

“It’s marvelous. I didn’t know the government could operate this way, with help from the community, at such a high-quality level. It’s inspiring and I feel very grateful to these people for solving problems our agency won’t have to solve on its own... and Gridworks made it happen so smoothly.”

— COMMISSIONER CYNTHIA B. HALL,
New Mexico Public Regulation Commission

PARTNERING WITH REGULATORS IN NEW MEXICO FOR CLEAN ENERGY

An effective partnership between Gridworks and the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission has made it possible for an under-staffed agency to overcome challenges in its transition to clean energy.

OVERVIEW

In 2019 New Mexico adopted the Energy Transition Act, setting a zero-carbon resource standard for investor-owned utilities by 2045. The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, an under-staffed agency transitioning from elected to appointed Commissioners, faced the challenge of leading utilities toward their ambitious target.

How did the Commission push ahead under challenging circumstances? Through partnerships and effective stakeholder engagement which are led by the Commission and supported by Gridworks.

APPROACH

Gridworks partnered directly with Commissioners and staff to design and execute impactful stakeholder engagement. The initiative included:

- The **New Mexico Advanced Inverter Working Group** which met 12 times over eight months and developed six recommendations. Over 55 individuals representing 25 organizations actively participated.
- A **Grid Modernization Workshop Series** which consisted of 10 workshops over six months, followed by discussions between 54 organizations.
- A **Transportation Electrification Workshop** which engaged 17 organizations, and a Transportation Electrification Summit with 66 participants.

OUTCOMES

These initiatives accelerated New Mexico's clean energy policy on four fronts:

1. **Reform of interconnection policies** speeding clean distributed generation;
2. Introduction of new **guidance for utility investment in transportation electrification**;
3. A Gridworks report and Commission briefing recommending **new utility investment in a modern grid**; and
4. A program **advancing customer community solar options**.



INVESTING IN A
MODERN ELECTRIC GRID
FOR NEW MEXICO

SEPTEMBER 2022



ABOUT GRIDWORKS

Gridworks facilitates difficult discussions and collaboration between policymakers, decarbonization advocates, energy providers and utility operators. We work with these groups to determine the best approach to meet decarbonization goals. Our work has eased the shift toward clean energy in the Western U.S. We're expanding to further our mission and invite you to work with us to navigate your clean energy challenges.

Learn more at gridworks.org.