powell Pipeline in Southern Utah

I am writing to urge the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to advance the Lake Powell Pipeline by completing the environmental assessment and issuing its license. I am the CEO and partner of Brokers Holdings, which operates commercial and residential real estate brokerages in Southern Utah. Our firms transact approximately $1 billion in real estate sales and leasing annually in Utah and Nevada and manage over $250 million in real estate assets including residential and commercial properties. I have taught Real Estate Finance, Entrepreneurial finance, Financial Modeling and Decision Making, and Economics at Dixie State University. I am a native of southern Utah, a CFA charter holder and I earned my MBA at Carnegie Mellon University.

Utah water districts plan today for the water local communities will need far into the future. The St. George area has benefited from forward thinking water planning since the community’s founding in the 1860’s.

I’m concerned that our community’s current water supply will not meet the needs of the next generation of residents. Currently our region depends solely on the Virgin River basin. Without additional water infrastructure and planning, our children may not be able to enjoy the natural beauty and economic opportunity provided to current residents.

Recognizing the projected needs of our region, the Utah State Legislature created the Lake Powell Pipeline Development Act in 2006. As outlined in this Act, the state will finance the project and water users in Washington and Kane counties will repay the state, with interest. More than a thousand regional water projects have been built in Utah using the same financing mechanism. All have been repaid.

The Utah Impact Fees Act allows the water districts to charge an impact fee to pay for the infrastructure required by growth and new development. Washington County has been one of the fastest growing counties in the country. As our community continues to grow, we will become more dependent on regional water projects to meet future water demands.

Washington County is responsible to provide safe, reliable and sufficient water for its 160,000 residents and plan for the future.
The Lake Powell Pipeline is a significant investment for our community. So were many of the major water projects in our community at the time they were being contemplated. I join many others in the community in urging FERC to proceed with the environmental review and permitting for this critical project.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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