

# New Mexico: An Emerging Clean Energy Powerhouse

New Mexico's wind and solar industries are delivering significant economic benefits. These two clean energy sources are helping keep electricity costs down for consumers state-wide and delivering new investment, tax revenue, and income to the state's rural communities.

Due to recent cost-declines, new wind and solar projects are now the lowest-cost power option in 29 of New Mexico's 33 counties.<sup>1</sup> And with a significant pipeline of new projects under development, the state is well-positioned to become a national clean energy leader. However, unlocking New Mexico's full clean energy potential will require expanding the state's transmission line infrastructure and the successful implementation of renewable energy policies.

New Mexico Wind and Solar Energy By the Numbers:

**Total Investment:**  
\$4.8 billion<sup>2</sup>

**Jobs:** over 4,100<sup>3</sup>

**Installed megawatts:**  
2,789<sup>4</sup>

**Total in-state electricity generation from wind and solar:** 23%<sup>5</sup>

**Annual tax & land lease payments:**  
~\$13-\$18 million<sup>6</sup>

## New Mexico's Clean Energy Future Depends on Transmission

New Mexico's wind and solar industries have experienced significant growth in recent years, with even greater expansion expected in the 2020s. **Over the next five years, it's projected that over 4.3 gigawatts of in-state wind and solar projects will come online**, more than double the state's current installed generation.

A key ingredient to that growth is ensuring that the state has sufficient transmission line capacity. New Mexico can lower costs for in-state consumers and become an electricity exporter by developing new transmission infrastructure.



[WWW.POWERINGNM.COM](http://WWW.POWERINGNM.COM)



[WWW.AWEA.ORG](http://WWW.AWEA.ORG)



[WWW.SEIA.ORG](http://WWW.SEIA.ORG)

**Citations:** <sup>1</sup> University of Texas at Austin, Levelized Cost of Electricity in the United States, (using "availability zones" filter), [http://calculators.energy.utexas.edu/lcoe\\_map/#/county/tech](http://calculators.energy.utexas.edu/lcoe_map/#/county/tech) <sup>2</sup> Solar Energy Industries Association, <https://www.seia.org/sites/default/files/2019-12/New%20Mexico.pdf>; American Wind Energy Association (AWEA), <https://www.awea.org/Awea/media/Resources/StateFactSheets/New-Mexico.pdf>; <sup>3</sup> Id.; <sup>4</sup> Id.; <sup>5</sup> Id.; <sup>6</sup> AWEA, supra n. 2.