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New Mexico Request for Information for Energy Transition Act Proposals is Now Open

Governor Lujan Grisham signed the Energy Transition Act (ETA) into law in 2019, which sets a statewide renewable energy standard of 50 percent by 2030 for New Mexico investor-owned utilities and rural electric cooperatives and a goal of 80 percent by 2040, in addition to setting zero-carbon resources standards for investor-owned utilities by 2045 and rural electric cooperatives by 2050.

As part of the ETA, three funds will be created to fund projects for economic and workforce support for communities impacted by coal plant closures, as well as for needs specific to tribal communities. There is an estimated total of \$20 million available in the three funds. The Act requires the New Mexico Economic Development Department, the Indian Affairs Department, and the Workforce Solutions Department to work with Conveners to oversee an advisory committee in order to receive local input into how funds will be spent.

While the state's efforts on implementing the ETA have been on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic, we are ready to restart efforts in implementing the ETA. Moving forward, the Conveners Jason Sandel, GloJean Todacheene, and Tom Taylor, have developed a Request for Information to solicit ideas and proposals on how the state should spend the money in those funds.

The RFI is open now until October 31, 2020, then the second community meeting will be held to review project proposals. The second community meeting is expected to occur in November 2020 and the third community meeting in the spring of 2021. Money from the funds is not expected to be available until 2022.

If you know of any person, business, non-profit, or other entity who may be interested in making a submission please share the RFI with them. Link to the Request for

Information for community projects: https://www.dws.state.nm.us/Portals/o/ETAC-RFI_09_2020.pdf

Proposals can be submitted by email to nmdws.communication@state.nm.us and emails are requested to have "ETA RFI Proposal" in the subject line.

The minutes from the first community meeting October 2019 in Farmington, NM can be found here: <https://www.dws.state.nm.us/ETA>

Please contact Deputy Secretary Nadine Padilla with any questions at (505) 469-3290 or Nadine.Padilla@state.nm.us.

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