

**SAN JUAN COUNTY  
ORDINANCE NO. 66**

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR  
TAMPERING WITH OR DAMAGING ELECTRIC UTILITIES OR  
CONNECTION WITH EQUIPMENT PROVIDING  
ELECTRIC UTILITY SERVICE WITHOUT PAYMENT;  
PROVIDING THE MANNER OF ENFORCEMENT**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SAN  
JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO:**

**SECTION 1. DEFINITION. --**

The term "tamper with" as used in this Ordinance shall include, but not be limited to, the performing of any act which, if uncorrected, would result in any electric utility customer being billed or charged by such electric utility for a greater or lesser amount of electric utility service than actually furnished.

**SECTION 2. CONNECTION WITH EQUIPMENT PROVIDING ELECTRIC  
UTILITY SERVICE WITHOUT PAYMENT PROHIBITED. --**

It shall be unlawful for any person to connect or attach any kind of pipe, wire, or other contrivance to any line, wire or other conductor or appurtenance thereto carrying electricity by and belonging to a public electric utility, whether publicly or private owned, in such a manner as to enable such person to consume or use electricity without such passing through a meter, without obtaining the proper permit or paying the required fee, or in any other way so as to evade payment for such public electric utility service.

**SECTION 3. TAMPERING WITH OR DAMAGING ELECTRIC UTILITIES  
PROHIBITED. --**

It shall also be unlawful for any person to damage, molest, tamper with or destroy any line, wire, meter or any other part of any public electric utility.

**SECTION 4. RESPONSIBILITY FOR VIOLATION. --**

If any meter, line, wire, fixture or other installation or appurtenance thereto provided by an electric utility primarily for the purpose of serving a particular account is found to have been tampered with or damaged in violation of this section, the person or other customer whose name appears on the records of the electric utility affected, as the person who has applied for service or who is otherwise responsible for such account, shall be held prima facie responsible for such violation.



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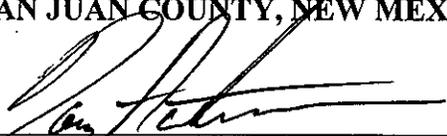
San Juan County, NM Clerk FRAN HANHARDT

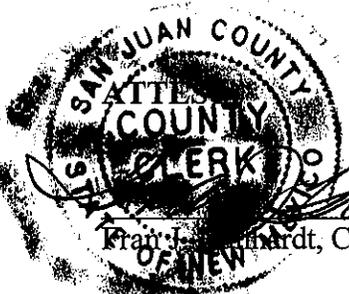
**SECTION 5. PENALTIES. --**

Any violation of this Ordinance shall be a petty misdemeanor, punishable by not more than 90 days in jail, a fine of up to \$300, or both.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2007.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Atkinson, Chairman

  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Fran Hanhardt, County Clerk