

For Immediate Release

**March 2, 2020**

**Contact:** Maddy Hayden, Communications Director  
New Mexico Environment Department  
505.231.8800 | maddy.hayden@state.nm.us

Susan Torres, Public Information Officer  
New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural  
Resources Department  
505.476.3226 | susan.torres@state.nm.us



## **State agencies continue stakeholder process on methane regulatory strategy**

*Community Impacts Meeting scheduled for March 19<sup>th</sup> in Farmington*

**Santa Fe** – The New Mexico Departments of Environment (NMED) and Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources (EMNRD) are continuing outreach as the agencies move forward with developing methane reduction regulations. Following initial public outreach meetings in the summer of 2019 community members expressed a strong interest in holding a Community Impacts Meeting to discuss the health, cultural, and economic impacts of the oil and gas industry and future methane regulations.

The development of New Mexico's first methane reduction regulations is a priority for both NMED and EMNRD per Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's Executive Order on Addressing Climate Change and Energy Waste Prevention.

This Community Impacts Meeting will be held on March 19<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 6 pm at the Navajo Preparatory School in Farmington. The meeting will also be recorded and streamed live, more details to be provided.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- 2 – 3:30 pm: Introduction, update and background presentation from NMED and EMNRD, and expert presentations on health, cultural, and economic impacts of oil and gas activity.
- 3:30 – 4:15 pm: Moderated panel for question and answer session
- 4:15 – 5 pm: Attendees may provide statements
- 5 – 6 pm: Open house for one-on-one conversations with presenters

“This Community Impacts Meeting is an important opportunity to share information with the public on the different types of impacts from the oil and gas industry. We are eager to meet with community members and hear directly from the public about the impacts from the oil and gas industry,” said NMED Cabinet Secretary James Kenney.

“Our agencies are pleased to return to communities affected by the oil and gas industry,” said EMNRD Cabinet Secretary Sarah Cottrell Propst. “This is another step in our extensive outreach process as we move forward with our methane regulatory strategy. We look forward to hearing from the community and presenting helpful information at the Community Impacts Meeting.”

EMNRD and NMED continue to strive for a transparent process and look forward to the public's continued engagement on New Mexico's developing [methane strategy](#).

###