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New Mexico Climate Change Task Force co-chairs issue statement on United States rejoining the Paris Agreement

SANTA FE – Today, Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) and New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Cabinet Secretaries and co-chairs of the New Mexico Climate Change Task Force applaud President Joe Biden’s swift action to rejoin the Paris Agreement, an international agreement that requires signatories to take significant steps to combat climate change. As one of the administration’s first actions, it is a clear and hopeful sign that the nation will again make real commitments to fighting climate change.

“Today marks a new day for climate action in our country,” said Sarah Cottrell Propst, EMNRD Cabinet Secretary. “By rejoining the Paris Agreement, the United States will once again lead in the fight to address climate change. Leadership on the federal level will support states like New Mexico that have remained committed to the goals laid out in the Paris Agreement and give us a firm foundation for mitigate the worst impacts of climate change.”

“Under Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham, New Mexico never strayed in our commitment to the Paris Agreement and treating climate change as the serious environmental and public health threat that it is,” said James Kenney, NMED Cabinet Secretary. “We welcome President Biden’s decisive action to formally rejoin the agreement, setting the right example for the international community and sending a strong signal to U.S. states.”

Over the last two years and in the absence of federal leadership, New Mexico’s interagency Task Force made significant strides in taking meaningful climate action since Gov. Lujan Grisham signed Executive Order 2019-003, committing New Mexico to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement. These efforts include reducing emissions in the oil and gas sector, updating building codes, expanding renewable energy and tackling transportation sector emissions through a Clean Fuel Standard.

More information on New Mexico’s climate action is available at <https://www.climateaction.state.nm.us/>.

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