



Dear Elected Official/Candidate,

ReNew Mexico is a coalition of statewide community groups, economic development professionals, business advocates, and residents dedicated to working toward the development of renewable energy and transmission projects for the betterment of New Mexico's economic and sustainable future.

ReNew Mexico will soon be launching our 2020 New Mexico Voter Guide to help voters make informed decisions about candidates in the upcoming elections, especially on the issues of climate change and the economic impact of renewable energy project development.

If you wish to be considered for our 2020 ReNew Mexico Voter Guide, please complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it no later than Friday, October 23rd, but earlier if at all possible. The best way to return your questionnaire is to fill out the attached document and email your completed responses to Arcelia Isais-Gastelum at arcelia@renewmexico.org.

Your completed questionnaire will be shared with the public via our social media pages, website, and newsletter.

Best,

Ben Kelahan
Co-Founder
ReNew Mexico

ReNew Mexico Candidate Questionnaire – 2020

Elected Official/Candidate Name: John L Jones

District: House District 30

1. Our state has started to make unparalleled progress in the transition to 100% clean, renewable energy these last few years. What role do you think renewable energy should play in our state's economic future? **Renewables should, and will, be part of a rainbow of energy options that make up our portfolio of resources. I foresee, regardless of political outcomes, significant growth of wind and solar, and I'd like to see nuclear join that portfolio (as the ultimate carbon free energy source). I'd like to see our energy sources, and the transmission lines that connect them to each other and to our lives spread through out the state.**
2. There have been discussions about implementing a tax on wind energy (and renewable energy more broadly). At these critical, early stages of clean energy development, such legislation would be extremely detrimental to New Mexicans living in rural communities and would prevent future renewable energy investment from bringing needed jobs and revenue to New Mexicans. If elected, will you oppose a wind tax that could jeopardize future rural jobs in the wind industry? **I don't see that in the distant future. As the State is weaned from oil and gas and the revenues those energy sources provide, I would see that funding gap filled by tax revenues from renewables.**
3. How should Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRB) be utilized as a tool to support new renewable energy projects in your district? **These are usually local sources of funding desirable private projects that provide attractive social and economic projects. Torrance and Sandoval counties have used these in a very strategic way.**
4. Updates to our transmission system and energy infrastructure are critical in order to ensure that we have low-cost, reliable energy and to best support our growing population. If elected, what will you do to support upgrades to our transmission infrastructure?
5. There are two major transmission projects in development with the potential to transmit thousands of megawatts of renewable energy to our grid as well as bring hundreds of clean energy jobs to our communities and millions in revenue and investments. What are some ways we can bring more projects like Western Spirit and SunZia to New Mexico? **Public and private investment schemes can fulfill this requirement, and the NM RETA network provides a framework**

6. Will you sign our "Save Rural Jobs" pledge to promote more job creation and more renewable energy project revenue for our state? (SEE ATTACHED) . **Based on the language of the pledge, I can not sign it, but I remain a supporter of expanded renewable energy.**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

- **John L Jones**
- **Candidate, House District 30**

THANK YOU!