2024 APPROVED WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE for the ECONOMIC AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY COMMITTEE

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Work Plan

The Economic and Rural Development and Policy Committee (ERDPC) was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council on March 25, 2024. During the 2024 interim, and as time permits, the ERDPC will explore and discuss major areas and specific issues affecting economic development and policy as follows:

A. updates from government agencies involved in economic development, including:

- 1. the Economic Development Department;
- 2. the Workforce Solutions Department;
- 3. the Regulation and Licensing Department;
- 4. the New Mexico Department of Agriculture;

- 5. the Tourism Department;
- 6. the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department;
- 7. the New Mexico Finance Authority;
- 8. the New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority;
- 9. the General Services Department;
- 10. the Department of Environment;
- 11. the Office of Broadband Access and Expansion; and
- 12. the Office of the State Engineer;
- B. economic development initiatives and priorities in communities around the state;
- C. current and developing energy economies in New Mexico, including:
 - 1. clean technologies and energy economies;
 - 2. tribal energy development around the state;
 - 3. site readiness and meeting the energy needs of New Mexico companies;
 - 4. regional transmission organizations; and
 - 5. the implementation of the Energy Transition Act;
- D. agricultural industries as economic generators;

E. challenges facing recreational cannabis businesses and the Cannabis Control Division of the Regulation and Licensing Department;

F. developing outdoor recreation economies, including:

- 1. state parks; and
- 2. dark skies initiatives;
- G. internships, apprenticeships and workforce development programs;
- H. higher education initiatives relating to business and workforce development;

I. challenges and opportunities facing New Mexico industries and small businesses, including:

- 1. the gaming industry;
- 2. the tourism and hospitality industry;
- 3. the restaurant, bar and food service industry;
- 4. the manufacturing industry;
- 5. the medical industry; and
- 6. the creative industries;
- J. infrastructure development, including utilities, transportation and broadband;
- K. housing, evictions and construction;
- L. the relationships between the economy and the environment, including:
 - 1. water as an economic driver;
 - 2. weather stations; and
 - 3. pore space in carbon capture;
- M. medical malpractice;
- N. paid family and medical leave;
- O. the Border Industrial Complex and tradeports;
- P. the proposed catastrophic business relief loan fund; and
- Q. the use of artificial intelligence.

Economic and Rural Development and Policy Committee 2024 Approved Meeting Schedule

Date May 31	Location Santa Fe
August 21-22	Farmington
September 11-13	Las Cruces/Santa Teresa
October 15-17	Albuquerque
November 13-14	Santa Fe

- 4 -