

HOUSE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL 452

**50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

AN ACT

RELATING TO UTILITIES; CREATING A TASK FORCE TO INVESTIGATE THE  
RECENT NATURAL GAS SHUT-DOWN AND ITS RAMIFICATIONS; MAKING AN  
APPROPRIATION; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1. NATURAL GAS EMERGENCY INVESTIGATION TASK  
FORCE--POWERS AND DUTIES--AGENCY COOPERATION.--**

A. The "natural gas emergency investigation task  
force" is created and shall be composed of the following  
members:

(1) the secretary of finance and  
administration or the secretary's designee;

(2) the secretary of homeland security and  
emergency management or the secretary's designee;

(3) the chair of the public regulation

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underscoring material = new  
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1 commission or another commissioner designated by the chair;

2 (4) the adjutant general or the adjutant  
3 general's designee;

4 (5) the attorney general or the attorney  
5 general's designee;

6 (6) the superintendent of insurance or the  
7 superintendent's designee;

8 (7) one majority party member and one minority  
9 party member of the house of representatives to be appointed by  
10 the speaker of the house of representatives; and

11 (8) one majority party member and one minority  
12 party member of the senate to be appointed by the president pro  
13 tempore of the senate.

14 B. The secretary of finance and administration  
15 shall serve as chair of the task force.

16 C. The task force shall:

17 (1) investigate how and why New Mexico  
18 consumers lost natural gas service in early February 2011;

19 (2) investigate the economic and social  
20 impacts of the loss;

21 (3) investigate the adequacy of the state's  
22 and local governments' response to the emergency;

23 (4) determine how to safeguard deliverability  
24 and operational efficiency in the natural gas pipeline system  
25 to prevent undue hardship on New Mexico natural gas consumers;

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1                   (5) invite representatives of federal agencies  
2 that regulate interstate pipelines and transportation of  
3 natural gas to assist in the task force's duties;

4                   (6) invite a representative of the federal  
5 emergency management agency to assist in the task force's  
6 duties;

7                   (7) invite other experts to assist the task  
8 force as necessary;

9                   (8) recommend state or federal legislation  
10 necessary to address the task force's concerns;

11                   (9) address other matters related to the  
12 natural gas emergency that the chair of the task force deems  
13 necessary;

14                   (10) determine the most practicable way that  
15 gas customers can be notified of an impending outage or service  
16 interruption; and

17                   (11) determine the best methods to prioritize  
18 shutdown decisions during emergencies.

19                   D. State agencies and legislative committees shall  
20 assist the task force as needed.

21                   E. The task force shall report its findings and  
22 recommendations to the governor and the appropriate interim  
23 legislative committees by August 1, 2011 and shall post its  
24 report on the public regulation commission web site upon  
25 completion.

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