

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

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NEWS RELEASE

PRC Commission Chair Montoya Attends Southwest Clean Energy Transmission Summit at UNM

Montoya on panel discussing compatibility of transmission expansions, upgrades with small- and large-scale clean energy

SANTA FE – New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (PRC) Chair Karen Montoya was among nearly two dozen speakers who addressed those attending the Southwest Clean Energy Transmission Summit held today. The summit took place at the Science & Technology Park Rotunda at the University of New Mexico, located at 801 University Blvd. SE, Park North, First Floor-East, in Albuquerque.

It was a full day of panel discussion on a range of topics focusing on clean energy and its transmission throughout the region. Following introductions and a keynote address by Senator Martin Heinrich and special remarks delivered by New Mexico Congressman Ben Ray Lujan, local journalists moderated discussions among panels of speakers regarding clean energy in New Mexico and the region.

Commission Chairwoman Montoya was part of a panel discussing “Are transmission expansions and upgrades compatible with both small- and large-scale clean energy?” The panel was moderated by Santa Fe New Mexican Reporter Staci Matlock.

Commissioner Montoya stated that several independent merchant transmission projects have been proposed for New Mexico, representing approximately 10,000 megawatts of transmission capacity. To put that into perspective, Public Service Company of New Mexico’s peak capacity is 2,000 megawatts.

Commissioner Montoya further stated that the PRC approves pre-construction from location control to right-of-way width for transmission only, to certificate of convenience and necessity for public utilities only.

About the NMPRC

The NMPRC regulates public utilities, telecommunications companies and motor carriers operating in the State of New Mexico. It also administers the State Fire Marshal’s Office, the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy in Socorro, N.M., and the Pipeline Safety Bureau.

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