

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department Announces Solar Sector Job Growth

299 jobs added to the solar jobs sector in 2015 with 234 more jobs in 2016

Santa Fe, NM— The Energy Conservation and Management Division (ECMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) announces job growth in the state's solar sector. In 2015, there were 299 jobs added to the solar workforce with 234 additional jobs expected to be created in 2016. ECMD worked with independent non-profit organization The Solar Foundation to develop the 2015 New Mexico Solar Jobs Census, a free online publication available at SolarStates.org.

The Solar Jobs Census creates the first-ever baseline solar employment numbers for New Mexico and shows that the local solar industry is a growing source of economic opportunity, and an industry that creates jobs available to individuals of different backgrounds from across the state. As of November 2015, 1,899 workers were employed by the solar industry in New Mexico. Additionally, solar employers in New Mexico anticipate hiring more than 230 jobs in 2016, expanding their payrolls by 12.3 percent.

Private sector job creation is a main principle of Governor Susan Martinez's comprehensive energy policy "[Seizing our Energy Potential: Creating a more Diverse Economy in New Mexico](#)". This plan will ensure the state will expand its role as an energy leader while continuing to provide income and create jobs across energy industries.

"Technology improvements are making it easier and more cost-effective each day to produce solar power," said Secretary Dave Martin. "Job growth in New Mexico's solar workforce is a signal towards diversification in both our economy and energy supply."

A complete Solar Jobs Census for all 50 states is available online today.

The Energy Conservation and Management Division develops and implements effective

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clean energy programs — renewable energy, energy efficiency, alternative fuels, and safe transportation of radioactive waste — to promote economic growth, environmental sustainability, and wise stewardship of our natural resources while protecting public health and safety for New Mexico and its citizens. Information on all of ECMD's programs is available at www.CleanEnergyNM.org.

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The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.