

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 12, 2021  
Contact: Joaquin Romero  
[joaquin.romero@nmlegis.gov](mailto:joaquin.romero@nmlegis.gov)  
(505) 506-5798

## Senate Republicans Criticize Passage of Radical Anti-Energy Bill

SANTA FE – The New Mexico State Senate today passed radical anti-energy legislation with all Republicans voting in opposition. Senate Bill 8 amends multiple sections of law to allow the New Mexico Environment Department to implement and enforce excessive environmental regulations.

“This legislation would allow a board of the Governor’s political appointees to institute regulations more stringent than the federal standards,” said **Senator Greg Baca** (District 29-Bernalillo and Valencia). “Our state is already struggling to attract and retain businesses. If enacted, the broad and excessive provisions in this bill will only add to the regulatory uncertainty that is driving business out of our state.”

“This is one way to cripple energy development and discourage investment in New Mexico,” added **Senator William Sharer** (District 1-San Juan). “Any industry regulated by this act will now think twice before coming to or expanding in our state. Businesses need predictability and sadly, the only thing predictable about New Mexico is our anti-business policies.”

Senate Bill 8 will now advance to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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