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Gov. Lujan Grisham joins Biden administration officials in announcing final federal oil and gas emissions rules

New Mexico's regulations serve as cornerstone for federal rule

DUBAI — Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham joined U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Michael S. Regan and White House National Climate Advisor Ali Zaidi in announcing the final federal rules that will reduce emissions from the oil and gas industry.

Administrator Regan made the <u>announcement</u> during a press conference at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Dubai on Saturday.

"New Mexico embarked on drafting our oil and gas rules at a time when the United States' climate leadership was lagging. Thanks to President Biden and his administration, we are once again leading," said **Gov. Lujan Grisham.** "We are proud to have laid the foundation for this national rule, which will not only reduce emissions, but spur innovation and economic development across the country."

The EPA worked closely with New Mexico in developing the new rule, which closely resemble rules that New Mexico adopted to curb the release of methane and ozone precursors in 2021 and 2022. Since adopting its own emissions rules, New Mexico has seen its average monthly amounts of methane released into the air decrease by 55%, while routine venting and flaring by New Mexico oil and gas producers has decreased by 70%.

A recent independent study found that the emissions related to the oil and gas production in New Mexico is just half that of neighboring and less-regulated Texas. A national standard promotes greater certainty and consistency for the industry across state lines but more importantly for the communities that live in oil and gas producing areas of the U.S.