Ruiz, Nina

From: Colorado Kids Ranch < Hello@coloradokidsranch.com>

Sent: Monday, September 4, 2023 1:19 PM

To: Ruiz, Nina

Subject: Fwd: Colorado Pumpkin Patch Approval



Colorado Kids Ranch 719-799-6708 18065 Saddlewood Rd Monument CO 80132 www.ColoradoKidsRanch.com

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From: LINDY POWELL < POWELLDG@earthlink.net >

Date: Mon, Sep 4, 2023 at 11:26 AM

Subject: Colorado Pumpkin Patch Approval

To: < hollywilliams@elpasoco.com">hollywilliams@elpasoco.com, < LonginosGonzalesJr@elpasoco.com>,

<<u>Stanvanderwerf@elpaso.com</u>>, <<u>carriegeitner@elpasoco.com</u>>

Cc: <hello@coloradokidsranch.com>

9/4/2023

El Paso County Commissioner:

We would like to encourage the Board to make a favorable decision and permit the Chapman family's Colorado Pumpkin Patch to remain on their family land. The Colorado Pumpkin Patch is a small family business that is an addition to the community where parents and their children have a wonderful place to play and celebrate in a safe environment typical of a bygone era.

Our days at the Colorado Pumpkin Patch have included so many wonderful experiences. Our grandkids have enjoyed face painting, digging in a corn kernel bed, riding in a cart behind the farm tractor, waiting in line for their turn to ride on a pony gently led by a teen, sliding down a slide carefully monitored by another teen, running around, playing with larger than life toys with a caring teen coming alongside to show them how to play, even a cordial and organized parking experience as we were greeted by teens using walkie talkies to communicate with the one in charge. The teens that helped were especially helpful to us as grandparents as they offered help to our grandkids.

The Chapmans have always served their community and their 4 children have learned to serve alongside John and Bengetta. There are very few opportunities for teens to learn service to the community in an outdoor environment where they want to be, except at the Colorado Pumpkin Patch. "The Patch" has given many teens the gift of offering their time and energy to come alongside families, especially those that may need a little help in recreating and playing in

an old fashioned way. The serving teens are also watched over, as we noticed they too, were given time off and breaks to relax to have their water and snacks. One of my "take aways" was sitting on the straw bales watching the children and having sweet conversation with other parents and grandparents from different cultures. How nice for a community to be brought together at the Colorado Pumpkin Patch!

I have tried to share a glimpse of this family's small business. It would be a shame if the county took away their right to use their land.

Please rule favorably and allow families to drive to the Chapman's land and enjoy the outdoor Pumpkin Patch during the Fall.

Lindy and Dave Powell

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