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

RENEWABLE ENERGY ACROSS NORTHERN NEW MEXICO

How will we connect our communities across northern New Mexico – and our American West – with energy from our wind and sun?

Our regional electricity infrastructure includes a mix of power generating facilities and transmission corridors across northern New Mexico. For example, most of the electricity we use in Taos now comes to us by way of a 200-mile transmission corridor. The corridor extends from the Four Corners Electricity Trading Hub near Farmington to the Los Cordovas Electrical Substation near the south end of Blueberry Hill Road.

Until 2017, nearly all our electricity came from the coal-fired San Juan Generating Station. Our new wholesale electricity provider, Guzman Renewable Energy Partners, is now ensuring that some of the power coming to us from the Four Corners Hub is generated by wind farms elsewhere in New Mexico and the Western Grid.
But where do we go from here? New Mexico has vast wind and solar resources that are now being developed on the plains east of our Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Accessing these resources would allow Taos County and our neighbors to the west to operate on renewable energy most or all the time, and move entirely away from using fossil fuels. Taos County also has solar resources that can be developed to exceed our demands. The excess renewable energy can be sold to customers on the Western Grid with the profits then used to boost our local economy.

**Lucky Corridor, LLC** for several years has been developing plans for building the infrastructure to move wind and solar energy across northern New Mexico. The company does not generate electricity. Its lines are open to electricity generation by others who may contract for transmission services. Lucky Corridor principals have met with political representatives, federal agencies, environmental NGOs, and citizens throughout our region to discuss next steps for renewable energy for our region.

The transmission corridor in Taos County (image below) contains two lines built 3-4 decades ago. They cross private and Pueblo lands, and lands controlled by the Town of Taos, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and the State of New Mexico. Both lines in the corridor are currently owned by Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.

These high-voltage electrical transmission lines carry mostly coal-fired electricity into and through Taos County from distant power plants. This view looks southwesterly from the Los Cordovas Electrical Substation near the south end of Blueberry Hill Road.

Renewable Taos, Kit Carson, Guzman Energy and Lucky Corridor LLC are considering ways to have this corridor more and more renewable energy.

Renewable Taos is researching options for renewable energy transmission and infrastructure upgrades for our clean energy future. We want

http://www.luckycorridor.com/
input from all our members and other citizens of our region.

Please join us and Lucky Corridor principals for the Open House next Wednesday, August 2, from 4:30 to 7:00 P.M. at the Sagebrush Inn and Suites.

Please contact us if you need information about our regional electrical transmission grid and local electricity distribution systems. We will appreciate your input on how our modern energy infrastructure should look.

info@RenewableTaos.org

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**A NEW ENERGY ROAD MAP FOR NEW MEXICO**

The State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) and stakeholders are crafting a state energy roadmap.

This effort will lay out the future of energy production, distribution, efficiency and use statewide. The effort calls for “…cooperation and support of state and local government agencies, representatives from all of the energy sector industries, and diverse energy professionals…”

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The New Mexico Energy Roadmap Project 2017-2018 will identify and evaluate how to integrate New Mexico’s vast energy resources, transmission system limitations and opportunities, economic development and energy efficiency.


In a collaborative effort, all three entities and many other state, regional and national partners, have applied for technical assistance from the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) Sunshot Initiative towards an energy roadmap for northern New Mexico.

Renewable Taos, Inc. has made initial contacts with
NM EMNRD principals regarding our role and contributions for the statewide project. We hope to formalize our participation in the project in October 2017.

Read our Newsletter or contact us for details about how Renewable Taos and our members and partners can play a big role in designing New Mexico's energy future.

Remember to join us on August 2, 2017 (see the lead article above) to learn more about the challenges ahead for renewable energy in New Mexico and our USA Southwest.

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RENEWABLE TAOS
STRATEGIC PLANNING

Renewable Taos continues to focus on creating our transition to renewable energy for all energy services and energy efficiency for north central New Mexico. This places us squarely among the actions of energy, infrastructure and vehicular transport vital to our future.

We do not, however, see any of these necessary actions happening quickly enough or broadly enough to send planet-changing greenhouse gases emissions into steep decline.

With these thoughts in mind, Renewable Taos, Inc. is revisiting its overall strategy for work we must do for the next few years.

Please come to our meetings and/or contact us by email or telephone with your thoughts about new directions for Renewable Taos.

info@RenewableTaos.org

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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.

SEE THE KIT CARSON ELECTRIC CO-OP SOLAR PLAN FOR MAPS AND OTHER DETAILS

YOUR ROOF TOP CAN LOOK LIKE THIS

FIND A TAOS AREA SOLAR SYSTEM INSTALLER TO DO THE WORK

HELP GREEN UP OUR FUTURE WITH AN ELECTRIC OR HYBRID-ELECTRIC CAR THAT CAN BE CHARGED WITH RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY
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.

Edited by: William M. Brown, July 2017

MORE AND MORE ELECTRIC VEHICLES ARE COMING INTO THE MARKET

CHECK THEM OUT HERE AND BEGIN PLANNING YOUR NEXT VEHICLE PURCHASE

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3 attachments