

Virginie Pointeau

11 September 2026 | Santa Fe, NM

Dear Members of the Nominating Committee,

I am writing to apply for the position of Commissioner of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission.

I bring more than 15 years of professional experience at the intersection of natural resources, climate change, land management, and large-scale collaborative initiatives, along with an M.S. in Forestry from the University of British Columbia. My career has centered on a question that I believe is highly relevant to the Commission's work: how do we translate complex environmental and public-interest goals into sound policy and practical implementation?

I meet the educational and professional experience requirements through my postgraduate degree and more than 15 years of progressively responsible work in natural-resource and climate-related fields, including policy development, project and portfolio design, partnership development, financial planning, and implementation. For the past six and a half years, at the Savory Institute, I led the development of collaborative climate and regenerative-agriculture initiatives across multiple regions, working with funders and investors, businesses, land managers, and community-based organizations. Earlier in my career, I directed programs focused on land stewardship and worked in communications, project management, and stakeholder engagement within the conservation and ranching sectors here in New Mexico and across the US Southwest. I have lived in New Mexico for 30 years.

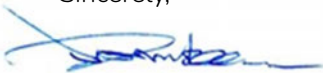
My work has increasingly brought me into questions directly relevant to New Mexico's energy and climate landscape, including climate mitigation, carbon markets, natural-resource finance, measurement and verification, and the relationship between environmental policy, land management, rural communities, and investment. I have worked across disciplines and sectors where interests and priorities do not always align, and I have learned to listen carefully, evaluate competing perspectives, work through complexity, and move toward decisions that are both principled and practical.

I am particularly interested in the opportunity to bring a natural-resource and climate perspective to the Commission at a time when New Mexico is navigating significant changes in its energy system. Reliable and affordable energy, economic opportunity, environmental protection, infrastructure investment, and climate resilience are deeply interconnected. I would approach the Commission's responsibilities with intellectual rigor, independence, respect for evidence, and a strong commitment to the public interest.

I am a registered Democrat.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Virginie Pointeau

VIRGINIE MAGDELEINE POINTEAU

Natural Resources & Climate Policy | Systems Leadership | Collaborative Governance

Santa Fe, NM | [REDACTED] [LinkedIn](#)

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

My career has been grounded in the relationship between people, natural resources, climate, and the systems that shape how communities and landscapes are managed. I bring more than 15 years of professional experience in regenerative agriculture, conservation, land stewardship, and climate-related initiatives, following an earlier decade of leadership in wilderness and experiential education. I hold an M.S. in Forestry from the University of British Columbia.

Over the course of my career, I have led programs, developed policy- and strategy-oriented initiatives, managed complex projects and budgets, built cross-sector partnerships, and worked with funders, technical experts, land stewards, community organizations, and institutional leaders across North America and internationally. My work has required navigating competing priorities, evaluating complex information, exercising independent judgment, and translating broad goals into practical systems and implementation.

Having lived in New Mexico for 30 years, I have spent much of my professional life here and bring a deep understanding of the state's land, rural communities and diverse cultures, conservation landscape, and growing climate and energy challenges. I am particularly interested in public policy that balances environmental stewardship, economic and community needs, long-term resilience, and practical implementation.

CORE QUALIFICATIONS

- **Public Policy & Systems Leadership:** Experience translating complex environmental and climate objectives into practical programs, strategies, and implementation systems; accustomed to navigating competing priorities and exercising independent judgment in complex, multi-stakeholder environments.
- **Program & Organizational Management:** More than 15 years of progressively responsible leadership across natural-resource, conservation, regenerative-agriculture, and climate initiatives, including program strategy, financial management, project delivery, and organizational systems.
- **Cross-Sector Collaboration:** Extensive experience working across government, nonprofit, philanthropic, private-sector, technical, and community contexts, including with landowners, practitioners, funders, institutional leaders, and implementation partners.
- **Financial & Project Management:** Responsibility for budgets, financial projections, contracts, grants, scopes of work, deliverables, partner agreements, and multi-year initiatives from development through implementation.
- **Climate, Land & Natural Resources:** Professional expertise spanning forestry, regenerative agriculture, grasslands, land stewardship, climate mitigation, carbon markets, natural-resource finance, and environmental monitoring and verification.
- **Governance, Accountability & Implementation:** Experience establishing clear roles, processes, reporting requirements, documentation systems, and accountability structures to move complex initiatives from strategy through execution.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SAVORY INSTITUTE - *Global Portfolio Liaison | Strategic Partnerships & Development*

Remote (Santa Fe, NM) | Feb 2020– Aug 2026.

- Led development and advancement of complex, multi-year climate, land-management, and regenerative-agriculture initiatives across Africa, Oceania, Europe, and North America, working across technical, financial, implementation, and organizational functions.
- Designed and advanced large-scale initiatives from concept through implementation, assessing partner capacity, clarifying objectives and responsibilities, developing work plans and budgets, and aligning

diverse stakeholders around shared outcomes.

