

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE TO MAINTAIN  
3 OPERATION OF CURRENT NATURAL GAS AND OIL DRILLING ACTIVITIES  
4 IN THE CARSON NATIONAL FOREST.

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6 WHEREAS, the use of natural gas and oil has improved the  
7 quality of life, raised the standard of living and increased  
8 the life expectancy of New Mexicans; and

9 WHEREAS, eighty-three percent of New Mexicans utilize  
10 natural gas or propane to heat their homes; and

11 WHEREAS, eighteen percent of New Mexico's electric power  
12 supply is directly fueled by natural gas; and

13 WHEREAS, the Carson national forest and the United  
14 States bureau of land management's big game management areas  
15 hold significant oil and gas resources; and

16 WHEREAS, the deer and elk populations in New Mexico have  
17 grown from nearly zero to more than ninety thousand head in  
18 the past one hundred years; and

19 WHEREAS, some restrictions tied to the natural gas and  
20 oil leases, such as steep slopes and surface occupancy  
21 restrictions, already protect cultural resources and  
22 wildlife; and

23 WHEREAS, responsible natural gas and oil development and  
24 wildlife have coexisted for more than seventy years in the  
25 San Juan basin; and

1           WHEREAS, responsible natural gas and oil development  
2 during the normal winter closure period can balance  
3 extraction and the needs of wildlife;

4           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
5 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it request the United States forest  
6 service to forgo the winter closure period and maintain  
7 operation of current natural gas and oil drilling activities  
8 in the Carson national forest; and

9           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
10 transmitted to the chief and deputy regional forester of the  
11 southwest region of the United States forest service. \_\_\_\_\_

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