1	SENATE MEMORIAL 40
2	50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012
3	INTRODUCED BY
4	George K. Munoz
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10	A MEMORIAL
11	REQUESTING A STUDY OF GAS-POWERED POWER PLANTS TO DETERMINE IF
12	NATURAL GAS PRICES COULD BE MAINTAINED BY LICENSING FIVE
13	REGIONALLY PLACED NATURAL GAS-POWERED POWER PLANTS IN THE
14	STATE.
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16	WHEREAS, natural gas accounts for twenty-two percent of
17	the energy used in the United States; and
18	WHEREAS, environmental concerns about the use of coal in
19	power production are causing the delay or cancellation of the
20	development of coal-fired power plants, often requiring years
21	for permitting and construction; and
22	WHEREAS, in order to bridge increased power demand,
23	clean-burning, natural gas-fired power plants may prove to be
24	an effective alternative to coal-fired power plants due to
25	shorter cycle times and operating flexibility; and
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underscored material = new
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WHEREAS, gas-fired electricity generation is expected to increase steadily over the next twenty years; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico may be poised to take advantage of the expansion of the natural gas-fired power sector;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the energy, minerals and natural resources department be requested to conduct a study to assess whether natural gas prices could be maintained by licensing five regionally placed natural gas-powered power plants in the state, and what money could be used to plan and construct the five regionally placed natural gas-powered power plants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the energy, minerals and natural resources department submit the findings of the study to the appropriate interim legislative committee by November 1, 2012; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the governor, the secretary of economic development, the secretary of energy, minerals and natural resources and the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative council.

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