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RE: Oppose SB 86 Use of Water for Oil and Gas Operations

Madame Chair and Committee Members:

The New Mexico Business Coalition (NMBC) represents hundreds of businesses and thousands of New Mexicans. Our focus is to make New Mexico a better place to do business so that our people have jobs and can provide for their families.

NMBC is opposed to SB 86 Use of Water for Oil and Gas Operations because it would create confusion over the use of 2019 Produced Water Act (the Act), which has only been in effect for less than two years. The Act encouraged the reuse and recycling of produced water - especially in the oilfield. The act also created additional regulatory oversight for produced water use within the State by the NMED and NMOCD.

SB 86 is not necessary at this time and creates additional hardship on oil and gas operations, which is a large part of New Mexico's revenue. Instead of continually creating additional obstacles for this industry, the New Mexico legislature would benefit all New Mexicans by working with industry leaders to develop and implement legislation. Best practices show that involving those who will be regulated, allows for a better, well-rounded discussion and better solutions.

We urge you to say 'NO' to SB 86 and allow the Produced Water Act time to be used.

Thank you for your consideration,

Carla J. Sonntag President