

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NMPRC to hold next regular open meeting in Hobbs on June 13

Visit to southeastern New Mexico supports the agency's strategic plan objective of increasing its presence across the state

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) will hold its next regular open meeting at the Lea County Event Center in Hobbs on Thursday, June 13. This visit to the southeastern part of the state aligns with the agency's new strategic plan objective focused on increasing the number of meetings, workshops, hearings, and other outreach opportunities with the public and stakeholders in communities beyond the Santa Fe-Albuquerque corridor. This meeting will be held in person and online.

"The decisions issued by the Commission impact all New Mexicans, and that is why we are looking forward to our visit to Hobbs and other communities across the state in the foreseeable future," said Chief of Staff Cholla Khoury. "Because NMPRC deals with highly technical matters, it is so important that the agency explain its role in the regulatory process to a wider audience and increase its accessibility to allow for more effective engagement with stakeholders and members of the public."

During the meeting, the Commission will hear a presentation by members of the agency's Disaster Mitigation and Preparation Task Force, who will provide an update on the first two phases of its plan. The task force's goal is to help advance the resilience of the state's utility infrastructure, while addressing natural and manufactured disasters that could affect utility infrastructure, including wildfires, cybersecurity threats, and weather disasters.

Additionally, there will be presentations regarding the NMPRC Pipeline Safety Bureau's new gathering pipeline program and expansion of positions, Southwestern Public Service Company's load growth and capacity needs, as well as a presentation by the New Mexico Oil and Gas Association.

An agenda for the meeting is available online here.

While in Hobbs, commissioners and other staff will also tour the nearby Cunningham Power Station, the site of two proposed solar energy facilities that were recently approved by the Commission.

Last year, NMPRC released its strategic plan for fiscal years 2023–2026, outlining the agency's mission, vision, and values and principles, as well as four new ambitious goals, including objectives to demystify

the regulatory processes regarding utility services, telecommunications, and pipeline safety. To help make this happen, beginning in Fiscal Year 2025 the Commission has pledged to hold at least 10 meetings, workshops, and/or other gatherings outside its Santa Fe office, to maximize input and increase feedback with the public. The locations and dates of those appearances are yet to be determined.

An online version of this press release is available here.

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The **New Mexico Public Regulation Commission** (NMPRC) serves New Mexico by ensuring safe operations and reliable utility services at fair, just, and reasonable rates consistent with the State's legal, economic, environmental, and social policies. To learn more about the work of the NMPRC, please visit www.prc.nm.gov.

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