

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-~~173~~

**A RESOLUTION CREATING EFFICIENT PERMITTING PROCEDURES FOR
SMALL SCALE SOLAR AND WIND SYSTEMS TO SUPPORT INCREASED
INSTALLATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS WITHIN SANTA FE
COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County has consistently supported and encouraged use of renewable energy systems as a means to address climate change issues and to reduce dependence on conventional fossil fuels;

WHEREAS, renewable energy system improvements, such as small-scale solar photovoltaic ("PV"), solar thermal, and wind systems, create significant reductions in fossil-fuel-generated energy use, and create cost savings for residents and businesses;

WHEREAS, the solar and wind industries create local jobs and economic opportunities for the local economy that directly benefit our community;

WHEREAS, current County procedures for permitting small-scale photovoltaic, solar thermal, and wind systems can be improved with respect

to streamlining the permitting process;

WHEREAS, industry standards and safeguards for installation of solar systems have been adopted as part of standard regulatory practices of the New Mexico Construction Industries Division; and

WHEREAS, improving the efficiency of the County small-scale solar and wind permitting processes and procedures will offer significant benefit for the local renewable energy industry, and create significant benefits for residents and small businesses who desire to make solar or wind energy improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County that staff shall, in connection with the ongoing development of the Sustainable Land Use Code ("SLDC"), implement the following procedures for permitting small-scale roof and ground-mounted photovoltaic and wind systems and residential-scale solar thermal systems:

1. For small-scale PV and solar thermal systems, staff shall develop in the SLDC PV and solar thermal system Permit checklists and applications with minimum submittal requirements.
2. For small-scale wind systems, Growth Management staff shall work with the County's Energy Specialists to investigate how other New

Mexico counties handle the permitting of small-scale solar and wind systems, seek input from wind installation companies and include procedures in the SLDC that streamline the small-scale wind permitting process while maintaining compliance with applicable construction standards.

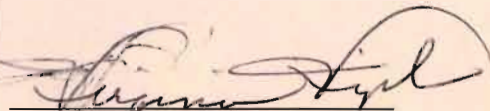
3. For all systems, staff shall ensure in the SLDC that an inspection by the CID verifies that the solar or wind installation meets the current County and State codes and regulations.

4. To promote solar and wind system affordability, Growth Management staff shall establish in the SLDC an application fee and process that is commensurate with a more streamlined approach and that incentivizes small scale solar and wind energy installations.

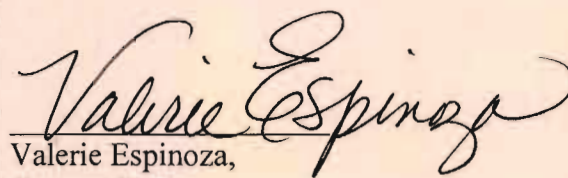
5. Growth Management staff, and the County's Energy Specialists, shall provide any additional recommendations to the Board that may become evident as additional research is undertaken on the points described above, and shall integrate any such additional recommendations in the SLDC as subsequently directed by the Board.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 21 day of November, 2011.

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY**



Virginia Vigil, Chair

Attest:


Valerie Espinoza,
County Clerk



Approved As To Form:


Stephen C. Ross,
County Attorney



COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BCC RESOLUTIONS
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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 6TH Day Of December, 2011 at 02:48:09 PM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1653322
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Valerie Espinoza
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM
Deputy 

SFC CLERK RECORDED 12/06/2011