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**SLIDES: A Climate Change Initiative for the Rockies**

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A Climate Change Initiative for the Rockies

Jim Norton
New Mexico Environment Department
Overview

- What’s Happening in New Mexico – Executive Order and related actions
- Western Regional Air Partnership – a structure for regional education and action
- Southwest Climate Initiative – Includes NM and AZ, but could be expanded
Executive Order

Signed by Governor Richardson in June 2005

Inventory

Impacts report

Aggressive Emissions Reduction Targets

Broad Based Advisory Group makes recommendations for meeting targets.
NM Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

- On a per capita basis, NM produces twice the national average of GHG emissions.
- Electricity Generation is the largest emitter of GHGs in NM followed by the Fossil Fuel Industry.
- Transportation is predicted to the fastest growing sector.
New Mexico

- Fossil Fuel Industry: 23%
- Electricity: 40%
- Agric.: 7%
- Waste: 2%
- Industrial Process: 2%
- Non-Fossil Ind. Fuel Use: 4%
- Res/Comm Fuel Use: 5%
- Transport: 17%
Impacts of Climate Change on New Mexico

- Hotter temperatures
- Less Snowpack
- Reduced streamflows in summer and early fall
- More Forest Fires
- Loss of suitable trout habitat and an overall reduction in biodiversity
- Disproportionate public health impacts on low income and minority populations
Climate Change Advisory Group

- Representatives from industry, non profits, agriculture, national labs and universities
- Emission Reduction Targets
  - 2000 levels by 2012
  - 10% below that by 2020
  - 75% below by 2050
- Recommendations for meeting targets are due December 2006
- Fifth meeting to be held in Santa Fe on August 8.
Chicago Climate Exchange

- The North America’s only voluntary and legally binding GHG emissions trading program.
- Members commit to reducing GHG emissions to a specific target and purchasing credits to offset emissions if targets not met.
- New Mexico is the first state to join.
Related Actions

- Renewable Portfolio Standard of 10 percent by 2011
- Renewable Fuels Executive Order -- 15% of transportation fuel from renewable fuels by 2010, 75% of new vehicles must be alternatively fueled or gas-electric hybrids
- Governor’s Directive requiring that 10% of power purchases be “green power”
- Green Building Executive Order mandating LEEDS silver for new and renovated state buildings
- Many other clean energy actions
Western Regional Air Partnership

- Primary focus is on regional haze
- Composed of top environmental officials from each state
- Collaborative approach has worked in the past
- Climate work fills a niche for states in the Rocky Mountain West
WRAP Actions So Far

- Began Climate Change discussions in 2004
- Stand alone meetings interspersed with regular meetings on regional haze.
- Scientific Panels
- West-wide Emissions Inventory
- Preliminary discussions on a west-wide Registry
SW Climate Change Initiative

Signed February 28 by Governors Napolitano and Richardson

AZ and NM agree to collaborate in identifying, evaluating and implementing ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve related co-benefits

Can be expanded to include other states when politics and interest allow it