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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
\_May 25, 2023

## **PRC named a host institution for clean energy innovator fellowship**

SANTA FE — Today, the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (PRC) announced that it was selected by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as a host institution for the Clean Energy Innovator Fellowship program. The program encourages recent college graduates and early career professionals to support the advancement of clean energy solutions to help decarbonize the electrical transmission system, electrify transportation and industry, and make the country's electrical grid more resilient, equitable and inclusive.

Serving as a host institution for the Clean Energy Innovator Fellowship program aligns with the PRC's recent commitments to promoting energy efficiency across New Mexico. During the past year, the Commission 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 and lower grid operating costs.

The selected innovator fellow at the PRC will work on a project that supports 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. The fellow 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.

"We are excited to serve as a host institution for the clean energy innovator fellowship program," said Commission Chair Pat O'Connell. "Research done by the innovator fellow will be essential in helping New Mexico transition toward zero-emissions energy and achieve the vision of a modernized electrical grid."

Fellowship candidates must demonstrate an interest in areas such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, and/or sustainable transportation technology and policy; electric grid resilience and modernization; and Tribal energy resilience. Fellows serve one-year terms but have the option to renew for a second year. Fellows receive a stipend with health benefits and an education allowance for professional development. Applications for the fellowship program are due by June 12.

The PRC was one of 37 entities across the country selected as a host institution for the fellowship program. Eligible 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 candidates and recommending selected candidates to the DOE for final placement.

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

An online version of this release is available [here](#).

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The **New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC)** regulates the [utilities](#), [telecommunications](#), and [motor carrier](#) industries to ensure fair and reasonable rates, and to assure reasonable and adequate services to the public as provided by law. The NMPRC also promotes public safety through the [Pipeline Safety Bureau](#) and [Transportation Division](#).