



NEW MEXICO LEGISLATURE

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY
AND
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
COMMITTEE

2023 INTERIM FINAL REPORT

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE
411 STATE CAPITOL
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
(505) 986-4600
WWW.NMLEGIS.GOV

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INTERIM SUMMARY

Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee 2023 Interim Summary

The Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee held six meetings during the 2023 interim. In addition to the June and November meetings held at the State Capitol in Santa Fe, the committee held meetings at the University of New Mexico-Los Alamos and Western New Mexico University and bifurcated meetings at: the Santa Rosa Convention Center and the New Mexico State University (NMSU) Corona Range and Livestock Research Center (Corona Center); and NMSU in Las Cruces and the War Eagles Air Museum in Santa Teresa. The committee also toured various testing facilities at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), wind generation facilities at the NMSU Corona Center, the Lighting Dock geothermal power plant in Animas, the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology's cybersecurity training center in Playas and the Union Pacific intermodal facility and the industrial park in Santa Teresa.

The majority of presentations to the committee were focused on:

- (1) artificial intelligence technology;
- (2) electrical power; and
- (3) the potential impact on children of various science and technology projects, services and education programs.

The committee received oversight presentations regarding the Children, Youth and Families Department's development of a replacement for the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System and transition to the New Mexico Impact Project. The committee also heard program and general status updates from public post-secondary educational institutions as well as status reports from LANL and Sandia National Laboratories. Other presentations to the committee concerned: investments in technology by law enforcement agencies; new processes in copper production and copper's role in New Mexico's economy; new technologies used in border crossing inspections; and an NMSU feasibility study regarding the use of ground water desalination to meet projected demand for water in Santa Teresa.

WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE

2023 APPROVED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Members

Rep. Debra M. Sariñana, Chair	Rep. Jason C. Harper
Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill, Vice Chair	Rep. Joshua N. Hernandez
Rep. Janelle Anyanonu	Rep. Charlotte Little
Sen. Craig W. Brandt	Sen. Michael Padilla
Sen. William F. Burt	Sen. Harold Pope
Rep. Joy Garratt	Sen. William P. Soules

Advisory Members

Rep. Christine Chandler	Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Rep. Gail Chasey	Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
Rep. Yanira Gurrola	Sen. Nancy Rodriguez
Rep. Jenifer Jones	Rep. Larry R. Scott
Rep. Willie D. Madrid	Rep. Linda Serrato

Work Plan

The Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee (STTC) was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council on May 1, 2023. The committee will continue its oversight role of agency programs involving broadband, including plans for middle-mile assistance; cybersecurity, including proposals to update the Cybersecurity Act; information technology; developments at the national laboratories in the state; and the programs at the state's research universities. It also will continue to examine issues in the telecommunications market and with development of a science- and technology-based economic sector within the state. Aside from these traditional functions, in 2023, the committee will set aside a portion of each meeting for discussion and development of legislation in the following three categories:

A. Energy needs in a changing world energy market: including alternative and renewable energy resources, energy storage and coupling microgrid systems with housing and business development;

B. Security challenges presented by an increasingly complex technological environment: including critical infrastructure security, cybersecurity, implications of artificial intelligence technologies, emerging technologies used by law enforcement agencies, internet protections for children and identity theft protections; and

C. Artificial intelligence: including the challenges and impacts it may have on advertising, business, the criminal justice system, elections, publishing and other sectors of society.

Additional Issues of Interest

As time permits, the STTC will also hear presentations on the following items:

- A. potential policy and infrastructure needs necessitated by the growing use of remote work in government agencies and the private sector;
- B. technological options to promote climate resiliency;
- C. management of state enterprise information technology projects;
- D. the benefits and challenges of longitudinal data systems and engineering for state and educational programs; and
- E. the development of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and vocational technology programs, including recruitment and retention of STEM students and ensuring that the programs are designed to meet job market needs.

**Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee
2023 Approved Meeting Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 6	Santa Fe
July 24-25	Los Alamos
August 31-September 1	Santa Rosa/Corona
September 21-22	Silver City
October 30-31	Las Cruces/Santa Teresa
November 27-28	Santa Fe

AGENDAS AND MINUTES

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
for the
FIRST MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**June 6, 2023
State Capitol, Senate Chamber
Santa Fe**

Tuesday, June 6

- 10:00 a.m. **Call to Order and Introductions**
 —Representative Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
- 10:15 a.m. (1) **[2023 Proposed Work Plan and Meeting Schedule](#)**
 —Mark Edwards, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service
- 12:00 noon **Adjourn**

**MINUTES
of the
FIRST MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**June 6, 2023
State Capitol, Senate Chamber
Santa Fe**

The first meeting of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was called to order by Representative Debra M. Sariñana, chair, on June 6, 2023 at 10:07 a.m. in the Senate Chamber of the State Capitol in Santa Fe.

Present

Rep. Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill, Vice Chair
Sen. Craig W. Brandt
Rep. Joy Garratt
Rep. Joshua N. Hernandez
Rep. Charlotte Little
Sen. Michael Padilla
Sen. Harold Pope
Sen. William P. Soules

Absent

Rep. Janelle Anyanonu
Sen. William F. Burt
Rep. Jason C. Harper

Advisory Members

Rep. Christine Chandler
Rep. Yanira Gurrola
Rep. Jenifer Jones
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez

Rep. Gail Chasey
Rep. Willie D. Madrid
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
Rep. Larry R. Scott
Rep. Linda Serrato

Staff

Mark Edwards, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Ralph Vincent, Systems Consultant, LCS
Grace Balderamos, Staff, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Tuesday, June 6

Welcome and Introductions (10:07 a.m.)

Representative Sariñana welcomed the committee, and members of the committee and staff introduced themselves.

