

New Mexico, The West, and Climate Change

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Climate Change and the West

- The West will bear disproportionate impacts from climate change
 - Drought – Severe, extended, 40% less surface water in the southwest
 - Economy – North America's best ski industry, tourism, agriculture
 - Energy – Traditional energy sources will suffer and decline as regulation arrives

The Flip Side

- The West is the Nation's renewable energy breadbasket – wind, solar, geothermal
- We have the national labs (NREL, LANL, LLNL, SNL)
- We have aggressive businesses
- We have coal and sequestration opportunity, especially enhanced oil recovery

What We Are Doing About It

- Chicago Climate Exchange
- Regional climate change agreements
- State-level climate change action groups
- Legislation and executive orders
- Information: Drought & climate, NM, 10/18/06
- Clean energy initiatives
 - Regional: Western Governors' Association
 - State: California, New Mexico

Clean Energy

- The states
 - CA: Drives the West
 - Renewable portfolio standards
 - Acquisition emissions standards
 - Interstate agreements
- The region
 - Western Governors' Association

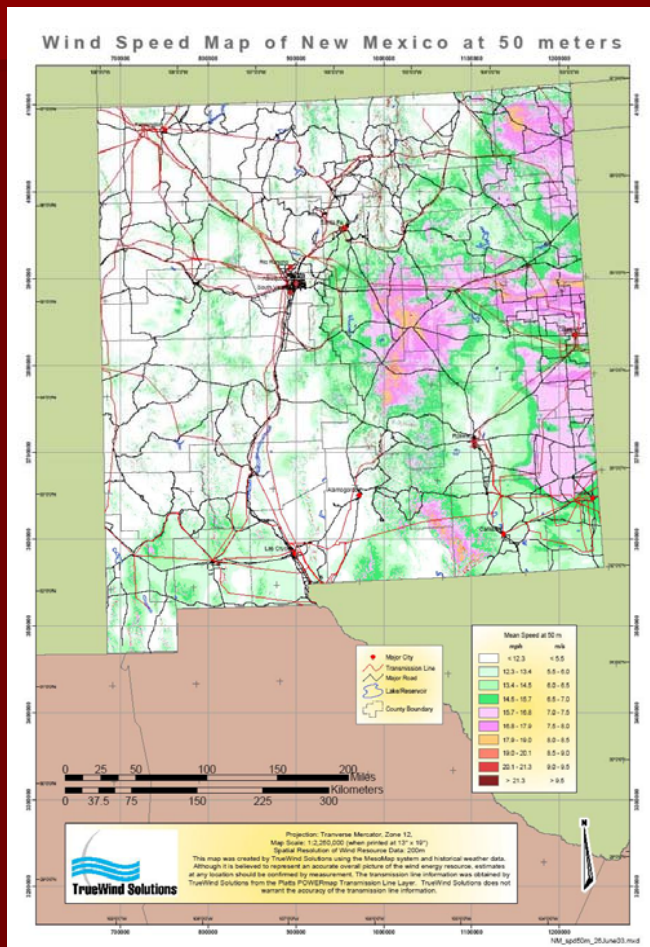
WGA Clean and Diversified Energy

- Richardson/Schwarzenegger (D/R)
- Targets: 30,000 MW clean energy; 20% improvement in energy efficiency
- Report due in June at WGA annual meeting (Sedona, June 11-13)
- Findings: Tremendous opportunity, huge savings, federal and state policy options

The West: New Attitudes

- WGA report – new direction for Western states
- Growing national concern: PNM's Sterba calls for national GHG standards
- GOP's Schwarzenegger and Huntsman active on energy policy
- Need to approach energy much more regionally – the resources aren't where the people are

Regional Energy Thinking



- NM now developing first export project
- 6,000 MW are market-ready
- 600 miles to San Diego or Dallas
- Sits on the seam of three grids: WECC, SPP, and ERCOT
- Existing transmission to San Diego area, or south through Mexico

Go to...

- www.westgov.org for task force and committee reports (such as carbon management)
- Western Resource Advocates for information about “Balanced Energy Plan” for the Interior West
(www.westernresourceadvocates.org)
- Energy industry: Western Business Roundtable
(www.westernroundtable.com)