

Support the Petition to Stimulate the Economy & Help Solve Climate Change



new energy economy

Opportunity for New Mexico
Energy Independence for America

On March 1st, 2010 the Environmental Improvement Board will hold public hearings at the Toney Anaya Building located at 2550 Cerrillos Road in Santa Fe. We need your help and would like you to speak at the hearings about why YOU feel that NM should lead the way in solving climate change!

How Will a Cap on Emissions Help New Mexico's Economy and Create Jobs?

The fossil fuel industry is using the tired mantra that clean energy and climate action will hurt the New Mexican economy and cost jobs. We will show that the converse is true - clean energy can re-energize our economy *and* solve climate change.

A cap on emissions is a necessary trigger that will stimulate investment in renewable energy in New Mexico. Entrepreneurs are waiting for a clear policy signal from government to invest in clean tech. Consider this:

- In January 2010, investors representing \$13 trillion called on policy makers to set strong policies – including a cap on carbon - to address climate change.¹
- After the passage of California's ambitious and comprehensive climate change policy, A.B. 32, venture capital investment almost tripled, from a little over \$200 million to \$580 million. Investments in solar technology, alone, resulted in 17,000 new jobs.
- Massachusetts also has passed a climate bill, and the number of jobs in Massachusetts's solar energy industry nearly doubled from 2007 to 2008; the numbers are on pace to grow sharply again.

NM has the 2nd most solar potential and 12th most wind potential in the nation. If we pass a strong cap on emissions, we will stimulate the renewable energy industry and create good jobs in areas that need them most. In addition to clean energy jobs, a carbon cap in NM will lead to large-scale investment in energy efficiency, creating thousands of new jobs for the struggling construction industry.

Capping carbon is one of America's best chances to jump start our economy and regain global leadership in clean energy production. A number of economic analyses, informed by recent scientific findings and using reasonable assumptions, suggest that more ambitious targets and quicker action make good economic sense.

Furthermore, the cost of inaction is rising. A recent economic study estimates the minimum annual cost to each New Mexican from global warming to each household will be \$3,430 by 2020 and \$5,410 by 2040. With no changes in energy policies these costs could rise as high as \$12,000 per household per year in 2080. The corresponding minimum total costs for New Mexico would be \$3.2 billion in 2020, \$6.3 billion in 2040 and \$18.4 billion in 2080.

Taking action now will limit the economic impacts that our children and grandchildren will experience from a changing climate.

¹ <http://www.ceres.org/Page.aspx?pid=1177>

Join Us on March 1st, 2010 in Santa Fe for Public Hearings with the Environmental Improvement Board.

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Co-Petitioners Include:

- NM Pediatric Society
- League of Women Voters NM
- Sierra Club - Rio Grande Chapter
- Western Resource Advocates
- NM Physicians for Social Responsibility
- NM Conference of Churches
- Amigos Bravos
- Center Advancing Sustainable Architecture (CASA)
- Center for Southwest Culture, Inc.
- Earth Care International
- NM Interfaith Power and Light
- Santa Fe Alliance
- TEWA Women United
- SouthWest Organizing Project
- Drilling Mora County
- VAWT Power

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