- Served as a connective point across program, finance, leadership, technical, funding, and implementation functions, navigating competing priorities, ambiguity, and complex organizational decisions and creating clarity and accountability.
- Managed implementation partners across a global portfolio, including scopes of work, budgets, agreements, deliverables, reporting requirements, timelines, invoicing, and partner accountability.
- Developed and managed funding strategies and proposals for complex initiatives, securing \$1.5M+ in funding in 2025, including multi-year commitments.
- Built the project-management infrastructure for the organization's large-scale projects team, establishing systems for documentation, financial and partner tracking, reporting, workflow, and institutional accountability.
- Designed systems to carry commitments, budgets, agreements, partner responsibilities, and institutional knowledge from strategy and development through implementation.

PHOTONIMBUS CONSULTING LLC — *Co-Founder / Co-Owner*

Santa Fe, NM | 2019–Present.

- Provide strategic consulting, project design, facilitation, partnership development, and implementation support to organizations advancing regenerative agriculture, climate-aligned land stewardship, and landscape-scale initiatives.
- Work with organizations and cross-sector partners to define complex initiatives, assess needs and capacities, align stakeholders, develop implementation strategies, and translate broad objectives into practical plans.
- Support organizational and project leaders in strengthening governance, funding strategies, project structures, partnerships, and systems for effective implementation.

WESTERN LANDOWNERS ALLIANCE – *Communications, Management, Development*

Santa Fe, NM | 2017–2020: Communications Director & Project Manager

- Led communications, project management, and stakeholder engagement across initiatives supporting private land stewardship, conservation, and working lands, collaborating with ranchers, conservation practitioners, funders, contractors, and organizational partners.
- Managed complex projects from concept through delivery, including budgets, contractors, timelines, deliverables, and coordination across multiple concurrent initiatives.
- Facilitated relationships and knowledge exchange among women working across ranching and land stewardship through [Women in Ranching](#), supporting collaboration across diverse perspectives and experiences.
- Translated complex conservation and land-management issues into accessible information for landowners, funders, partners, and the broader public.

QUIVIRA COALITION — *New Agrarian Program Director*

Santa Fe, NM | 2012–2017.

- Directed the [New Agrarian Program](#), a nationally recognized program connecting aspiring ranchers with experienced land stewards; held responsibility for program strategy, organizational planning, budgets, partnerships, curriculum, fundraising, and implementation.
- Led development and evolution of the program's operating model, balancing participant and mentor needs, organizational capacity, funding opportunities, and long-term sustainability.
- Managed program finances and grants, including budgets, financial projections, deliverables, reporting, and funder relationships.
- Built systems for program planning, participant management, financial projections, grant administration, communications, and coordination with rancher mentors and organizational partners.
- Managed and mentored participants and partners, facilitating relationships, resolving challenges, and supporting effective collaboration across diverse stakeholders.
- Authored *Agrarian Apprenticeship: Growing the Next Generation of Ranchers and Farmers*, documenting the program's approach and its integration of Holistic Management principles.

VOYAGEUR OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL — *Instructor, Course Director, Supervisor*

Ely, Minnesota | 1999–2009

- Progressed through increasingly senior leadership roles over a decade, ultimately directing courses, supervising staff, and overseeing complex wilderness operations in the Boundary Waters of northern Minnesota.
- Led and developed field staff through supervision, mentoring, training, and performance feedback in high-responsibility, safety-critical environments.
- Exercised independent judgment in rapidly changing conditions, resolving conflicts, managing risk, and creating clarity and accountability for teams working under demanding circumstances.
- Designed and facilitated experiential learning programs focused on leadership, collaboration, conflict resolution, and working effectively across diverse perspectives.

EDUCATION

- **Master of Science in Forestry — University of British Columbia (2008)**
Focus: Forest Sciences, Tree Physiology, Water-Use Efficiency
- **Bachelor of Arts in Spanish, Minor in French — University of Texas (1996)**

LANGUAGES

- French - Native/Advanced | English - Fluent | Spanish - Conversational

PUBLICATIONS (Selected)

- Mahowald, Hallie and Virginie Pointeau: [*Frontline Perspectives: Landowners Speak from Experience on Forestry*](#). Published by the Western Landowners Alliance, Santa Fe, NM, 2018.
- Pointeau, Virginie, Julie Sullivan, and Sarah Wentzel-Fisher. [*Agrarian Apprenticeship: Growing the Next Generation of Ranchers and Farmers*](#). First edition, first printing. Published by Quivira Coalition under a Creative Commons Attribution, ShareAlike 4.0 International License, Santa Fe, NM, 2016.