2023 Proposed Work Plan and Meeting Schedule (10:16 a.m.)

Mr. Edwards discussed legislation from the 2023 legislative session that was related to the work of the committee during the 2022 interim. He presented the proposed work plan for the 2023 interim. After discussion, the members voted to approve the proposed work plan and meeting schedule, as amended. The approved work plan and meeting schedule can be found here:

https://www.nmlegis.gov/Publications/Work_Plans/STTCworkplan23.pdf.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Revised: July 21, 2023

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
for the
SECOND MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**July 24-25, 2023
Wallace Hall, Room 505
University of New Mexico-Los Alamos
4000 University Drive
Los Alamos**

Monday, July 24

- 10:00 a.m. **Call to Order and Introductions**
—Representative Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
- 10:15 a.m. (1) **[Welcome and University of New Mexico \(UNM\)-Los Alamos Campus Status Update](#)**
—Mike Holtzclaw, Ph.D., Chancellor, UNM-Los Alamos
- 11:00 a.m. (2) **[Ground Truthing the Benefits and Risks of Generative Artificial Intelligence \(AI\)](#)**
—Melanie Moses, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Computer Science, UNM
—Lydia Tapia, Ph.D., Chair, Department of Computer Science, UNM
- 12:30 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. (3) **[Artificial Intelligence: Disinformation and the Threats Posed to Democratic Societies](#)**
—Joshua Garland, Interim Director, Center on Narrative, Disinformation and Strategic Influence, Arizona State University
- 2:45 p.m. (4) **[AI Concerns for Personal Freedoms and Government Misuse](#)**
—Darren Byler, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, School for International Studies, Simon Fraser University
- 4:00 p.m. (5) **[AI Concerns for the Film Industry](#)**
—Mel MacKaron, Actor, Writer and Producer
—George R.R. Martin, Writer, Producer and Entrepreneur
- 5:00 p.m. **Recess**

Tuesday, July 25

- 9:00 a.m. (6) **AI Implications on the Criminal Justice System**
—Christopher Moore, Ph.D., Professor, Santa Fe Institute; Member,
Interdisciplinary Working Group on Algorithmic Justice
- 10:00 a.m. (7) **How State and Federal Governments are Approaching AI Concerns**
—Heather Morton, Director, Financial Services, Technology and
Communications, National Conference of State Legislatures
- 11:00 a.m. **Public Comment**
- 11:15 a.m. **Adjourn**
- 11:30 a.m. **Tour of Los Alamos National Laboratory (Committee Members Only)**

**MINUTES
of the
SECOND MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**July 24-25, 2023
Wallace Hall, Room 505
University of New Mexico-Los Alamos
4000 University Drive
Los Alamos**

The second meeting of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was called to order by Representative Debra M. Sariñana, chair, on July 24, 2023 at 10:03 a.m. in Room 505 of Wallace Hall at the University of New Mexico (UNM)-Los Alamos (LA) in Los Alamos.

Present

Rep. Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
Rep. Janelle Anyanonu
Sen. Craig W. Brandt (7/24)
Rep. Jason C. Harper
Rep. Charlotte Little
Sen. Michael Padilla (7/24)
Sen. Harold Pope
Sen. William P. Soules

Absent

Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill, Vice Chair
Sen. William F. Burt
Rep. Joy Garratt
Rep. Joshua N. Hernandez

Advisory Members

Rep. Christine Chandler (7/24)
Rep. Gail Chasey (7/24)
Rep. Yanira Gurrola (7/25)
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto (7/25)
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez
Rep. Linda Serrato

Rep. Jenifer Jones
Rep. Willie D. Madrid
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Rep. Larry R. Scott

Guest Legislator

Sen. Peter Wirth (7/24)

(Attendance dates are noted for members not present for the entire meeting.)

Staff

Mark Edwards, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Ralph Vincent, Systems Consultant, LCS
Markela Clinton, Committee Coordinator, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

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Monday, July 24

Welcome and Introductions (10:03 a.m.)

Representative Sariñana welcomed the committee, and members of the committee and staff introduced themselves.

Welcome and UNM-LA Campus Status Update (10:07 a.m.)

Mike Holtzclaw, Ph.D., chancellor, UNM-LA, welcomed the committee and guests to the campus and described the programs offered and student profile of the branch campus. Kathryn Vigil, director, Student Affairs, UNM-LA; Paul Allen, Ph.D., dean of instruction, UNM-LA; and Bob Harmon, director, Business Operations, UNM-LA, further described the campus curriculum and instruction, student affairs and business projects. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20072423%20Item%201%20Chancellor%20Holtzclaw%20--%20UNM-Los%20Alamos%20Status%20Update.pdf>.

Ground Truthing the Benefits and Risks of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) (10:45 a.m.)

Melanie Moses, Ph.D., professor, Department of Computer Science, UNM, and Dr. Lydia Tapia, Ph.D., chair, Department of Computer Science, UNM, presented many real-life examples derived from their university work in assessing the benefits and risks of generative AI. Dr. Moses and Dr. Tapia provided specific recommendations for legislative activities that might be considered as generative AI evolves. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20072423%20Item%202%20AI%20Benefits%20and%20Risks%20Tapia%20Moses.pdf>.

AI: Disinformation and the Threats Posed to Democratic Societies (1:30 p.m.)

Joshua Garland, Ph.D., interim director, Center on Narrative, Disinformation and Strategic Influence, Arizona State University, discussed the direct threats to democracy that are emerging because of the use of generative AI in developing disinformation. Dr. Garland

provided recommendations on regulations of AI-manipulated media in political campaigns. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20072423%20Item%203%20AI%20and%20Disinformation%20--%20Prof%20Garland.pdf>.

AI Concerns for Personal Freedoms and Government Misuse (2:33 p.m.)

Darren Byler, Ph.D., assistant professor, School for International Studies, Simon Fraser University, discussed concerns for personal freedoms with an overview of computer-vision aided surveillance being used in China and the way this produces an authoritarian lock-in that radically undermines the civil liberties of disfavored populations. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=7/24/2023&ItemNumber=4>.

AI Concerns for the Film Industry (3:38 p.m.)

Mel MacKaron, actor, writer and producer, and George R.R. Martin, writer, producer and entrepreneur, discussed their experiences in the film industry and expressed their concerns about how generative AI will be regulated to protect workers in the film industry. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20072423%20Item%205%20%20Mel%20MacKaron%20-%20Union%20Negotiations%20and%20Generative%20AI.pdf>.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:50 p.m.

