



## The PRC and the Future of the New Mexico's Electricity Grid

### Rulemakings and Initiatives

The PRC is focused on New Mexico's reliable energy future by creating an environment conducive to taking on the challenges and opportunities ahead. The Commission has several initiatives underway to pave the path toward a safer, more reliable, cost-effective and efficient grid in this period of rapid transition for the bulk power system.

### Western Regional Market Formation

The Commission is engaged with the Western Regional Market discussions. Regionally, this means working with other regulators on market design and governance issues. In New Mexico, the Commission initiated workshops on the possibility of New Mexico utilities joining a regional power market September 21<sup>st</sup> of this year. The three IOUs, Interwest Alliance, and Western Resource Advocates presented on the benefits and opportunities of regional market participation, including Decarbonization, Reliability, Affordability, and Economic Development. This process could potentially lead to a rulemaking to guide utility membership in regional markets.

### Reliability and Distribution

The Commission has initiated a series of workshops, with help from experts at the Lawrence Berkely National Laboratory, to develop a rule establishing distribution system reliability standards. The objective to is ensure that reliability and reporting data translate to real world benefits to the grid.

### Grid Modernization

The Commission is ensuring that electric utilities take full advantage of programs, grants, loans, and other funding available under the IIJA and IRA that further Grid Modernization efforts. Most recently, the Commission held a workshop on September 28<sup>th</sup> on Grid Modernization and Integrated Distribution Planning.



### Interconnection

The future of the grid requires a comprehensive interconnection policy to accommodate the green energy transition, including distributed energy resources including roof top solar, community solar and other resources. After the PRC performed a comprehensive overhaul of its interconnection rules, New Mexico is the only state that received an "A" grade on its interconnection rules as evaluated by the Interstate Renewable Energy Council. New Mexico is now a leader in state renewable energy policy.

