## For Immediate Release

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## **Community Impacts Meeting on March 19 to be held via webcast**

Due to the state's ban on mass public gatherings in response to COVID-19, the New Mexico Departments of Environment (NMED) and Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources (EMNRD) are transitioning the scheduled Community Impacts Meeting in Farmington on March 19 to a webcast format. While our departments recognize that hosting community meetings in person is ideal, state government is taking essential steps to limit the spread of the virus.

Presentations will be made available to the public on the <u>departments' webpage</u> beforehand in preparation for the webcast. State government officials will be available from 2-6 p.m. as planned to present on the cultural, health and economic impacts of oil and gas activity in New Mexico and answer questions.

The meeting will also be recorded and posted online for anyone unable to access the livestream. More details on how to access the webcast will be made available as soon as possible. Please check the NMED methane strategy homepage and the EMNRD news page for updates and links to access the stream.

If community members require language interpretation services, please contact the NMED or EMNRD public information officers to make arrangements.

EMNRD and NMED continue to strive for a transparent process and appreciate the public understanding our decision to change the format of this meeting.