Tuesday, July 25

AI Implications on the Criminal Justice System (9:16 a.m.)

Cristopher Moore, Ph.D., professor, Santa Fe Institute and member, Interdisciplinary Working Group on Algorithmic Justice, discussed the lack of transparency built into the algorithms being used to create assessments in the criminal justice decision-making process. Dr. Moore made recommendation to the committee that the legislature require transparency and auditability for any algorithm that state or local governments use to make or inform these life-altering decisions. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20072423%20Item%206%20AI%20Implications%20on%20the%20Criminal%20Justice%20System.pdf>.

How State and Federal Governments are Approaching AI Concerns (10:40 a.m.)

Heather Morton, director, Financial Services, Technology and Communications, National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), reviewed the NCSL project to document the federal and state legislation since 2019 that deals with the use of AI and the regulation of these

activities. Ms. Morton explained the NCSL resources available for the committee. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20072423%20Item%207%20NCSL%20Artificial%20Intelligence%20Legislative%20Response.pdf>.

Approval of Minutes (11:15 a.m.)

On a motion duly made and seconded, the committee approved the minutes of the June 6, 2023 meeting.

Public Comment (11:16 a.m.)

Jan Williams, fellow, Society of Women Engineers, described the plans to fund and develop a centralized network to act as a clearinghouse for science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs and projects.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Tour of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) (Legislators Only) (11:25 a.m.)

Committee members met at LANL and toured the facility.

Revised: August 28, 2023

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
for the
THIRD MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**August 31, 2023
Santa Rosa Convention Center
1085 Blue Hole Road
Santa Rosa**

**September 1, 2023
Corona Range and Livestock Research Center
8 Miles East of Corona on Torrance County Road CO20
Corona**

Thursday, August 31 — Santa Rosa

- 10:00 a.m. **Call to Order and Introductions**
—Representative Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
- 10:15 a.m. (1) **[Santa Rosa Community Welcome and Update](#)**
—Nelson Kotiar, Mayor, City of Santa Rosa
- 11:00 a.m. (2) **[Las Cruces Public School District Electric Bus Program](#)**
—Gabe Jacquez, Deputy Superintendent for Operations, Las Cruces Public
School District
—Charles Goodmacher, Lobbyist, NMVC Action Fund
- 12:00 noon **Working Lunch**
(3) **[Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System Replacement
Project Legislative Finance Committee \(LFC\) Spotlight Report Update](#)**
—Jessica Hitzman, Fiscal Analyst, LFC
- 1:00 p.m. (4) **[Update on Technology Investments in Law Enforcement](#)**
—Cecily Barker, Deputy Chief of Police, Albuquerque Police Department
(APD)
—J.J. Griego, Deputy Chief of Police, APD
—Carolyn Huynh, Deputy Chief, Training and Recruiting and Innovation
Bureaus, New Mexico State Police
—Ryan Schmidt, Captain, Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office (BCSO)
—Will Corvin, Lieutenant, BCSO

3:00 p.m. (5) [Progress on Implementing Community Solar in New Mexico](#)
—Kevin Cray, Mountain West Senior Director, Coalition for Community Solar Access

3:45 p.m. (6) [Update on Public Regulation Commission \(PRC\) Electric Grid Programs and Efforts](#)
—Patrick O'Connell, Chair, PRC
—Cholla Khoury, Chief of Staff, PRC

5:00 p.m. **Recess**

Friday, September 1 — Corona Range and Livestock Research Center, Corona

9:00 a.m. **Tour**

10:00 a.m. (7) [Welcome and New Mexico State University \(NMSU\) Status of the Corona Range and Livestock Research Center](#)
—Shad Cox, Superintendent, Corona Range and Livestock Research Center, NMSU
—Lara Prihodko, Ph.D., Associate Director, Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, NMSU
—Marcus Krohn, Senior Systems Developer, Information Technology and Help Desk, College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, NMSU

11:00 a.m. (8) [Enhancing Grid Stability and Resiliency with Small-Scale Energy Storage](#)
—Jim DesJardins, Executive Director, Renewable Energy Industries Association of New Mexico

11:45 a.m. (9) [Utility-Scale Storage and Grid Modernization](#)
—Pedro Villegas, Senior Director, Regulatory and Legislative Affairs, NextEra Energy Resources
—Polly Shaw, Chief External Relations Officer, Plus Power

12:30 p.m. **Lunch**

1:30 p.m. (10) [Regional Transmission Organizations 101 and New Mexico Renewable Build Out](#)
—Fernando Martinez, Executive Director, New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority
—Rikki Seguin, Executive Director, Interwest Energy Alliance
—John C. Tysseling, Energy, Economic and Environmental Consultants, LLC

- 2:45 p.m. (11) [New Mexico Renewable Build Out Deep Dive: North Path Transmission Project](#)
—William Consuegra, Director, Transmission Development (West),
Invenergy
- 3:30 p.m. (12) [Pattern Energy Projects](#)
—Jeremy Turner, Director of Development, Pattern Energy New Mexico
- 4:00 p.m. **Public Comment**
- 4:15 p.m. **Adjourn**

**MINUTES
of the
THIRD MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**August 31, 2023
Santa Rosa Convention Center
1085 Blue Hole Road
Santa Rosa**

**September 1, 2023
Corona Range and Livestock Research Center
8 Miles East of Corona on Torrance County Road CO20
Corona**

The third meeting of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was called to order by Representative Debra M. Sariñana, chair, on August 31, 2023 at 10:37 a.m. at the Santa Rosa Convention Center in Santa Rosa.

Present

Rep. Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill, Vice Chair (8/31)
Rep. Janelle Anyanonu (9/1)
Rep. Joy Garratt
Rep. Charlotte Little
Sen. Michael Padilla (8/31)
Sen. William P. Soules

Absent

Sen. Craig W. Brandt
Sen. William F. Burt
Rep. Jason C. Harper
Rep. Joshua N. Hernandez
Sen. Harold Pope

Advisory Members

Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez (9/1)

Rep. Christine Chandler
Rep. Gail Chasey
Rep. Yanira Gurrola
Rep. Jenifer Jones
Rep. Willie D. Madrid
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Rep. Larry R. Scott
Rep. Linda Serrato

(Attendance dates are noted for members not present for the entire meeting.)

