



Gila Resources Information Project

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Mission Statement

Recognizing that human and environmental systems are inseparable and interdependent, Gila Resources Information Project pursues two goals: to protect and nurture human communities by safeguarding the natural resources that sustain us all; and to safeguard natural resources by facilitating informed public participation in resource use decisions.

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To become a member and receive a copy of *Get A GRIP*, a minimum donation of \$10.00 is appreciated. GRIP is a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt organization; your contribution is tax-deductible.



GOOD NEIGHBOR ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD CHAIR PAUL GANSTER (RIGHT) DELIVERS BOARD'S 13TH REPORT TO COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CHAIR NANCY SUTLEY, MICHELE DEPASS, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR EPA'S OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AND TRIBAL AFFAIRS, AND ENRIQUE ESCORZA, MINISTER FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, EMBASSY OF MEXICO IN THE US, JOINED IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA EVENT. (DANNY HART PHOTO)

GOOD NEIGHBOR ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD RELEASES BLUEPRINT FOR ACTION

On June 17, the Good Neighbor Environmental Board released its 13th report to the President and Congress at a press conference held at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC. The report develops recommendations to address challenges along the US-Mexico border. Nancy Sutley, chair of the Council on Environmental Quality, received the recommendations on behalf of the Obama administration and discussed maintaining a strong international relationship with Mexico as both countries move forward in addressing the human health and environmental challenges along the border.

Allyson Siwik, GRIP Executive Director and GNEB board member, attended the press conference and participated in a follow-up roundtable discussion on the federal, state, and local stakeholder perspective. Siwik highlighted the report recommendations of particular importance to New Mexico's border region in the areas of air quality, water supply, climate change adaptation, and binational renewable energy development.

To download a copy of the report, visit <http://www.epa.gov/ocem/gneb/>

PNM SLATES PUBLIC FORUMS ON INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN

PNM, New Mexico's major utility, will hold 10 public forums around the state in July to solicit input from its customers on its Integrated Resource Plan. Currently, PNM generates 2706 MW of power from a variety of sources: coal (40%); natural gas (37%); nuclear (15%); renewable (8%). For details, see <http://www.pnmresources.com/corporate/corpOverview.cfm>. The company is also implementing energy efficiency programs that help offset the need to build new power plants. The mix of power sources and the effectiveness of energy conservation programs all influence the cost of electricity and the environmental impacts of energy production.

PNM is interested in getting public input on the following questions: 1) Should PNM try to change the amounts of renewables, coal, nuclear or natural gas in its mix of energy sources? 2) To what degree are consumers willing to pay more for a different combination of power sources? 3) What role should efficiency programs play in New Mexico's energy future?

Given New Mexico's solar and wind resources, GRIP believes that PNM should increase the percentage of renewables in its energy portfolio. Energy efficiency is the most cost-effective means to reducing our greenhouse gas emissions and offsetting the need to develop new energy supplies. PNM should expand its efforts to implement energy efficiency measures for the residential and commercial sectors. *Silver City: Tuesday, July 20, 5:30-7:30pm; Grant County Administration Building Deming: Wednesday, July 21, 5:30-7:30pm; Morgan Hall, City of Deming offices.*