



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](mailto: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: [Doreen Gallegos](#)

District: [HD52 and House Majority Whip](#)

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?  
[I hope and believe that renewable energy will become a major component of our state's economy, creating jobs and revenue for our schools, healthcare, and other needs.](#)
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'm inclined to oppose a tax on wind energy but all options must be on the table as we face this shortfall. I do pledge to work closely with the renewable energy industry to understand its concerns and the impact of a proposed tax.](#)
3. How should Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRB) be utilized as a tool to support new renewable energy projects in your district?  
[IRB's can be a good financing tool, for the right project. I would be open to using IRBs to support renewable projects.](#)
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?  
[I strongly support transmission upgrades, including moving to systems to deploy energy resources where needed, more quickly.](#)
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 am a strong supporter of having New Mexico join a western grid so we can export more wind and solar to other states. With greater demand, we can bring more renewable projects and their jobs to our state.](#)
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)  
[See response #2. I would like to learn more about the pro's and con's of taxing wind before I sign the pledge.](#)

THANK YOU!