Staff

Mark Edwards, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Ralph Vincent, Systems Consultant, LCS
Markela Clinton, Committee Coordinator, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

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References to Webcast

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Thursday, August 31 — Santa Rosa**Welcome and Introductions (10:37 a.m.)**

Representative Sariñana welcomed the committee, and members of the committee and staff introduced themselves.

Las Cruces Public School District Electric Bus Program (10:41 a.m.)

Gabe Jacquez, deputy superintendent for operations, Las Cruces Public School District; Sean Barham, executive director of operations, Las Cruces Public School District; and Charles Goodmacher, lobbyist, NMVC Action Fund, discussed the use of electric buses in the school district. Mr. Jacquez and Mr. Barham described the use of federal grants to replace diesel buses with electric buses and to build infrastructure to accommodate the electric buses. Mr. Goodmacher reviewed the financial benefits of the program. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=8/31/2023&ItemNumber=2>.

Santa Rosa Community Welcome and Update (12:27 p.m.)

Shelly Eiland welcomed the committee to Santa Rosa on behalf of Nelson Kotiar, mayor, City of Santa Rosa.

Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System Replacement Project Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) Spotlight Report Update (12:28 p.m.)

Jessica Hitzman, Fiscal Analyst, LFC, gave a report on the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System replacement project for the Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD). She gave a detailed breakdown of the project's scope and goals, the history of the project and the projected benefits of the project to the community. A committee member asked

that a formal letter be sent to the CYFD to request a full report on the history of the project and whether this project is a continuation of an earlier project called "EPICS". The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20083123%20Item%203%20Update%20on%20Spot%20light%20Report%20on%20Comprehensive%20Child%20Welfare%20Information%20System.pdf>.

Update on Technology Investments in Law Enforcement (1:05 p.m.)

Carolyn Huynh, deputy chief, Training and Recruiting and Innovation Bureaus, New Mexico State Police, and J.J. Griego, deputy chief of police, Albuquerque Police Department (APD), gave an overview on how technology is being used in their respective agencies to investigate crimes and reduce crime rates. They also discussed an interagency communication system that has been established to better fight crime. Ryan Schmidt, captain, Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office (BCSO), and Will Corvin, lieutenant, BCSO, gave information about the BCSO's current technology systems, explained where their organizations need support and discussed how constant changes in technology make it difficult for law enforcement to keep up. The committee heard about law enforcement staffing needs and how evidence is being processed by new technology. Kent Augustine, chief information officer, Department of Public Safety, and Amanda Christensen, lieutenant, Special Victims Unit, APD, discussed how law enforcement officers are staying connected across departments and through information technology. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20083123%20Item%204%20Real%20Time%20Crime%20Center%20presentation.pdf>.

Progress on Implementing Community Solar in New Mexico (3:00 p.m.)

Kevin Cray, mountain west senior director, Coalition for Community Solar Access, presented an update on the process of providing solar energy to rural New Mexico communities. He explained why certain locations have effective community solar projects. He also talked about solar options for families and the process that they go through to qualify for government assistance to install solar energy systems in their homes. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20083123%20Item%205%20Cray%20--%20Progress%20on%20Community%20Solar.pdf>.

Update on Public Regulation Commission (PRC) Electric Grid Programs and Efforts (3:48 p.m.)

Patrick O'Connell, chair, PRC, and Cholla Khoury, chief of staff, PRC, spoke on the PRC's plans and goals. They provided an overview of the PRC's staff structure and how the advisory and advocacy staff roles complement each other.

Thursday August 31 — Corona

Tour of Corona Range and Livestock Research Center (9:10 a.m.)

Committee members and staff toured the Corona Range and Livestock Research Center.

Welcome and New Mexico State University (NMSU) Status of the Corona Range and Livestock Research Center (10:41 a.m.)

Shad Cox, superintendent, Corona Range and Livestock Research Center, NMSU, spoke about what students are learning through research and development on the campus. Lara Prihodoko, Ph.D., associate director, Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, NMSU, spoke about wildlife care and research at the center and future goals. Marcus Krohn, senior systems developer, Information Technology and Help Desk, College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, NMSU, spoke about the current state of the center's information technologies and its goals for improvement.

Enhancing Grid Stability and Resiliency with Small-Scale Energy Storage (11:09 a.m.)

Jim DesJardins, executive director, Renewable Energy Industries Association of New Mexico, gave a presentation on the importance of small-scale storage for energy produced in New Mexico. He discussed the practical application of energy storage in case of an emergency, general energy management and how energy storage capacity supports civilians. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20083123%20Item%208%20Grid%20Resiliency%20and%20Small-Scale%20Storage.pdf>.

Utility-Scale Storage and Grid Modernization (11:43 a.m.)

Polly Shaw, chief external relations officer, Plus Power, and Wardah Abbasi, project director, NextEra Energy Resources, spoke about the need for responsible energy management due to the increase in energy sources and the stress that will place on the power distribution grid. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=8/31/2023&ItemNumber=9>.

Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) 101 and New Mexico Renewable Build Out (1:30 p.m.)

Rikki Seguin, executive director, Interwest Energy Alliance, spoke about the increase in demand for renewable energy, changes that are coming to the electrical grid and the dynamics of an organized wholesale energy market. Fernando Martinez, executive director, New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority, explained the hands-on work that goes into improving the western electric grid, and he noted emerging impacts to RTOs. John C. Tysseling,

Energy, Economic and Environmental Consultants, LLC, explained how these changes have benefited New Mexico residents and discussed the importance of RTO market management. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=8/31/2023&ItemNumber=10>.

New Mexico Renewable Build Out Deep Dive: North Path Transmission Project (3:05 p.m.)

William Consuegra, director, Transmission Development (West), Invenergy, illustrated how New Mexico is complying with the New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority Act and reviewed the new infrastructure projects underway that are designed to keep up with the increase of energy and renewable energy production.

Pattern Energy Projects (3:35 p.m.)

