

NEW MEXICO GRASSROOTS DECLARATION FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

This declaration was crafted by members of grassroots-led coalitions in New Mexico who came together to demand an end to the era of fossil fuels and a just and equitable transition to clean energy.

IN ORDER TO SECURE A JUST AND LIVABLE FUTURE NOT ONLY FOR NEW MEXICO BUT ALSO FOR MOTHER EARTH, THE BIDEN AND LUJAN-GRISHAM ADMINISTRATIONS MUST:



STOP ALL NEW FOSSIL FUEL PROJECTS, including in the Permian Basin, the world's largest climate bomb, and across the Greater Chaco Landscape. Revoke permits for the Willow Project and the Mountain Valley Pipeline.



IMMEDIATELY PHASE OUT ALL EXISTING FOSSIL FUEL EXTRACTION in line with the 1.5C° temperature limit, ensuring a commitment from the U.S. to do its fair share, and protecting frontline communities during this rapid transition.



REFUSE FALSE SOLUTIONS like hydrogen, carbon capture and storage, nuclear energy, biomass and other greenwashed and geoengineered initiatives that distract from true transition efforts and maintain reliance on fossil fuels.



PROTECT THE SACRED by centering traditional ecological knowledge and rejecting the financialization of nature and commodification of what is sacred, the land, air, water, and our communities. Indigenous and community stakeholder participation is critical to achieving bold climate goals and climate mitigation and adaptation strategies. Embrace Indigenous stewardship principles to sustain balanced ecosystems and biodiversities.



DECLARE A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND PAVE THE WAY FOR A JUST TRANSITION to a renewable clean energy future, creating millions of jobs while respecting workers' and community rights, local healthy job security, and equitable employment. Halt fossil fuel exports and foreign investments, expediting the establishment of fair, resilient, distributed energy systems. Reduce energy consumption to levels sustainable within local ecosystems.

For generations, New Mexico has been a **SACRIFICE ZONE** for the fossil fuel industry. Fossil fuels have inflicted irreparable damage upon our land, air, water, sacred places, health, and the climate. Indigenous Peoples, people of color, low-income communities, and youth in New Mexico bear a disproportionate burden due to the state's reliance on and promotion of fossil fuels. These communities are leading the fight for a **JUST TRANSITION**.



NEW MEXICO WILL NO LONGER BE A SACRIFICE ZONE

New Mexico is the ancestral homelands of Pueblo, Diné (Navajo), Apache and Ute Indigenous peoples, alongside traditional land-based communities of color. Despite the presence of Indigenous and traditional land-based communities, New Mexico continues to be an energy sacrifice zone. The extraction of fossil fuels, uranium, and minerals from these lands has fueled the United States military-industrial complex, the global capitalist economy, and even the first atomic bomb.

Indigenous peoples and people of color across New Mexico have steadfastly opposed coal, oil, gas, and uranium extraction. Now, as our political leaders try to keep the fossil fuel industry alive, we stand against false climate solutions such as hydrogen, nuclear energy, carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) and market-based mechanisms like offsetting schemes and net zero pledges.

Rather than steering New Mexico away from perilous fossil fuels, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham has deepened the stranglehold of the oil and gas industry and promoted investment in unproven technologies like hydrogen and CCS. These pathways will prolong the state's dependence on oil and gas, perpetuating disproportionate harms to frontline communities.

A massive fracking expansion in the Greater Chaco Landscape and the Permian Basin, sanctioned by federal and state authorities, is escalating climate and air pollution, contaminating land and water, threatening public health, and violating cultural integrity.

New Mexico faces catastrophic climate impacts, including the imminent threat of wildfires perpetuated by aridification and dwindling water resources. Utilizing Free, Prior, and Informed Consent from the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples can help ensure real climate solutions by adopting Indigenous stewardship principles to achieve balance with the natural world.

The grassroots Climate Justice movement of New Mexico fervently calls for a JUST and equitable transition from fossil fuels to regenerative economies that champion clean energy production, mark the end of the fossil fuel era, advocate for demilitarization, safeguard our water resources, and prioritize community-driven solutions.

In recent years, New Mexico has become the 2nd top oil producer and 7th largest gas producer in the United States, which is the largest oil and gas polluter in the world. Over the past three years, New Mexico has experienced the highest growth in oil production across the U.S., surpassing all other states. Climate pollution from the production and combustion of oil and gas extracted in New Mexico significantly contributes to the global climate crisis, polluting our air, contaminating our water, and compromising our health.