

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 75

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY

Richard D. Vigil

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO APPOINT A TASK
FORCE TO STUDY THE NEED FOR IMPROVED REGULATION OF COMMERCIAL
WIND FACILITIES.

WHEREAS, utility-scale wind-powered electric generation
facilities are almost completely unregulated; and

WHEREAS, the total environmental impact and ultimate
viability of proposed utility-scale wind facilities should be
taken into consideration to determine if they are truly
responsible renewables; and

WHEREAS, the siting of the current or planned industrial-
scale wind facilities does not fall under public regulation
commission review; and

WHEREAS, the protection of public health through safety
standards, including setback standards from homes and noise

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1 limit standards that include hazardous low-frequency noise,
2 should be considered; and

3 WHEREAS, protection of the environment, including scenery,
4 historic sites and wildlife corridors, as well as night skies,
5 should be taken into account; and

6 WHEREAS, a code of ethics for the wind power industry that
7 guarantees procedural transparency to residents and provides
8 for oversight of the industry is necessary;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
10 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
11 requested to form a task force for the 2009 interim to study
12 the need for improved regulation of commercial wind facilities
13 in New Mexico; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at least six public members be
15 appointed to the task force and that they represent communities
16 and interests that have been affected by the siting of
17 commercial wind facilities in the state; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force consider the
19 concerns expressed in this memorial and make its
20 recommendations to the second session of the forty-ninth
21 legislature by December 1, 2009; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative
24 council.

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