SENATE MEMORIAL 26

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026

INTRODUCED BY

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A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE NEW MEXICO SENATE SUPPORT NEW MEXICO
UTILITIES PARTICIPATING IN REGIONAL TRANSMISSION ORGANIZATIONS
AS A MATTER OF LOCAL AND STATEWIDE CONCERN TO ADVANCE REGIONAL
COORDINATION, IMPROVE RELIABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY OF
ELECTRICITY SERVICE, PROVIDE THE STATE'S RESIDENTS WITH
DEPENDABLE ACCESS TO POWER AND SUPPORT THE STATE'S ENERGY
TRANSITION.

WHEREAS, New Mexico's energy transition and long-term
economic growth depend on a reliable, affordable and
efficiently coordinated regional electric grid that ensures all
New Mexico residents have access to dependable power; and

WHEREAS, participation in regional energy markets has been
shown to lower electricity costs for consumers by enabling

1   utilities to share generation resources, optimize energy

2   dispatch across multiple states and reduce the need for costly,

3   redundant generation and reserves, thereby delivering economic

4   benefits directly to utility customers; and

5   WHEREAS, full regional integration through participation

6   in organized wholesale markets, such as regional transmission

7   organizations, independent system operators or voluntary energy

8   markets, offer substantial benefits by reducing system costs,

9   promoting competition and providing transparent price signals

10   that encourage efficient investment and protect ratepayers

11   while also supporting the long-term sustainability of the

12   electric grid; and

13   WHEREAS, regional coordination among utilities within

14   organized wholesale markets plays a critical role in advancing

15   renewable energy integration by allowing wind, solar,

16   hydroelectric and other clean resources to flow freely across

17   state lines, minimizing energy curtailment, reducing carbon

18   emissions and ensuring that New Mexico can meet its statutory

19   decarbonization and renewable energy portfolio goals; and

20   WHEREAS, market coordination further advances New Mexico's

21   energy transition roadmap goals by strengthening grid

22   reliability and resilience through coordinating operations

23   among utilities, providing real-time situational energy supply

24   and demand and enabling mutual support among utilities during

25   extreme weather events, emergencies or supply disruptions; and

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WHEREAS, participation in regional market structures supports transparent and competitive electricity pricing, which fosters innovation, increases accountability and promotes fairness in the wholesale energy market, ultimately benefiting consumers through lower costs and improved service quality; and

WHEREAS, a regional transmission organization, independent system operator or voluntary energy market helps to coordinate transmission planning, allowing for strategic infrastructure investment, cost sharing and efficient development of transmission projects needed to deliver renewable energy from rural areas to population centers, further enhancing both reliability and access; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico has a strong interest in maintaining a leadership role in shaping the evolution of regional energy markets in the western United States to ensure that market rules reflect the state's values of sustainability, equity and affordability while providing utility service that serve communities; and

WHEREAS, allowing New Mexico's transmission utilities to participate in voluntary energy markets provides an important transitional step toward eventual full market integration, giving utilities and regulators the opportunity to gain operational experience, build trust in regional collaboration and provide New Mexico residents with more reliable and cost-effective electricity; and

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1   WHEREAS, such participation does not preclude future

2 participation in an organized wholesale market and is intended

3 as an interim mechanism to advance regional coordination while

4 protecting the public interest and ensuring continued progress

5 toward statewide energy goals; and

6   WHEREAS, ensuring participation in voluntary energy

7 markets, subject to public regulation commission oversight,

8 helps verify that it provides net benefits to New Mexico's

9 ratepayers, supports the state's energy and reliability goals

10 and does not impede progress toward full market integration

11 while maintaining transparency and accountability;

12   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE

13 OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico senate support New Mexico

14 utilities participating in voluntary energy markets as a matter

15 of both local and statewide concern to advance regional

16 coordination, improve reliability and affordability of

17 electricity service, provide New Mexico residents with

18 dependable access to power, support the state's energy

19 transition and strengthen oversight by the public regulation

20 commission; and

21   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

22 transmitted to the governor, the public regulation commission

23 and the energy, minerals and natural resources department.

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