



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO**

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P.O. Box 1507 / 398 Lewis Street / Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147  
Tel (970) 264-8300

August 15, 2023

Mr. Patrick Rondinelli, Southwestern Regional Manager  
Division of Local Government  
Department of Local Affairs  
1313 Sherman Street, Suite 518  
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Energy & Mineral Impact Assistance Funds (EIAF) Grant Application

Dear Mr. Rondinelli,

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners fully support the grant application submitted by the Upper San Juan Health Service District which does business under the trade name of the Pagosa Springs Medical Center (“PSMC”). PSMC operates the only hospital and the only EMS/ambulance service in Archuleta County and the nearest hospital and emergency medical services are at least an hour drive away. If awarded, the DOLA EIAF funding will allow PSMC to construct a building to house oxygen generation equipment that PSMC acquired in 2021.

PSMC is taking a proactive step towards securing the health and safety of our community by providing an independent means to supply a constant and sustainable supply of medical oxygen. Currently, PSMC has oxygen delivered from vendors as far away as Farmington, NM. Depending upon oxygen deliveries in winter weather during high oxygen usage times by patients is risky. Roads and passes are regularly closed. The ability to generate onsite oxygen will ensure that patients have the oxygen they need. Additionally, in the event of a community wide emergency such as another pandemic or a wildfire, PSMC would be able to generate its own needed oxygen.

PSMC’s record of efficient management and successful implementation of previous projects gives us full confidence in their ability to complete this project. Thank you for your consideration of our letter of support and assisting us in working together to build a healthier, more resilient future for our community.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Maez  
Chairman