Jeremy Turner, director of development, Pattern Energy New Mexico, showcased Pattern Energy New Mexico's plan to expand its current operation. The expansion would allow Pattern Energy New Mexico to increase energy production while preserving native wildlife and the environment.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Revised: September 15, 2023

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
for the
FOURTH MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**September 21, 2023
Western New Mexico University
Silver City**

**September 22, 2023
Lightning Dock Geothermal Power Plant
18 Greenhouse Drive
Animas
and
Playas Training Center
1 Plaza Avenue
Playas**

Thursday, September 21 — Silver City

- 10:00 a.m. **Call to Order and Introductions**
—Representative Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
- 10:15 a.m. (1) **[Welcome and Western New Mexico University Status Update](#)**
—Joseph Shepard, Ph.D., President, Western New Mexico University
- 11:00 a.m. (2) **[Building Equity into a Modern Electric Grid for New Mexico](#)**
—Theresa Cardenas, Chief Operating Officer, Noble Renewables Group, Inc.
—Selena Connealy, Ph.D., Associate Director, New Mexico Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research
—Priscilla Lucero, Executive Director, Southwest New Mexico Council of Governments
- 12:00 noon **Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. (3) **[Internet Protections for Children: Age-Appropriate Design Proposal](#)**
—Greta McAnany, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Co-Founder, Blue Fever
—David Jay, Former Head of Mobilization, Center for Humane Technology
- 2:30 p.m. (4) **[Building Out New Mexico's Geothermal Potential](#)**
—Nick Goodman, CEO, Cyrq Energy

3:00 p.m. (5) [Copper's Role in a Diversifying New Mexico Economy](#)
—Erich Bower, General Manager, Tyrone Mining, LLC; President, Western
Land Company
—Tony Trujillo, Government Relations, Freeport McMoRan, Inc.
—David Thomas, Executive Vice President, Research and Operations, New
Mexico Copper Corporation

4:00 p.m. **Public Comment**

4:15 p.m. **Recess**

Friday, September 22 — Animas and Playas

7:45 a.m. **Tour of Lightning Dock Geothermal Power Plant and Playas Training
Center (Committee Members and Staff Only)**

4:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

**MINUTES
of the
FOURTH MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**September 21, 2023
Western New Mexico University
Silver City**

**September 22, 2023
Lightning Dock Geothermal Power Plant
Animas
and
Playas Training Center
Playas**

The fourth meeting of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was called to order by Representative Debra M. Sariñana, chair, on September 21, 2023 at 10:18 a.m. at Western New Mexico University (WNMU) in Silver City.

Present

Rep. Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill, Vice Chair
Sen. Craig W. Brandt (9/21)
Sen. William F. Burt (9/21)
Rep. Joshua N. Hernandez
Rep. Luis M. Terrazas*
Rep. Martin R. Zamora* (9/21)

Absent

Rep. Janelle Anyanonu
Rep. Joy Garratt
Rep. Jason C. Harper
Rep. Charlotte Little
Sen. Michael Padilla
Sen. Harold Pope
Sen. William P. Soules

Advisory Members

Rep. Jenifer Jones
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez (9/21)

Rep. Christine Chandler
Rep. Gail Chasey
Rep. Yanira Gurrola
Rep. Willie D. Madrid
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Rep. Larry R. Scott
Rep. Linda Serrato

(Attendance dates are noted for members not present for the entire meeting.)

*Appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives as a voting member for this meeting only.

Staff

Mark Edwards, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)

Ralph Vincent, Systems Consultant, LCS

Markela Clinton, Committee Coordinator, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Thursday, September 21 — Silver City**Welcome and Introductions (10:18 a.m.)**

Representative Sariñana welcomed the committee, and members of the committee and staff introduced themselves.

Welcome and WNMU Status Update (10:34 a.m.)

Joseph Shepard, Ph.D., president, WNMU, welcomed the committee and guests to the campus and provided a status report on the university.

Building Equity into a Modern Electric Grid for New Mexico (10:54 a.m.)

Theresa Cardenas, chief operating officer, Noble Renewables Group, Inc.; Selena Connealy, Ph.D., associate director, New Mexico Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research; and Priscilla Lucero, executive director, Southwest New Mexico Council of Governments, described the work of the Empowering New Mexico Communities Town Hall to explore the social, economic and environmental factors involved in the transition from fossil-fuel-dependent electricity systems to renewable energy sources. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20092123%20Item%20%20EPSCOR%20--%20Empowering%20NM%20Town%20Hall%20Brief.pdf>.

Internet Protections for Children: Age-Appropriate Design Proposal (1:37 p.m.)

Greta McAnany, chief executive officer (CEO) and co-founder, Blue Fever, and David Jay, former head of mobilization, Center for Humane Technology, highlighted the mental health crisis and challenges facing young people, particularly from the internet and social media. Ms. McAnany and Mr. Jay discussed ways to design safer social media platforms and referred to the

Age Appropriate Design Code, which was proposed in Senate Bill 319 (2023). The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20092123%20Item%203%20Age%20Appropriate%20Design%20Code.pdf>.

Approval of Minutes (3:04 p.m.)

The committee approved the minutes of the July 24-25, 2023 and August 31-September 1, 2023 meetings.

Building Out New Mexico's Geothermal Potential (3:05 p.m.)

Nick Goodman, CEO, Cyrq Energy, described in detail the geothermal potential in New Mexico for electric power generation and how geothermal complements other renewables such as solar and wind. Mr. Goodman also discussed the need for public funding and support in the development of these generation potentials. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20092123%20Item%204%20Building%20Out%20New%20Mexico's%20Geothermal%20Potential.pdf>.

Copper's Role in a Diversifying New Mexico Economy (3:33 p.m.)

Erich Bower, general manager, Tyrone Mining, LLC, and president, Western Land Company; Tony Trujillo, Government Relations, Freeport McMoRan, Inc.; and David Thomas, executive vice president, Research and Operations, New Mexico Copper Corporation, described how the copper mining industry benefits the diversification of the New Mexico economy. They discussed the Chino and Tyrone mining operations and what the future demand for copper looks like. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=9/21/2023&ItemNumber=5>.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:37 p.m.

