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Contact: Patrick Rodriguez [patrickj.rodriguez@prc.nm.gov](mailto:patrickj.rodriguez@prc.nm.gov) / 505-490-7910

**An earlier version of this release erroneously mentioned that no parties involved were in opposition to the capacity cap increase. A corrected version is below.**

## **NMPRC raises community solar program's statewide capacity cap**

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) today approved amending a rule to the state's community solar program, establishing an annual statewide capacity cap of 300 megawatts to go in effect on November 1. The Community Solar Act originally set an initial statewide capacity cap of 200 MW, proportionally allocated to the three investor-owned utilities operating across the state.

During today's open meeting, the Commission reiterated its commitment to growing the community solar program and emphasized that raising the cap will play a large role in that development. Raising the capacity cap will help to meet the need for additional renewable energy in New Mexico while also mitigating the continuing inequities in access to renewable energy.

Currently, the initial statewide capacity program cap of 200 megawatts is allocated among the three qualifying utilities as follows: Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM), 125 MW; Southwestern Public Service Company (SPS), 45 MW; and El Paso Electric Company (EPE), 30 MW. These allocations will be reviewed later to accommodate the capacity cap increase.

During the rulemaking process, the proposal received many comments in favor of raising the capacity cap, including from the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department.

Having the increased cap in place ensures the additional capacity will be available for a second project solicitation and selection process when the Commission finds that the timing is right for a second round to go forward.

A copy of the Order is available upon request.

*The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) serves New Mexico by ensuring safe operations and reliable utility services at fair, just, and reasonable rates consistent with the State's legal, economic, environmental, and social policies. To learn more about the work of the NMPRC, please visit [www.prc.nm.gov](http://www.prc.nm.gov).*

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