

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2013 50

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING COMMUNITY SOLAR AND DIRECTING STAFF TO
WORK WITH THE CITIES OF SANTA FE AND ESPANOLA, THE TOWN OF
EDGEWOOD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO, RURAL ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVES IN SANTA FE COUNTY, COMMUNITY PLANNING
ORGANIZATIONS IN SANTA FE COUNTY AND THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC
REGULATION COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT A COMMUNITY SOLAR
PROGRAM IN SANTA FE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Community Solar is defined as a solar-electric system that, through a voluntary program, provides power and/or financial benefit to, or is owned by, multiple community members, both residential and commercial;

WHEREAS, Community Solar advocates are driven by the recognition that the on-site solar market comprises only one part of the total viable market for solar energy;

WHEREAS, the adopted 2010 Sustainable Growth Management Plan states as a policy priority that, "solar....facilities should be encouraged for new and existing buildings and structures throughout the County";

WHEREAS, many Santa Fe County citizens are in rental housing and many businesses lease their buildings preventing them from being able to take advantage of owning cost-effective on-site solar facilities;

WHEREAS, community options are needed to expand access to solar power for renters, those with shaded roofs, and those who choose not to install a residential system on their home or business for financial or other reasons;

WHEREAS, as a group, electric utility ratepayers and taxpayers fund solar incentive programs and as a matter of equity, solar energy programs should be designed in a manner that allows all contributors to participate;

WHEREAS, Community Solar projects are designed to increase access to solar energy and to reduce up-front costs for participants;

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WHEREAS, the secondary goals met by many Community Solar projects include:

- Improved economies of scale
- Optimal project siting
- Increased public understanding of solar energy
- Generation of local jobs
- Opportunity to test new models of marketing, project financing and service delivery

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY, that the County strongly urges Public Service Company of New Mexico to favorably consider opportunities to support and promote a Community Solar model for the Santa Fe County region. The Commission hereby directs staff to work with the City of Santa Fe, Public Service Company of New Mexico, the rural electric cooperatives that provide electric service in Santa Fe County, interested citizens and organizations, and the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission to pursue a viable Community Solar program for the Santa Fe County region. Copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Commissioners and General Counsel of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, the General Managers and Boards of the rural electric cooperatives in Santa Fe County, community planning organizations in Santa Fe County, other local governments impacted by this resolution including the Mayor and Council of the Cities of Santa Fe and Espanola, and the Town of Edgewood and to the Chief Executive Officer of Public Service Company of New Mexico.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of May, 2013.
THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

By: *Kathy Holian*

Kathy Holian, Chair

Attest: *Geraldine Salazar* 5/14/2013



Geraldine Salazar, Santa Fe County Clerk

Approved to form:



Stephen C. Ross, Santa Fe County Attorney

SFC CLERK RECORDED 05/15/2013



COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 15TH Day Of May, 2013 at 04:25:27 PM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1705731
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Deputy  Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM