

## ReNew Mexico Candidate Questionnaire - 2020

Elected Official/Candidate Name: District:

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?

In researching your questioning, the following was discovered:

“The renewable energy bill signed into law in 2019 will double renewable energy use in the state by 2025, require 50% renewable energy by 2030 and 100 percent carbon free electricity generation by 2045. This means New Mexico can quickly transition from dependence on fossil fuels for electricity to joining other states to lead a new clean energy economy”. Expert Blog, Nathan Long

This means New Mexico will be one of the leaders in our nation in moving at a rapid rate in renewable energy while at the same time leading the charge in economic improvements for our citizens. It is a win-win for New Mexico.

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 need to do a great deal of research on fair taxes to our citizens and our companies in New Mexico. I am an advocate for small rural communities as I come from a small community in northern New Mexico. I cannot answer this question until a more comprehensive review is done.

3. How should Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRB) be utilized as a tool to support new renewable energy projects in your district?

My district needs to move on the construction of Paseo Del Volcan and connect I-40 to highway 550. We need a stronger partnership between Sandoval and Bernalillo county. IRB's would be one source that the counties could use to bring in renewable energy companies to the assist in the economic expansion in New Mexico.

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?

Transmission infrastructure needs to be efficient and reliable to meet the needs of our citizens. I would support its updates just as I will to improve our roads, bridges and broadband improvements.

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?

I see the construction of Paseo Del Volcan as a key infrastructure of improvement to bring jobs to the central part of the state as this pathway can be host to many renewable energy companies. I also would work with fellow legislators to seek opportunities in other areas of this great state that is prime to become the leader of renewable energy companies in the nation.

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)

I cannot sign a commitment; I pledge to make sure renewable energy and clean jobs are a priority for New Mexico and I sincerely hope we can do this by being fair to all New Mexicans.

THANK YOU,  
Gary J Tripp  
Candidate, NM House of Representatives  
District 44