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Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department to Receive Funds for Economic and Energy Diversification Position

Recently awarded CARES Act funding will promote economic opportunities

Santa Fe, NM – The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) Energy Conservation and Management Division, in partnership with the New Mexico Economic Development Department, was recently awarded a grant from the United States Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration which will fund an Economic and Energy Diversification Coordinator. This position will focus on recruiting and supporting renewable energy companies, providing technical support and educational training related to creating jobs in the clean energy sector. The proposal has a strong focus on diversifying New Mexico's economy by supporting clean energy development in New Mexico.

The \$1.5 million CARES Act Recovery Assistance grant has been awarded to the New Mexico Economic Development Department (EDD) which includes funds allocated to EMNRD's Energy Conservation and Management Division (ECMD). ECMD will support EDD in developing a comprehensive statewide economic development strategy that includes both COVID-19 recovery and long-term economic diversification. Specifically, ECMD will provide technical assistance and staff support in recruiting clean energy companies to New Mexico to develop and expand the renewable energy sector and related industries.

"The grant award highlights New Mexico's commitment to growing our economy while meeting our ambitious clean energy goals," said EMNRD Cabinet Secretary Sarah Cottrell Propst. "The CARES Act grant will provide additional resources so New Mexico can continue to invest in our future while delivering results today."

The Economic and Energy Diversification Coordinator position within ECMD will be posted soon and all interested parties are encouraged to apply.

The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies. <u>http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us</u>