Friday, September 22 — Animas and Playas

Tour of Lightning Dock Geothermal Power Plant and Playas Training Center (Committee Members and Staff Only) (7:45 a.m.)

Committee members toured the facilities of the Lightning Dock Geothermal Power Plant and Playas Training Center.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Revised: October 27, 2023

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
for the
FIFTH MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**October 30, 2023
Stan Fulton Athletics Center's Villanueva Victory Club
New Mexico State University
1815 Wells Street
Las Cruces**

**October 31, 2023
War Eagles Air Museum
8012 Airport Road
Santa Teresa**

Monday, October 30 — Las Cruces

- 10:00 a.m. **Call to Order and Introductions**
—Representative Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
- 10:15 a.m. (1) **[Welcome and New Mexico State University \(NMSU\) Status Update](#)**
—Jay Gogue, Ph.D., Interim President, NMSU
- 11:00 a.m. (2) **[Cybersecurity Office and Department of Information Technology Status Updates](#)**
—Raja Sambandam, Acting Secretary and State Chief Information Security Officer, Department of Information Technology
- 12:00 noon **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. (3) **[NMSU STEM+ Education Research Institute](#)**
—Michele Shuster, Ph.D., Interim Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, NMSU
—Patricia Sullivan, Ph.D., Associate Dean, College of Engineering, NMSU
—Erika Acosta, Specialist, STEM Outreach Center, NMSU
—Amanda Peel, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, School of Teacher Preparation, Administration, and Leadership, NMSU
- 2:00 p.m. (4) **[Technology Enhancement Fund: Elements for a Thriving Research and Technology Development Economic Sector](#)**
—Gerald Hoehne, Acting Deputy Secretary; Director, Capital Outlay, Higher Education Department (HED)
—Luis Cifuentes, Ph.D., Vice President, Research, NMSU

- Ellen Fisher, Ph.D., Vice President, Research and Economic Development, University of New Mexico (UNM)
- Hengameh Raissy, Pharm.D., Research Professor, UNM School of Medicine; Interim Vice President, Research, UNM Health Sciences Center
- Michael Doyle, Ph.D., Vice President, Research, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology

- 3:00 p.m. (5) [Tracking Student Progress in STEM Curricula, Grade School Through College: New Mexico Longitudinal Data System Study \(NMLDS\)](#)
—Joseph Leakakos, Project Lead, NMLDS; Database and Systems Administrator, Planning and Research Division, HED
—Kathryn Zenoni, Project Lead, NMLDS; Senior Business Intelligence Analyst, Information Technology Services Division, HED
—Conrad Cordova, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Public Education Department

4:00 p.m. **Public Comment**

4:15 p.m. **Recess**

Tuesday, October 31 — Santa Teresa

- 9:00 a.m. (6) [Welcome to Santa Teresa: Status Updates on Business Recruitment, Union Pacific Railroad Operations and New Technology at the Port of Entry](#)
—Jerry Pacheco, President, The Border Industrial Association; Executive Director, International Business Accelerator
— Raquel Espinoza, Senior Director, Public Affairs, South Texas and New Mexico, Union Pacific Railroad Company

- 10:00 a.m. (7) [Office of Broadband Access and Expansion Status Update](#)
—Drew Lovelace, Acting Director, Office of Broadband Access and Expansion

12:00 noon **Lunch**

- 1:00 p.m. (8) [NMSU Water Desalination Feasibility Study for Santa Teresa](#)
—Pei Xu, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, NMSU

2:00 p.m. **Tour of Union Pacific Intermodal Facility and Santa Teresa Industrial Park (Committee Members and Staff Only)**

4:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

**MINUTES
of the
FIFTH MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**October 30, 2023
Stan Fulton Athletics Center's Villanueva Victory Club
New Mexico State University
1815 Wells Street
Las Cruces**

**October 31, 2023
War Eagles Air Museum
8012 Airport Road
Santa Teresa**

The fifth meeting of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was called to order by Representative Debra M. Sariñana, chair, on October 30, 2023 at 10:37 a.m. at the Stan Fulton Athletics Center's Villanueva Victory Club at New Mexico State University (NMSU) in Las Cruces.

Present

Rep. Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
Rep. Janelle Anyanonu
Rep. Jason C. Harper
Sen. Michael Padilla
Sen. Harold Pope
Sen. William P. Soules

Absent

Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill, Vice Chair
Sen. Craig W. Brandt
Sen. William F. Burt
Rep. Joy Garratt
Rep. Joshua N. Hernandez
Rep. Charlotte Little

Advisory Members

Rep. Yanira Gurrola
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto (10/30)
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez

Rep. Christine Chandler
Rep. Gail Chasey
Rep. Jenifer Jones
Rep. Willie D. Madrid
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Rep. Larry R. Scott
Rep. Linda Serrato

Guest Legislator

Sen. Carrie Hamblen (10/30)

(Attendance dates are noted for those members not present for the entire meeting.)

Staff

Mark Edwards, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Ralph Vincent, Systems Consultant, LCS
Markela Clinton, Committee Coordinator, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Monday, October 30 — Las Cruces**Welcome and Introductions (10:53 a.m.)**

Representative Sariñana welcomed the committee, and members of the committee and staff introduced themselves.

Welcome and NMSU Status Update (10:58 a.m.)

Jay Gogue, Ph.D., interim president, NMSU, presented on the campus changes and student advantages that have been implemented, including federal programs; science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) initiatives; research and development programs; and water desalination programs.

Cybersecurity Office and Department of Information Technology Status Update (11:11 a.m.)

Raja Sambandam, acting secretary and state chief information security officer, Department of Information Technology, provided an update on the current state of the Cybersecurity office, department changes, recruitment efforts, the current budget and funding requests. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20103123%20Item%202%20DoIT%20and%20Office%20of%20Cybersecurity%20Update.pdf>.

NMSU STEM + Education Research Institute (1:20 p.m.)

