



November 25, 2023

New Mexico Legislature  
Radioactive & Hazardous Materials Committee  
New Mexico Capitol

Dear Chairwoman Ferrary, Vice Chairman Steinborn, and the RHMC committee members,

Certain poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have been identified by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as harmful. These compounds have been found to be particularly persistent in the environment which is why some refer to these as “forever chemicals”. We at the New Mexico Oil & Gas Association, Independent Petroleum Association of New Mexico, and the Permian Basin Petroleum Association understand that this committee is interested in understanding how, or even if, such chemicals are being used in the oil and gas industry in New Mexico. Inquiries with our members have revealed that no operator or service company is using now or has used such PFAS chemicals in the state for many years.

Further, the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission (Commission) of the Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department has been petitioned under Case 23580 to adopt rules preventing the use of such PFAS substances in hydraulic fracture stimulation treatments in the state. NMOGA has joined with WildEarth Guardians and others as a party to this pending rulemaking. NMOGA, PBPA, and IPANM have stated our intentions to support rules that preclude the use of intentionally added harmful PFAS chemicals to fracture base fluids and a credible process to ensure that such a ban is effective.

We thank the committee for this opportunity to offer relevant information regarding this important subject.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Missi Currier'.

Missi Currier, Ph.D.  
President and CEO  
New Mexico Oil and Gas Association

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jim Winchester'.

Jim Winchester  
Executive Director  
Independent Petroleum Association of New Mexico

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ben Shepperd'.

Ben Shepperd  
President  
Permian Basin Petroleum Association