



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NMPRC to serve as host institution for clean energy innovator fellowship

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) will serve as a host institution for the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Clean Energy Innovator Fellowship (CEIF) program. Serving as a host institution aligns with the NMPRC’s ongoing commitment to promoting clean energy and renewable resources across the state.

The CEIF program encourages recent college graduates and early career professionals to advance clean energy solutions to help decarbonize the electrical distribution system, electrify transportation, and make the country’s electrical grid more resilient, equitable, and inclusive. Selected fellows will spend up to two years with their host institution, while receiving a stipend and an allowance for education and professional development opportunities.

At the NMPRC, the selected fellow will work on projects related to rulemaking for integrated distribution planning to help modernize the electric power distribution system and support new opportunities for aligning distributed resources with wholesale generation through integrated resource planning. They will also study the market potential for new electric grid services provided by distributed energy resources and explore developments in other states that would lead to new rate structures, compensation mechanisms, and operational requirements to fully realize the potential benefits.

During the past few years, the NMPRC has approved updates on electric utility regulations that strip away barriers to renewable energy adoption, provide customers with more energy options, and allow utility companies to adopt new technologies to increase reliability and flexibility as well as lower grid operating costs.

“The Clean Energy Innovators Fellowship is a tremendous opportunity for prospective energy professionals to learn how regulatory agencies work, and it allows fellows to contribute to the creation of a new economy based on clean, sustainable resources and a modernized electric utility grid,” said **Arthur O’Donnell**, Director of Policy Administration for the NMPRC. “As a former fellow turned mentor, I know this program opens paths to fulfilling careers in the energy and utilities industry. I urge candidates to take advantage of this opportunity by applying.”

The NMPRC was the only institution in New Mexico selected as a host for the CEIF program. Host institutions

include electric public utility commissions, electric cooperatives and municipal utilities, grid operators, tribal utilities, and inter-tribal councils and other tribal organizations. Host institutions are responsible for interviewing applicants and recommending candidates to the DOE for final placement. Applications for the fellowship program are due by May 3, 2024.

The CEIF program is funded by DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Grid Deployment Office, and Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, and administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education.

For more information about the Clean Energy Innovator Fellowship program, including instructions on how to apply, click [here](#).

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*The **New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC)** serves New Mexico by ensuring safe operations and reliable utility services at fair, just, and reasonable rates consistent with the State's legal, economic, environmental, and social policies. To learn more about the work of the NMPRC, please visit www.prc.nm.gov.*

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