Hello, All — Remember to click on images and blue highlighted text for more information.

STATE AGENCY ISSUES FIRST NM ENERGY ROADMAP REPORTS

The New Mexico Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Division (EMNRD) in January 2018 released two new public reports on energy planning for our state. The reports attempt to define a “…sequence of strategies required to strengthen and diversify a New Mexico energy economy that is resilient to global changes.”

The New Mexico Energy Roadmap Project 2017-2018 is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE). Throughout 2017, more than 50 energy stakeholders met to develop the Roadmap and craft the reports.
The EMNRD is a unit of the New Mexico Energy Conservation and Management Division (ECMD) that deals with Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency & Conservation, and Clean Fuels & Efficient Transportation.

The NM Roadmap Project Steering Committee includes energy producers, large energy users, regulators, transportation interests, local and regional governments and energy advocates.

The project results through early 2018 are intended to set the stage for a decade of implementing changes to energy policies and practices statewide. The project timeline extends through 2027.

New Mexico First is a public policy organization that engages people in our state and communities. The organization is a partner with NM EMNRD in the New Mexico Roadmap Project.

According to project principals, “The NM Energy Roadmap strives to increase renewable energy deployment, energy efficiency, alternative transportation and energy education and workforce, while also supporting new opportunities for the state’s vast conventional energy sectors.”
Renewable Taos is tasked with reviewing the NM Energy Roadmap reports and process in 2018. Our interests lie mainly in the project's influence on energy futures decisionmaking in New Mexico, its reference value, its positives and shortcomings, and its impacts on the work we are doing locally and throughout our state.

Take some time to peruse the new reports, and feel free to contact Renewable Taos with your reactions. We look forward to your input, and we will keep you updated on the NM Energy Roadmap Project as it evolves.

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SAN LUIS VALLEY COLORADO SOLAR DEVELOPMENT UNDETERRED BY NEW TARIFFS

Our neighbors immediately to the north in Colorado’s San Luis Valley suggest their current plans for more solar power development will not be affected by the recently instituted tariffs on solar panels imported into the USA.

A single-axis solar tracking array in the San Luis Valley, CO has panels that rotate on a north-south axis. The panels face east in the morning, and follow the sun throughout the day, eventually facing west at sunset.

The San Luis Valley is currently home to five utility-scale solar facilities that collectively are rated at 136.7 megawatts (MW). This amount of solar power is enough to power more than 22,000 homes.

First Solar is planning a new 30-MW facility. Invernegy LLC has permits to construct a 75-MW facility, and Avangrid Renewables US (Iberdrola) has plans for a 50-MW solar farm. All the existing and planned solar power facilities are located in the vicinity of Alamosa, CO.

Completing the planned and permitted projects will

AGREEMENT, ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE, AND ACCELERATING OUR TRANSITION TO A CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY

GO ELECTRIC

MAKE A RESOLUTION TO JOIN THE EV OR PHEV REVOLUTION IN 2018

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result in a nameplate output of more than 290 MW of utility-scale solar power from the San Luis Valley. More will follow when Xcel Energy builds new transmission lines northward over Poncha Pass.

**RENEWABLE TAOS’ LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR NEW MEXICO**

Renewable Taos principals began meeting in January 2018 with legislators and their staff members on creating legislation to boost clean energy growth and New Mexico’s economy.

Our policy work targets both the 2018 and 2019 NM Legislative Sessions. We will work throughout 2018 on a suite of directions for New Mexico to modernize its energy policy towards a clean, sustainable energy future.

Contact us to learn about our process, and travel to Santa Fe with our members in 2018.

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**OUR MISSION**

Renewable Taos is dedicated to promoting and facilitating a full transition to renewable energy and energy efficiency in Taos County and our surrounding region.

We advocate for local generation of renewable energy with an emphasis on local ownership.

We build community partnerships to facilitate the transition to renewables, and propose and support projects.

We recognize that energy efficiency is integral to the transition to renewable energy.

We also work with other organizations to change the political climate in the state and country to facilitate the transition to renewable energy and energy efficiency.

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*Edited by: William M. Brown, January 2018*