

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO RENEWABLE ENERGY TRANSMISSION
3 AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE EFFICACY OF
4 SMART, HYBRID MICROGRIDS TO ACCELERATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
5 A MIX OF ENERGY THAT EMPHASIZES CLEAN, RENEWABLE ENERGY.

6
7 WHEREAS, there is support in state government to
8 increase the rate of affordable, renewable energy adoption
9 into the state's overall energy mix; and

10 WHEREAS, renewable portfolio standards legislation
11 introduced in the 2019 legislative session sets a goal of
12 fifty percent renewables by 2030 for investor-owned utilities
13 and forty percent by 2030 for rural electric cooperatives,
14 with higher renewable penetration goals in future years, but
15 there are inadequate plans in place to achieve those goals;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, good public policy is grounded in using the
18 latest technological advances, and New Mexico has established
19 itself as a leader in technology by gathering and
20 facilitating the work of scientists and engineers at its
21 public universities and the national laboratories, whose
22 expertise may be used to design the plans necessary to meet
23 the state's renewable energy goals; and

24 WHEREAS, new design standards could be used to increase
25 the rate at which renewable energy sources are implemented in

1 New Mexico, bringing the advantages of greater affordability,
2 resiliency and reliability to the electrical grid; and

3 WHEREAS, the current regulations, rules and laws
4 surrounding energy do not take into consideration the newest
5 technological advances with regard to renewable energy; and

6 WHEREAS, the smart integration of renewable resources
7 into New Mexico's energy portfolio mix has the potential to
8 lower overall carbon dioxide emissions and to make the grid
9 stronger, more resilient, more reliable and more cost-
10 effective, especially when combined with current energy
11 generation sources; and

12 WHEREAS, given the vital importance of reliable
13 electricity, making renewable energy accessible is critically
14 important to the health of the electrical grid as a key
15 component of the local economy; and

16 WHEREAS, smart, hybrid microgrids are modern, small-
17 scale versions of the centralized electricity system that
18 deliver electricity to homes and businesses, integrate
19 multiple electricity generation sources into the electrical
20 grid, including solar and wind and allow electrical grid
21 operators to direct energy to different locations around the
22 electrical grid to meet demand; and

23 WHEREAS, the use of smart, hybrid microgrids provides
24 opportunities for workforce development by requiring
25 specialized installation and long-term maintenance; and

1 WHEREAS, smart, hybrid microgrids could assist the state
2 in integrating renewable energy sources into New Mexico's
3 energy portfolio mix, while allowing local communities to
4 participate in and support renewable energy generation in the
5 state; and

6 WHEREAS, plans to meet the state's renewable portfolio
7 standard need to consider financing opportunities and
8 alternatives to the centralized electricity system so as to
9 allow all New Mexicans to participate in New Mexico's energy
10 future;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
12 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New
13 Mexico renewable energy transmission authority be requested
14 to establish a task force to study the efficacy of using
15 smart, hybrid microgrids to accelerate the implementation of
16 a mix of energy that emphasizes clean, renewable energy; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested
18 to study how the legislative and executive branches of state
19 government, in concert with the public regulation commission,
20 may best:

21 A. assist investor-owned utilities and cooperative
22 utilities in attaining stated renewable portfolio standard
23 goals by utilizing smart, hybrid microgrids; and

24 B. facilitate the inclusion of smart, hybrid
25 microgrids and updated hybrid technologies into utilities'

1 integrated resource plans; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico renewable
3 energy transmission authority convene a task force that
4 includes representatives of:

5 A. a renewable energy research group at a New
6 Mexico university;

7 B. the renewable energy technologies group at a
8 national laboratory;

9 C. an investor-owned electric utility in New
10 Mexico;

11 D. a municipal electric utility provider in New
12 Mexico;

13 E. an electric cooperative in New Mexico; and

14 F. a private business in the clean and renewable
15 energy field; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report its
17 findings, conclusions and recommendations to the appropriate
18 interim legislative committee by December 1, 2019; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the chair and executive director of the New
21 Mexico renewable energy transmission authority, the chair of
22 the public regulation commission and the governor. _____

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