Michele Shuster, Ph.D., interim associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences, NMSU, introduced a system called STEM + Educational Research Institute (SERI). Erika Acosta, specialist, STEM Outreach Center, NMSU, highlighted the synergistic research opportunities

through the STEM Outreach Center and SERI programs. Patricia Sullivan, Ph.D., associate dean, College of Engineering, NMSU, discussed the Workforce Accelerator program. Amanda Peel, Ph.D., assistant professor, School of Teacher Preparation, Administration and Leadership, NMSU, spoke about building and implementing computational literacy. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20103023%20Item%203%20NMSU%20SERI.pdf>.

Technology Enhancement Fund: Elements for a Thriving Research and Technology Development Economic Sector (2:03 p.m.)

Gerald Hoehne, acting deputy secretary and director, Capital Outlay, Higher Education Department (HED); Luis Cifuentes, Ph.D., vice president, Research, NMSU; Michael Doyle, Ph.D., vice president, Research, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (NM Tech), Ellen Fisher, Ph.D., vice president, Research and Economic Development, University of New Mexico (UNM); and Hengameh Raissy, Pharm.D., research professor, UNM School of Medicine, and interim vice president, Research, UNM Health Sciences Center, presented on the economic and science research sector impacts of the Technology Enhancement Fund, research programs and NM Tech's Office of Innovation Commercialization. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=10/30/2023&ItemNumber=4>.

Tracking Student Progress in STEM Curricula, Grade School Through College: New Mexico Longitudinal Data System Study (NMLDS) (3:02 p.m.)

Joseph Leakakos, project lead, NMLDS, and database and systems administrator, Planning and Research Division, HED; Kathryn Zenoni, project lead, NMLDS, and senior business intelligence analyst, Information Technology Services Division, HED; and Conrad Cordova, deputy chief information officer, Public Education Department, presented on the development of a statewide data system to track the growth and retention of student enrollment of New Mexico schools and how well students transition to the workforce. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20103023%20Item%205%20NM%20Longitudinal%20Data%20System%20Study.pdf>.

Tuesday, October 31 — Santa Teresa

Welcome to Santa Teresa: Status Updates on Business Recruitment, Union Pacific Railroad Operations and New Technology at the Port of Entry (9:15 a.m.)

Jerry Pacheco, president, The Border Industrial Association, and executive director, International Business Accelerator, presented on import-export partnerships, both international and domestic. He also explained trade routes, construction projects and business partnerships that benefit the state. J.D. Bullington, lobbyist, Union Pacific Railroad Company, presented on

the Union Pacific Railroad Company's expanding business and the innovations being implemented to make the company's trains safer, more fuel efficient and just as reliable.

Office of Broadband Access and Expansion Status Update (10:40 a.m.)

Drew Lovelace, acting director, Office of Broadband Access and Expansion, and Ovidiu Viorica, regional manager, Public School Facilities Authority, gave a status update on the state's broadband infrastructure and mapping program. They also described the physical structure of broadband cables and how the cables are bringing more consistent broadband service to more areas of New Mexico. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20103023%20Item%207%20OBAE.pdf>.

NMSU Water Desalination Feasibility Study for Santa Teresa (1:04 p.m.)

Pei Xu, Ph.D., professor, Department of Civil Engineering, NMSU, discussed the population growth trajectory for Santa Teresa and the need for a reliable water management system that can provide high quality water to the area. She also clarified that brackish water is in high abundance in the Santa Teresa area, meaning that water desalination will become a building block for the future of the region. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20103023%20Item%208%20Santa%20Teresa%20Brackish%20water%20desalination.pdf>.

Tour of Union Pacific Intermodal Facility and Santa Teresa Industrial Park (Committee Members and Staff Only) (1:43 p.m.)

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
for the
SIXTH MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**November 27-28, 2023
State Capitol, Room 307
Santa Fe**

Monday, November 27

- 10:00 a.m. **Call to Order and Introductions**
—Representative Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
- 10:15 a.m. (1) **[Building Transparency into AI Programming for Decisions Regarding Public Resources and Services](#)**
—Christopher Moore, Ph.D., Professor, Santa Fe Institute; Member,
Interdisciplinary Working Group on Algorithmic Justice
- 11:00 a.m. (2) **[Public Safety Radio Communications and the P25 Digital Trunked Radio System Project Status Update](#)**
—Michael Rohrbacher, Director, Public Safety Communications,
Department of Information Technology
- 12:00 noon **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. (3) **[Sandia National Laboratories Status Update](#)**
—James S. Peery, Ph.D., Director, Sandia National Laboratories
- 2:00 p.m. (4) **[Diversifying New Mexico's Economy: Need, Opportunities and Initiatives in Science and Technology](#)**
—Nora Sackett, Director, Office of Strategy, Science and Technology,
Economic Development Department
- 3:00 p.m. (5) **[Children, Youth and Families Department Software Projects Update](#)**
—Peter Street, Director, New Mexico Impact Project, Office of the
Secretary, Children, Youth and Families Department
- 4:00 p.m. **Recess**

Tuesday, November 28

- 9:00 a.m. (6) **[The Clean Energy Transition: Regulation and Investor-Owned Electric Utilities](#)**
—Merrie Lee Soules, Citizen Intervenor, Public Regulation Commission Hearings
- 10:00 a.m. (7) **[New Mexico Bioscience Authority \(NMBA\)](#)**
—Dale Dekker, Chair, NMBA; Architect and Founder, Dekker/Perich/Sabatini Architecture in Progress
—Paul Laur, Director, NMBA; Chief Operating Officer, Mercury Bio
—Stephanie Tofghi, Executive Director, NMBA
- 11:00 a.m. (8) **[Los Alamos National Laboratory \(LANL\) Status Update](#)**
—Kathy Keith, Director, Community Partnerships Office, LANL
—Frances Chadwick, Staff Director, LANL
- 12:00 noon (9) **[Proposed Legislation](#)**
—Mark Edwards, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service
- 1:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

MINUTES
of the
SIXTH MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

November 27-28, 2023
State Capitol, Room 307
Santa Fe

The sixth meeting of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was called to order by Representative Debra M. Sariñana, chair, on November 27, 2023 at 10:07 a.m. in Room 307 of the State Capitol in Santa Fe.

