



**NEW MEXICO
BUSINESS COALITION**

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RE: Oppose SB 520 Clean Future Act

Mr. 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 live and work, where we have an abundance of good-paying jobs to provide for our families.

NMBC respectfully opposes SB 520 Clean Future Act. Our members and followers support a clean, vibrant environment accomplished in a responsible manner. Unfortunately, this bill does not accomplish that and, in fact, is punitive against New Mexicans because it is attacking most businesses in our state.

The bill is largely focused against the oil and gas but is punitive against all businesses. It wrongly measures Greenhouse Gases against 2005 levels, which is obviously biased against industries like oil and gas because the shale development didn't start in New Mexico until after 2005. While we don't support the overall concept of this bill, there are 2018 baseline numbers available which, at a minimum, should be used.

There are also several problematic definitions contained in this bill. "Net-zero" makes the bill open to undefined goals and provides no clarity, which would allow definition as desired and lead to increased uncertainty for operators.

The bill's "disproportionately impacted communities" definition also lacks clarity and necessary definition. It is overly broad and can be applied as desired when the ruling jurisdiction decides.

Greenhouse Gas requirements and implementation is normally conducted by the Environment Department, not the Oil Conservation Division (OCD). Yet this bill is placing the requirements primarily with the OCD.

Offsets are not something most independent oil and gas companies or small businesses can afford. It makes one wonder if this is not yet another tool to drive the smaller operators out of business. But to what end? The more we overregulate our businesses, the more businesses we will lose, and this is costly for everyone in the state.

On behalf of hard-working New Mexicans and businesses, and for the reasons stated, NMBC opposes SB 520 Clean Future Act and urges you to say 'NO' to its passage.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carla J. Sonntag".

Carla J. Sonntag
President