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progress and growth.

- The state of New Mexico is a national leader in the production of natural gas and oil, which has benefited the citizens of this state through the payment of taxes and royalties, the creation of jobs and the provision of supplies and services used by that industry and has benefited the nation by supplying needed energy resources.
- Significant reserves of oil and natural gas are located on federal lands controlled by the USFS and the DOI.
- Lands controlled by the USFS in the San Juan basin of northwest New Mexico located within the Jicarilla ranger district of the CNF contain more than one trillion cubic feet of recoverable natural gas resources.
- The staff of the CNF is proposing to eliminate development access to more than two-thirds of the natural gas resources in the Jicarilla ranger district.
- The Bureau of Land Management has recently completed an extensive planning process and has published a revised resource management plan for the entire New Mexico portion of the San Juan basin, including the Jicarilla ranger district.
- The USFS has recently published its own draft environmental impact statement which has not adequately addresses the responsible development of energy resources within the Jicarilla ranger district.
- The draft environmental impact statement threatens to reduce the available supply of natural gas from the Jicarilla ranger district by more than sixty-eight percent, and this reduction threatens the availability of revenue to fund education, health and safety programs that would benefit the citizens of New Mexico and threatens economic stability and job growth in New Mexico's less advantaged and poorest rural areas.
- It is possible to regulate the development of natural gas reserves using methods that are prudent for the health and safety of citizens to provide for the multiple use of federal lands, to provide energy supplies for the benefit of the citizens of New Mexico and the nation and to provide needed revenues for governmental operations and economic growth.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct fiscal implications in this memorial, but there will be significant reduction to future revenues if the federal government does not allow development in a significant part of the Jicarilla ranger station district.

DW/dm