

**2022 APPROVED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Members

Rep. Derrick J. Lente, Co-Chair	Rep. Tara L. Lujan
Rep. Matthew McQueen, Co-Chair	Rep. Marian Matthews
Sen. Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics, Vice Chair	Rep. Kristina Ortez
Rep. Gail Armstrong	Rep. Larry R. Scott
Rep. Kay Bounkeua	Sen. Benny Shendo, Jr.
Sen. Pete Campos	Sen. Jeff Steinborn
Sen. Joseph Cervantes	Rep. James R.J. Strickler
Sen. David M. Gallegos	Rep. Candie G. Sweetser
Rep. Susan K. Herrera	Sen. Pat Woods
Sen. Stuart Ingle	Rep. Martin R. Zamora

Advisory Members

Rep. Jack Chatfield	Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino
Sen. Crystal R. Diamond	Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
Rep. Rebecca Dow	Rep. William "Bill" R. Rehm
Rep. Candy Spence Ezzell	Rep. Andrea Romero
Sen. Ron Griggs	Rep. G. Andrés Romero
Sen. Carrie Hamblen	Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero
Rep. T. Ryan Lane	Sen. Joshua A. Sanchez
Rep. Raymundo Lara	Rep. Debra M. Sariñana
Sen. Linda M. Lopez	Sen. Antoinette Sedillo Lopez
Rep. Rod Montoya	Rep. Nathan P. Small
Rep. Roger E. Montoya	Sen. Mimi Stewart
Rep. Greg Nibert	Sen. Peter Wirth

Approved Work Plan

The Water and Natural Resources Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council on April 26, 2022. The committee will focus on the following topics, as scheduling permits:

A. reports from water- and natural resources-related executive agencies, including the Office of the State Engineer, the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, the Department of Environment and the Department of Game and Fish, regarding initiatives, legislation passed and budget and staffing needs;

B. topics concerning water, including:

1. statutory reports from the Office of the State Engineer and the Interstate Stream Commission;

2. implementation of the Water Data Act;
3. the status of drought in the state and policy to address drought conditions, including weather modification;
4. climate and water administration challenges;
5. water system governance status and reform;
6. the development and implementation of regional water systems;
7. brackish water and desalination;
8. implementation of the Abeyta Settlement Agreement;
9. Middle Rio Grande water use and compliance with the Rio Grande Compact;
10. water quality and quantity concerns of communities downstream of wastewater treatment facilities;
11. plans to transfer water from the Mississippi River to the southwest;
12. initiatives to protect 30 percent of the world's oceans, lands, rivers, lakes and wetlands by 2030;
13. state and regional water planning;
14. environmental flows;
15. an update on the New Mexico Unit Fund;
16. water deliveries to Indian nations, tribes and pueblos and the status of Indian water rights litigation and settlements;
17. the strategic water reserve;
18. issues pertaining to acequias, including the Acequia and Community Ditch Infrastructure Fund;
19. contaminated ground water sites;
20. surface water protections, including discharge permitting and the impacts of the federal Clean Water Act of 1977;

21. updates on *Texas v. New Mexico* and other water-related litigation;
22. water quality and supply issues in areas affected by wildfire;
23. water line easements across state land;
24. water usage in cannabis production;
25. an update on the Ute Pipeline Project;
26. the water pipeline to To'hajiilee; and
27. per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), including a study of PFAS present in water in New Mexico;

C. topics concerning energy, including:

1. green hydrogen development and potential;
2. implementation of the Community Solar Act;
3. geothermal developments and opportunities;
4. public power in New Mexico;
5. electric vehicle charging;
6. an update on the implementation of the Community Energy Efficiency Development Block Grant Program;
7. state-based appliance standards and savings;
8. carbon capture sequestration costs and effectiveness;
9. resources needed for orphan well cleanup;
10. the status of the merger between Avangrid and the Public Service Company of New Mexico;
11. methane regulations;
12. hydrogen hub development;
13. the state solar tax credit;

14. building codes and building electrification;
15. home electrification funding and needs;
16. reform of electrical transmission;
17. modernization of the Oil and Gas Act;
18. blue hydrogen development and potential;
19. implementation of the Clean Car Rule; and
20. an update on produced water; and

D. topics concerning natural resources, conservation, agriculture, land management and animals, including:

1. the Food, Farm and Hunger initiative;
2. fire coordination and federal compensation for fire losses;
3. state support for farming and ranching management tools;
4. issues involving land for grazing, including the meadow jumping mouse;
5. plans for a Rio Grande Trail;
6. climate-informed reforestation efforts and watershed restoration projects;
7. state parks improvements and recommendations;
8. plans to help farmers and ranchers;
9. the development and potential of outdoor recreation;
10. the use of pesticides;
11. fireworks, drought and wildfire risk;
12. wild horse management legislation;
13. the use of off-highway vehicles;
14. implementation of the federal Recovering America's Wildlife Act;

15. prescribed burn opportunities, practices and precautions;
16. state funding for conservation and restoration projects;
17. a proposed green amendment;
18. state funding for environmental regulations;
19. an update from New Mexico State University College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences on weather stations, education and research centers;
20. new state environmental standards;
21. climate change and building resiliency in New Mexico;
22. climate change on Indian nations, tribes and pueblos;
23. state climate legislation;
24. climate change, oil and gas extraction and health;
25. the status and needs of uranium mine cleanup;
26. plastic use, recycling and responsibility;
27. policies and practices to address the use of plastics and plastic pollution;
28. riparian habitats along the Gila River and feral cattle;
29. an update on the stream access rule litigation;
30. outdoor recreation; and
31. the Environmental Database Act.

**Water and Natural Resources Committee
2022 Approved Meeting Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
May 23	Santa Fe
July 25-26	Pueblo of Sandia
August 25-26	Clovis
September 29-30	Los Luceros
October 27-28	Santa Fe