

For Immediate Release

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## Webcast Details for Community Impacts Meeting on March 19

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.

Registration is **required** to join the meeting, [register here](#). For the open house portion, participants have the option of joining four virtual rooms where they will be able to ask questions and interact directly with presenters. Details on how to join this portion are [available here](#):

- Cultural impacts
- Health impacts
- Economic impacts
- Speak with state government representatives from NMED and EMNRD

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- 2 – 3:30 pm: Introduction, update and background presentation from NMED and EMNRD, and expert presentations on health, cultural, and economic impacts of oil and gas activity
- 3:30 – 4:15 pm: Moderated panel for question-and-answer session
- 4:15 – 5 pm: Attendees may provide statements
- 5 – 6 pm: Virtual “open house”

Presentations will be made available to the public on the [departments' webpage](#) 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. Participants are encouraged to ask questions via the question feature on the webcast or text the moderator Julia Barnes at 505-470-7349 to submit questions to the presenters.

A free conference call line will also be provided for anyone who does not have the ability to access the video portion of the webcast. Please contact Susan Torres 505 476-3226, [susan.torres@state.nm.us](mailto:susan.torres@state.nm.us) to request a toll free number. For phone access only dial (415) 655-0052 code 421-151-200. The meeting will also be recorded and posted online for anyone unable to access the livestream.

EMNRD and NMED continue to strive for a transparent process and appreciate the public understanding the change of format. We encourage the public to learn more about our [methane strategy](#). We welcome feedback after the event on the use of virtual meeting tools in this situation.

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