LEADING NEW MEXICO'S ENERGY SECTOR GROWTH IN POST-COVID RECOVERY, AND THE PROMISE OF CONTINUED GROWTH

New Mexico's clean energy sector employed 12,014 workers by the end of 2021—an of 8.1% from 2021, the highest rate of job growth in the country. This strong growth was mainly driven by increase in clean fuels and clean vehicle jobs.

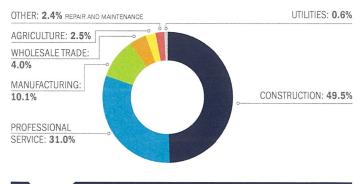
# **KEY FINDINGS** NEW MEXICO LED THE NATION IN CLEAN ENERGY **8.1**% JOB GROWTH IN 2021 GROWTH IN CLEAN FUELS JOBS SINCE 2021, 28% LEADING THE CLEAN ENERGY SECTOR GROWTH, FOLLOWED BY CLEAN VEHICLES (22%) SMALL BUSINESSES (<20 EMPLOYEES) **56%** ACCOUNTED FOR NEARLY 3 OUT OF EVERY 5 CLEAN ENERGY JOBS IN NEW MEXICO NEW MEXICO CONTINUES TO HAVE THE MOST MOST DIVERSE CLEAN ENERGY WORKFORCE IN THE U.S. DIVERSE HISPANIC AND/OR LATINOS ACCOUNT FOR MORE THAN 1 IN 5 WORKERS (22.6%) AND MULTIRACIAL WORKERS MAKE UP MORE THAN 1 IN 7 (14.0%). CLEAN ENERGY JOB WAGES ARE ABOVE STATE-SPECIFIC MEDIUM WAGE<sup>2</sup>



12,014

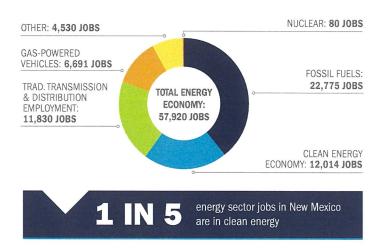
State's clean energy jobs have grown 8.1 percent since COVID-19, driven primarily by clean fuels and clean vehicles industries

Fig. 2 // NEW MEXICO CLEAN ENERGY EMPLOYMENT by value chain 2021

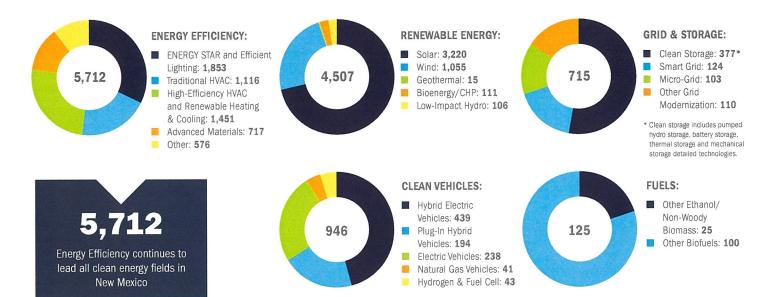


of all construction jobs in New Mexico are in clean energy<sup>3</sup>

Fig. 3 // NEW MEXICO OVERALL ENERGY ECONOMY EMPLOYMENT by sector, 2021



### Fig. 4 // NEW MEXICO CLEAN ENERGY EMPLOYMENT by subsector 2021



## **DIVERSITY MATTERS**

Black, Asian, Indigenous, Hispanic, or Latino, and multiracial workers accounted for about 54 percent of clean energy jobs in the state, and about three of every 10 workers were women. Policymakers and business leaders must ensure the state's clean energy economy provides opportunity for all New Mexicans.

## **POLICIES MATTER**

As evidence by the massive wildfires in New Mexico this year, the state needs to improve resilience and speed up the transition to a clean, sustainable economy. Policies need to focus on achieving New Mexico's goal to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions at least 50 percent by 2030 as compared to 2005 levels.<sup>4</sup> Lawmakers and state agencies need to adopt ambitious policies in all sectors, framed by equity

principles, to bring down emissions and increase opportunity to save money, develop new jobs, and secure a healthy, clean energy economy.

Some of our top policy priorities for 2023 in New Mexico are:

- // Accelerate the transition to 100% clean electric generation, which is required in the state by 2045 for most utilities. The state should move faster by requiring utilities to reach 90 percent emissions reductions by 2030 and aim for 100 percent by 2035.
- // Ensure New Mexicans have access to the increasing numbers of clean electric cars and trucks by adopting Advanced Clean Truck and Clean Cars II rules.<sup>5</sup>
- // Provide EV tax credits for low-income families.
- // Build out more electric vehicle charging stations, deliver free, expanded and zero-carbon electric transit options, and pedestrian and bike safety infrastructure.

- // Expand low-income building weatherization and electrification funding through\_Community Energy Efficiency Development block grants and other programs.<sup>6</sup>
- // Invest in state partnerships and tax incentives to bring zero carbon industries to the state, supporting both manufacturing components of the clean energy transition (electric cars, batteries, solar panels, wind turbines, etc.) and industries that can utilize New Mexico's immense renewable energy potential.

The state must also leverage federal funding made available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act. New Mexico can invest in the infrastructure needed to drive greater deployment of electric vehicles, renewable energy projects, and other clean energy solutions, with an emphasis on investments in disadvantaged communities.

- 1 Unless otherwise stated, all data is from the 2022 U.S. Energy and Employment Report (USEER), June 2022, Department of Energy (DOE). All employment findings in USEER is based on survey and data analysis collected from Q4 2021. See Pages 201-206 for methodology questions.
- 2 BW Research, E2, American Council on Renewable Energy, Clean Energy Leadership Institute. Clean Jobs, Better Jobs. October 2020. https://e2.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Clean-Jobs-Better-Jobs-October-2020.-E2-ACORE-CELI.pdf, p.12
- 3 Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Fourth Quarter 2021. Available at https://data.bls.gov/cew/apps/data\_views/data\_views.htm#tab=Tables
- 4 https://cnee.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/New-Mexico-GHG-Inventory-and-Forecast-Report\_2020-10-27\_final.pdf
- https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/advanced-clean-trucks; https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/advanced-clean-cars-program/advanced-clean-cars-ii; https://www.nrdc.org/experts/kathy-harris/new-mexico-hits-gas-cleaner-cars
- 6 https://swenergy.org/hb37



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