

March 31, 2026

Dear Neighbors and Stakeholders,

The New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD), in partnership with New Mexico State University's (NMSU) Arrowhead Center and New Mexico Institute for Mining and Technology, invites you to attend an expert public policy forum supporting EMNRD's development of the state's Comprehensive Energy Transition Strategy (CETS). This forum will convene policymakers, practitioners, researchers, and community leaders to address a foundational issue for New Mexico's energy future: the availability and use of strong, high-quality data to inform and monitor effective energy policy.

Critical Data Needed for the Energy Transition

Wednesday, April 22, 2026 | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

[NM State Capitol, 490 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, NM 87501](#)

What to Expect

This forum is designed to support evidence-based, forward-looking energy policy by examining current data gaps and opportunities across New Mexico's energy landscape. Participants will engage in expert-led discussions focused on how improved data collection, governance, and sharing can better support decision-making related to clean, reliable, and affordable energy.

Agenda Highlights:

- *Welcome and Context-Setting* - Overview of CETS and the role of data in shaping proactive, effective energy policy
- *Facilitated Expert Discussion* - Exploration of existing data gaps, under-utilized datasets, risks associated with relying on external or federal data sources and opportunities for capturing new data sources for future policy
- *Policy-Focused Breakouts* - Identification of problems, opportunities, and challenges related to:
 - Infrastructure planning
 - Energy costs and rate design
 - Climate change impacts
 - Workforce opportunities, particularly in underserved communities
 - Policy evaluation and effectiveness
- *Action-Oriented Outcomes* - Discussion of resources, institutions, and governance structures needed to strengthen energy data collection and use in New Mexico

Why This Forum Matters

New Mexico policymakers often face decisions without access to the accurate, up-to-date, granular, and high-quality data needed to fully evaluate impacts, costs, and benefits. Strong data enables:

- The tracking of climate and energy policy targets
- The quantification of energy policy impacts (energy affordability, security and environmental stewardship) and a better understanding of the economic and societal impacts of the energy transition
- More cost-effective and efficient decarbonization investments
- Improved infrastructure and workforce planning
- Better preparation for climate change impacts
- More equitable policy outcomes across communities

This forum will help surface concrete ideas to support future energy policy development, funding and incentive mechanisms, workforce planning, and greenhouse gas accounting, monitoring, and verification.

Who Should Attend

This expert-focused forum is intended for a broad cross-section of stakeholders, including:

- Energy, manufacturing, and transportation industry representatives
- Investor-owned utilities, municipal utilities, and rural electric cooperatives
- Energy developers
- Coalitions and associations
- Universities and community colleges
- Local government officials
- Chambers of Commerce and economic development organizations
- State agency representatives
- New Mexico legislators
- Tribes, pueblos, and Indian nations
- Labor and workforce organizations

How to Participate

Register Now: [April 22, 2026 Expert Policy Forum: Critical Data Needed for the Energy Transition](#)

Pre-Survey: Shape the discussion by completing the anonymous Forum Pre-Survey:

[Expert Policy Forum: Critical Data Needed for the Energy Transition – Fill out form](#)

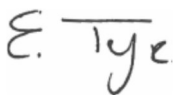
Travel Scholarship: A limited Travel Scholarship is available via an [official request form](#).

Questions? Contact us at coemnrd@nmsu.edu

Call to Action

Your perspective is essential to ensuring New Mexico's energy transition is guided by sound data, informed policy, and real-world experience. We encourage you to participate in this important discussion and help shape the data foundations that will support the state's energy future.

With appreciation,



Erin Taylor, Acting Secretary
NM Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department



Kristin Morehead, Interim Deputy Director
NMSU Arrowhead Center