

Revised: October 21, 2025

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
for the
FIFTH MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**October 23-24, 2025
Pan American Center, Barbara Hubbard Room
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces**

Thursday, October 23

- 9:00 a.m. **Call to Order and Introductions**
—Representative Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
- 9:10 a.m. (1) **[New Mexico State University \(NMSU\) Welcome and Overview](#)**
—Valerio Ferme, President, NMSU
- 10:00 a.m. (2) **[Office of Cybersecurity: Fiscal Year 2027 Legislative and Budget Priorities](#)**
—Raja Sambandam, State Chief Information Security Officer,
Cybersecurity Office
- 11:00 a.m. (3) **[Data Center Impacts on New Mexico: Policy Solutions for Water and Energy](#)**
—Deborah Kapiloff, Policy Analyst, Western Resource Advocates
- 12:00 noon **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. (4) **[Community Safety and Data Privacy: Current Impacts and Policy Solutions](#)**
—Lena Weber, Director, American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico
- 2:00 p.m. (5) **[Development of New Cash Crops for New Mexico: Prospective Production Areas and Markets](#)**
—Jay Lillywhite, Ph.D., Associate Dean and Director, Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, NMSU
—Omar Holguin, Ph.D., Director, Center of Excellence in Sustainable Food and Agricultural Systems, NMSU

- 2:45 p.m. (6) [**Institute for Applied Practice in Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) and Machine Learning: Leveraging AI for Agricultural Production and Medical Practice and Other Disciplines**](#)
—Enrico Pontelli, Ph.D., Dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Special Advisor for Artificial Intelligence, Provost's Office, NMSU
—Lara Prihodko, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Animal and Range Sciences, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, NMSU
—Huiping Cao, Professor, Department of Computer Science, NMSU
—Mike Hout, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Research, College of Health, Education and Social Transformation, NMSU

3:30 p.m. **Tour of the Leyendecker Plant Science Research Center***

5:00 p.m. **Recess**

Friday, October 24

- 9:00 a.m. (7) [**Types of Regulatory Guardrails to Ensure that AI Technology Is a Net Benefit to Consumers and the General Public**](#)
—Matt Scherer, Senior Policy Counsel and Project Lead, Workers' Rights and Technology, Center for Democracy and Technology
—Grace Gedye, Policy Analyst on AI, *Consumer Reports*
- 10:30 a.m. (8) [**Ensuring that AI Technology Is a Net Benefit to Consumers and the General Public Without Stifling Industry Innovation**](#)
—Renzo Soto, Executive Director, Texas and the South, TechNet
—Willy Chanes Martinez, Associate Attorney, Mariner Strategies
—Kyle Shannon, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, AI Salon
- 12:00 noon **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. (9) [**Energy Infrastructure Reinvestment: Overview of Federal Financing Programs**](#)
—Tom Hucker, Senior Advisor, Loan Programs Office, United States Department of Energy
- 1:15 p.m. (10) [**Leveraging the Physical Science Laboratory \(PSL\) for Recruitment and Development of New Mexico Aerospace Industries**](#)
—Patricia Sullivan, Ph.D., Interim Director, PSL and Associate Dean for Outreach and Recruitment, College of Engineering, NMSU
- 2:15 p.m. (11) [**Office of Broadband Access and Expansion \(OBAE\) Status Update**](#)
—Jeff Lopez, Director, OBAE
—Aquiles Trujillo, Deputy Director, OBAE

3:45 p.m. (12) **Introducing the New Mexico Nuclear Alliance**
—Scott Lopez, Chief Executive Officer and President, New Mexico Nuclear Alliance
—Bridget Hawn, State and Local Government Affairs Analyst, Kairos Power
—Alex Doniach, Head of Communications, Pacific Fusion

4:45 p.m. **Public Comment****

5:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

*Committee members and staff only.

**Members of the public may make virtual public comments during the public comment period of the meeting by following the instructions under the "Additional Information" section of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee [web page](#).