

**SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 1103

**A RESOLUTION IDENTIFYING SANTA FE COUNTY 2025 LEGISLATIVE
PRIORITIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION**

WHEREAS, climate change threatens the continued habitability and sustainability of Santa Fe County (County) and the State of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the environment is under sustained attack from other sources as well; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners would like to demonstrate strong support to the State Legislature and Governor for environmental sustainability and climate action legislation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board would generally support the adoption of appropriate legislation during the 2025 Regular Session that would:

1. Advance environmental sustainability, community resiliency, and climate action.
2. Promote clean water and energy conservation and/or management and improve sustainability at the State and local levels to include (a) water and watershed protection action goals such as contaminated groundwater cleanup, (b) development and implementation of State surface water discharge permitting program, (c) repair and replacement of aging municipal wastewater treatment plants, stormwater infrastructure, and (d) watershed restoration to reduce risk of wildfires, flooding, and large-scale erosion for critical surface water source protection.
3. Provide economic access and benefits for low-income households, while increasing their ability to access utilities, use cleaner forms of energy for electricity and transportation, and/or increase the energy efficiency of their residences.
4. Result in one or more of the following: the incentivizing of EV ownership and usage, decrease emissions from transportation, expand the development of EV charging infrastructure, increase access to low/no carbon transportation options, expand the production of low carbon intensity fuels, expand micro-mobility and multi-modal transportation options, especially for lower-income households, decrease the reliance on vehicle ownership, and decrease combustible fuel vehicle miles traveled.
5. Encourage reductions in building sector emissions through the incentivizing of energy efficiency improvements and building electrification especially for lower-income households and multi-family residences.
6. Advance the sustainability and climate action goals of the County, including conservation and protection of natural resources, carbon neutrality, climate resilience, economic vitality, increased quality of life, and social equity.
7. Provide adequate funding and support for State departments tasked with implementing climate policies and programs and protecting the environment, such as the New Mexico Environment Department and Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department.
8. Support the prioritization of funding and funding mechanisms for infrastructure projects to include increasing insulation from the risk of potential Federal claw backs

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of current funding opportunities for energy projects, and economic development opportunities that enhance local communities and advance community resiliency and climate action.

9. Provide capital outlay for facility energy efficiency improvements, renewable energy (including photovoltaic solar) and resiliency improvements.
10. Create and advance agricultural lands and pollinator-friendly initiatives, to include incentivizing local food and resilience protection, crop and rotational grazing, regenerative best practices, and the planting of pollinator friendly, regionally-appropriate plants and avoiding the use of pesticides known to kill pollinators, and supporting coordinated, regional, statewide and national action to protect pollinator species in order to implement the objectives set forth in Santa Fe County Resolution No. 2020-51.
11. Improve the New Mexico Energy Grid, including increased microgrid access and renewable energy sourcing and the ability to operate independently from the national grid.
12. Provide and grow program at the State level, comparable to Solarize Santa Fe, to assist individuals with questions about and funding of solar installation in homes.
13. Prioritize oil and gas reform and support produced water standards to ensure clean air, water, and soil, through regulating industry-related groundwater contamination, capping requirements of legacy wells, increased methane emissions regulation, requirement of wildlife, and wetland sensitive area protection and buffers, transition to renewable energy and codification of net zero methane emissions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board supports comprehensive climate legislation that will codify greenhouse gas emission targets at the State level for 2050.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board supports the State's adoption of the Advanced Clean Cars and Advanced Clean Trucks rules to strategically eliminate emissions from transportation in the coming future and increase air quality throughout the state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board supports legislation banning single-use plastic and polystyrene products within the state of New Mexico, including an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) law for packaging that will hold producers and manufacturers responsible for the design life cycle of their products.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board supports the creation and enactment of surface water rules that further protect and conserve this natural resource throughout the State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board supports the New Mexico Governor's executive order expanding and investing in climate-ready and infrastructure workforce goals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board supports residential and commercial electrification and energy efficiency upgrade programs, as well as the training and certification of contractors for energy audits and projects in commercial and residential buildings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board could support a so-called Green Amendment to the New Mexico Constitution, adding a new section to Article II, the Bill of Rights, that establishes, among other things, a constitutional mandate recognizing a healthy environment as an inherent and generational right of all New Mexico citizens.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON THIS 26th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024.

SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: Hank Hughes
Hank Hughes, Chair

ATTESTATION:

Katharine E. Clark

Katharine E. Clark
Santa Fe County Clerk

Date: ~~11/26/24~~ 11/27/24

Approved as to form:

Michael Nunez for

Jeff Young
Santa Fe County Attorney



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 27TH Day Of November, 2024 at 04:16:09 PM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2047777
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Katharine E. Clark
Deputy [Signature] County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

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