

March 17, 2005

Mr. Paul Bustamante, President  
Socorro Electric Cooperative  
215 Manzanares Avenue  
P.O. Box H  
Socorro, NM 87801

**RE: Radio Interference From Power Line Hardware  
38 Tee Pee Ranch, Datil; Residence of Mark Mandelkern  
Case #EB-2002-297**

Dear Mr. Bustamante:

Enclosed are copies of letters issued to Socorro Electric regarding harmful radio interference to Mr. Mark Mandelkern, a licensee in the Amateur Radio Service, from power line hardware in the Datil area. **Mr. Mandelkern reports that there has been no improvement in the noise levels at his Datil location, and we have received no indication of any progress by Socorro Electric in correcting this problem since Mr. Leopoldo Pineda's letter dated June 24, 2003, enclosed.**

Mr. Pineda's letter pointed out that Mr. Mandelkern is not a customer of Socorro Electric. That fact is irrelevant to Socorro's responsibility under Commission rules to correct the radio frequency interference generated by its hardware. Furthermore, Mr. Mandelkern informs us that he is reluctant to become a customer of Socorro until the noise is corrected because he does not wish to make the noise even more severe at his location in Datil. Mr. Pineda's letter also implies that the noise may be caused by a welding shop near Mr. Mandelkern's Datil residence. Mr. Mandelkern reports that the interference occurs on Sundays and in the evenings, times during which the welding shop is not operational. Mr. Mandelkern is an experienced radio technician, holding a First Class Commercial license from the FCC. He has established that your hardware is the source of the radio noise. He may be reached at (numbers deleted). We will arrange a meeting between Socorro and Mr. Mandelkern if you wish.

The Commission requests that you advise this office within 30 days of receipt of this letter as to what specific action is being taken by Socorro to correct the radio interference problem at Datil. The Commission's Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau first brought this matter to Socorro's attention by letter dated March 20, 2002, but it remains unresolved. Socorro has had more than sufficient time to address this problem. However, if Socorro does not submit within 30 days a plan to address the interference problem, we will initiate enforcement action.

Enclosures: 7