Present

Rep. Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill, Vice Chair
Rep. Janelle Anyanonu
Sen. Craig W. Brandt
Sen. William F. Burt
Rep. Joy Garratt
Rep. Charlotte Little
Sen. Michael Padilla
Sen. Harold Pope
Sen. William P. Soules

Absent

Rep. Jason C. Harper
Rep. Joshua N. Hernandez

Advisory Members

Rep. Christine Chandler
Rep. Gail Chasey
Rep. Jenifer Jones (11/27)
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto (11/27)
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez

Rep. Yanira Gurrola
Rep. Willie D. Madrid
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Rep. Larry R. Scott
Rep. Linda Serrato

Guest Legislators

Sen. Linda M. Lopez (11/27)
Rep. Tara L. Lujan

(Attendance dates are noted for those members not present for the entire meeting.)

Staff

Mark Edwards, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Ralph Vincent, Systems Consultant, LCS
Markela Clinton, Committee Coordinator, LCS
Paul Estok, Bill Drafter, LCS

Minutes Approval

Because the committee will not meet again this year, the minutes for this meeting have not been officially approved by the committee.

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Monday, November 27

Welcome and Introductions (10:07 a.m.)

Representative Sariñana welcomed the committee, and members of the committee and staff introduced themselves.

Building Transparency into AI Programming for Decisions Regarding Public Resources and Services (10:10 a.m.)

Cristopher Moore, Ph.D., professor, Santa Fe Institute, and member, Interdisciplinary Working Group on Algorithmic Justice, discussed the positive and negative aspects of using algorithms to make decisions in areas such as employment, health care, education, housing and criminal justice. Dr. Moore also discussed an example of legislation from Vermont relating to the use and oversight of artificial intelligence in state government. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=11/27/2023&ItemNumber=1>.

Public Safety Radio Communications and the Project 25 (P25) Digital Trunked Radio System Project Status Update (11:16 a.m.)

Michael Rohrbacher, director, Public Safety Communications, Department of Information Technology, described the statewide radio system and provided the current status of the project to update the system to the new P25 digital trunked standards. P25 is a suite of standards for interoperable digital two-way radio products. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20112723%20Item%202%20DoIT%20Update%20P25%20Digital%20Truck%20Radio%20System%20Project.pdf>.

Sandia National Laboratories Status Update (1:34 p.m.)

James S. Peery, Ph.D., director, Sandia National Laboratories, described activities at Sandia National Laboratories and discussed the economic impact of these activities within New Mexico. Dr. Peery also discussed Sandia National Laboratories' collaborative efforts with New Mexico colleges and universities and the laboratories' initiatives in developing the workforce. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20112723%20Item%203%20SNL%20Status%20Update.pdf>.

Approval of Minutes (2:13 p.m.)

On a motion made and seconded, and without opposition, the committee approved the minutes of the October 30-31, 2023 meeting.

Diversifying New Mexico's Economy: Need, Opportunities and Initiatives in Science and Technology (2:14 p.m.)

Nora Sackett, director, Office of Strategy, Science and Technology, Economic Development Department, highlighted the Economic Development Department's success in creating jobs through economic development projects that have promoted startup and growth in and relocation of science-based and technology-based industries to New Mexico. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20112723%20Item%204%20EDD%20-%20Diversifying%20NMs%20Economy-%20Initiatives%20in%20Science%20and%20Tech.pdf>.

Children, Youth and Families Department Software Projects Update (3:20 p.m.)

Peter Street, director, New Mexico Impact Project, Office of the Secretary, Children, Youth and Families Department, described the evolution of the information system projects within the Children, Youth and Families Department and explained the status of the department's current project, NM Impact.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:22 p.m.

Tuesday, November 28

The Clean Energy Transition: Regulation and Investor-Owned Electric Utilities (9:09 a.m.)

Merrie Lee Soules, citizen intervenor, Public Regulation Commission Hearings, described her background and experience working through the regulatory structure for electric utilities in New Mexico. Ms. Soules then discussed the transition to renewable energy sources and offered suggestions to improve that transition. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20112723%20Item%206%20The%20Clean%20Energy%20Transition.pdf>.

New Mexico Bioscience Authority (NMBSA) (10:43 a.m.)

Dale Dekker, chair, NMBSA, and architect and founder, Dekker/Perich/Sabatini Architecture in Progress; Paul Laur, director, NMBSA, and chief operating officer, Mercury Bio; and Stephanie Tofighi, executive director, NMBSA, described the importance of the bioscience industry to the state and provided an update on the activities of the NMBSA. Ms. Tofighi discussed the current initiatives of the NMBSA, including the community readiness program and the bioscience business accelerator. Mr. Laur discussed the NMBSA's request of \$50 million to create a co-investment partnership program that the state could use to encourage investments in the bioscience industry. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20112723%20Item%207%20NM%20Bioscience%20Authority.pdf>.

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Status Update (11:42 a.m.)

Kathy Keith, director, Community Partnerships Office, LANL, and Frances Chadwick, staff director, LANL, discussed the growth of the funding and workload at LANL in response to increased national security demands. She described LANL's programs that have an economic impact in New Mexico and described LANL's educational partnerships. The presentation can be found here:

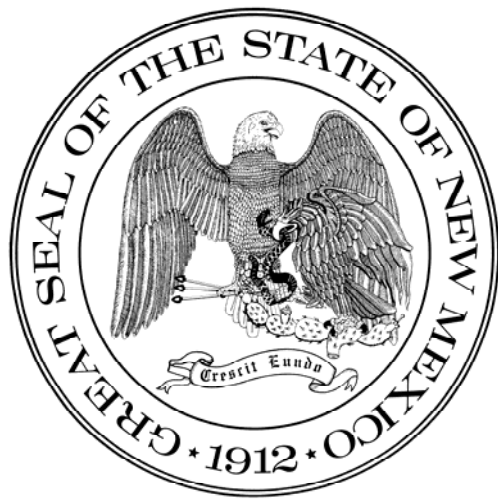
<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20112723%20Item%208%20LANL%20Status%20Update.pdf>.

Proposed Legislation (12:17 p.m.)

Mr. Edwards stated that there has been no legislation presented for committee endorsement.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 12:39 p.m.



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