New Mexico Public Regulation Chairwoman Becenti-Aguilar

New Mexico Public Regulation Vice Chair Espinoza

New Mexico Public Regulation Commissioner Byrd

New Mexico Public Regulation Commissioner Fischmann

New Mexico Public Regulation Commissioner Hall

P.O. Box 1269

Santa Fe, N.M. 87504-1269

Dear PRC Commissioners,

Please consider this letter for public comment 15-00261-UT (Remand)

Thank you for your commitment to protect consumers and for holding the regulated utilities to their legal burden of proof.

I am a New Mexico resident and I saw the good news that the New Mexico Supreme Court overturned PNM’s 2016 rate case.

I am urging, as the case is now remanded to the PRC, that you **disallow full cost recovery for PNM’s imprudence in its** **purchase of nuclear (64 MW) and nuclear lease extension (114 MW) because the purpose of a prudence review is to** **hold ratepayers harmless** **from any amount imprudently invested**.

Nuclear should only be allowed to serve our electric needs if, and only if, PNM can show that the total Palo Verde nuclear investment (178 Megawatts) is the “most cost effective resource among feasible alternatives”. In order to do so, nuclear must be evaluated on a consistent and comparable basis with solar, wind, and storage and take into consideration cost risk for liabilities, (ex. nuclear waste that is radioactive for 100,000+ years; intensive water consumption; history of cancer, sickness, and death and environmental catastrophe from uranium milling contamination). This position is entirely consistent with the recommended decision by the PRC Hearing Examiner who heard all the evidence, judged the credibility of the witnesses and evaluated the arguments and the law in PNM’s 2016 rate case.

$1.5 billion is better spent investing in solar and wind in New Mexico, creating family-supporting jobs at home, rather than radioactive nuclear in Arizona.

Sincerely,

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