

State Climate Change Task Force (CCTF) - Background

- ❖ Executive Order 2019-003 set New Mexico's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets and created the CCTF to bring a whole-of-government approach to the climate action initiative, with EMNRD and NMED Secretaries designated as the co-leads.
- ❖ The CCTF convened Secretaries or their designees from the 26 state agencies and departments to form sector-specific Climate Action Teams to propose, plan, and implement strategies to reduce GHG emissions and integrate climate adaptation and mitigation into agency programs and statewide policy.

State Climate Change Task Force - Accomplishments

- ❖ Under the leadership of EMNRD and NMED, the CCTF worked to meet the goals set forth in the EO through a variety of activities, including meeting quarterly, developing strategies, establishing inter-agency climate action teams (CATs), and convening a climate equity working group (TAG).
- ❖ Presently, the CCTF has largely completed the specific action items from the 2019 executive order, but without reaching the emission reduction targets.
- ❖ A full CCTF meeting has not been convened since 2022. Most CATs have ceased meeting, however the Transportation CAT and Climate Adaptation and Resilience interagency workgroup have continued to meet for specific purposes, such as drafting the state Climate Adaptation & Resilience Plan.

State Climate Change Task Force – CPRG actions

- ❖ Since 2023, NMED and EMNRD have formed Climate Change and Climate Policy bureaus, hired staff and are currently working on large scale climate adaptation and greenhouse gas reduction action plans.
- ❖ Both agencies continue public engagement and convene stakeholder workgroups for review and input on climate planning documents.
- ❖ The initial CCTF framework organized state agency staff in climate action teams based economic sectors (i.e., transportation, oil and gas, buildings, etc.)

State Climate Change Task Force – Structural adjustments

In adjusting to current landscape, the CCTF has:

- ❖ Pruned the core team to 4 or 5 members, for swifter coordination and planning.
- ❖ Created smaller temporary “tiger teams” as needed, then dissolved them.
- ❖ Is working in sequence, one or two projects at a time, and with one or two agencies at a time.

- ❖ Going forward, state climate action could include forming larger inclusive groups of stakeholders focused on implementation of a climate action in the CCAP or CARP.
- ❖ The CCTF or its successor needs a sustained public awareness program that identifies specific actions, project, policies and legislation, funding and financing to assist New Mexicans to better prepare for climate change.