

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 10

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013

INTRODUCED BY

Stephanie Garcia Richard

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT TO IDENTIFY AND PRIORITIZE LEGISLATIVE AND
REGULATORY INCENTIVES TO ENCOURAGE DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE
ENERGY STORAGE.

WHEREAS, New Mexico is a state rich in renewable resource
potential, including, but not limited to, solar, wind,
geothermal, biomass and biofuels energy; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico has taken the initiative to implement
policies and incentives for renewable resource development,
and, given New Mexico's geographical location, the state is
poised to become a leader in the new energy economy; and

WHEREAS, renewable energy projects provide improved system
reliability, improved infrastructure for economic development
and enhanced diversity of power storage technologies that lead

.190968.1

underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 to lower or stabilized energy costs; and

2 WHEREAS, the use of renewable energy resources is of vital
3 importance to New Mexico's future; and

4 WHEREAS, the New Mexico state government administers many
5 existing laws and regulations regarding energy production; and

6 WHEREAS, the state government also administers many
7 incentives intended to stimulate new renewable energy
8 production; and

9 WHEREAS, the state government also administers a range of
10 programs intended to encourage or subsidize energy conservation
11 or efficiency; and

12 WHEREAS, the state has adopted renewable energy portfolio
13 standards and other future targets for energy savings; and

14 WHEREAS, any future comprehensive energy planning and
15 policymaking will require an understanding of existing
16 policies; and

17 WHEREAS, it is clear that with today's technology, much
18 more energy can be harvested from the sun and wind, but the sun
19 and wind do not always produce energy when it is needed; and

20 WHEREAS, New Mexico is lacking renewable energy storage
21 capacity to enable delivery of renewable energy when it is
22 needed; and

23 WHEREAS, in the history of wind energy, the tax and
24 legislative incentives that began in the 1970s have produced
25 such a vibrant wind industry today that wind energy is now more

.190968.1

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 competitive with conventional generation methods, so that tax
2 and legislative incentives are being actively phased out across
3 the nation; and

4 WHEREAS, it is imperative that New Mexico, a national
5 leader in the implementation of renewable energy, explore the
6 steps needed to bring the energy storage industry to parity
7 with the renewable energy generation industry; and

8 WHEREAS, New Mexico's national laboratories are world
9 leaders in the research of energy storage, energy transmission
10 and renewable energy generation technology;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the energy, minerals and natural
13 resources department be requested to:

14 A. convene a working group of representatives of
15 energy-related state offices, including the energy, minerals
16 and natural resources department, the department of
17 environment, the New Mexico renewable energy transmission
18 authority, the economic development department, the public
19 regulation commission and the office of the governor, as well
20 as representatives of New Mexico's national laboratories and
21 the private and nonprofit sectors;

22 B. organize the working group to compile an
23 inventory of major existing renewable energy storage policies
24 and regulations;

25 C. develop legislative and regulatory

.190968.1

underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 recommendations and alternatives that can incentivize renewable
2 energy storage technologies and infrastructure development to
3 benefit New Mexico, with the recommendations drawing on
4 successful planning practices utilized in other states; and

5 D. present the report to the appropriate interim
6 committee of the legislature by October 2013; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the energy, minerals and
8 natural resources department be requested to integrate this
9 effort into the responsibilities of other existing task forces,
10 working groups or agency activities already under way that
11 address related efforts; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
13 transmitted to the secretary of energy, minerals and natural
14 resources, the secretary of environment, the director of the
15 New Mexico renewable energy transmission authority, the
16 secretary of economic development, the public regulation
17 commissioners, the office of the governor, the state's rural
18 electric cooperatives, the directors of the national
19 laboratories located in New Mexico and the chief operating
20 officers of utility companies providing service in New Mexico.