2019 APPROVED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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Sen. Steven P. Neville	Rep. Martin R. Zamora

2019 Approved Work Plan

  The Water and Natural Resources Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council on April 29, 2019. The committee will focus on the following topics, as scheduling permits:

  A. water management, research, litigation and projects, including:

    1. reports required by statute from the Office of the State Engineer and the Interstate Stream Commission;

2. Active Water Resource Management implementation and water banking;

3. Gila River planning process and projects (federal Arizona Water Settlements Act of 2004);

4. *Texas v. New Mexico* litigation;

5. Indian water rights and *Aamodt* settlements;

6. implementation of the Water Data Act;

7. reservoir storage capacities;

8. interbasin transfer of water;

9. aquifer recharge;

10. long-term perspectives on water contamination mitigation;

11. brackish water treatment technologies;

12. updates and overview from irrigation districts;

13. incentives to agricultural interests to transfer water rights;

14. middle Rio Grande water concerns;

15. acequia litigation; and

16. budgetary process, personnel retention and policy reforms for the Office of the State Engineer; and

B. agriculture, land use, natural resources and game and fish issues, including:

1. state parks;

2. Department of Game and Fish species management;

3. watershed health and implementation of the Forest and Watershed Restoration Act;

4. crops and industrial hemp production;

5. a proposed state-level environmental review act;

6. leveraging federal Farm Bill programs;

7. agricultural and food security;

8. agricultural tourism and liability;

9. foreign ownership of agricultural land;

10. possible establishment of an agriculture and natural resources trust fund;

11. outdoor recreation;

12. renewable energy infrastructure;

13. low-income energy efficiency opportunities and national and international trends in accessible and affordable renewable wind and solar energy development;

14. property tax on certain renewable energy systems;

15. cooperative energy power provider options;

16. climate change;

17. implementation of the Energy Transition Act through use of efficiency and conservation strategies;

18. hydraulic fracturing;

19. produced water and water midstream;

20. oil and gas in Sandoval County;

21. methane capture;

22. State Land Office changes in lease and bidding procedures;

23. remediation of the Carlsbad brine well; and

24. Holtec International's proposed consolidated interim storage facility in Eddy and Lea counties.

Water and Natural Resources Committee
2019 Approved Meeting Schedule

Date   Location
June 4   Santa Fe

July 30-31   Truth or Consequences

September 5-6   Ruidoso

October 17-18   Silver City

November 7-8   Santa Fe