

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8

2 **50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO RENEWABLE ENERGY TRANSMISSION
12 AUTHORITY AND THE ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES
13 DEPARTMENT TO COLLABORATE WITH THE WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE
14 AND OTHER NEW MEXICO MILITARY INSTALLATIONS WHEN DEVELOPING
15 RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAMS AND CORRIDORS FOR TRANSMISSION LINES
16 IN NEW MEXICO.

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18 WHEREAS, the New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission
19 Authority Act created the New Mexico renewable energy
20 transmission authority; and

21 WHEREAS, the secretary of energy, minerals and natural
22 resources is an ex-officio member of the board of the
23 authority, and the energy, minerals and natural resources
24 department and the authority work closely to meet the energy
25 needs of the state; and

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1 WHEREAS, the authority is charged with doing whatever is
2 necessary to accomplish the purposes of the New Mexico
3 Renewable Energy Transmission Authority Act; and

4 WHEREAS, in accomplishing its duties, the authority may
5 identify and establish corridors for the transmission of
6 electricity within the state; and

7 WHEREAS, through participation in appropriate regional
8 transmission forums, the authority may also coordinate,
9 investigate, plan, prioritize and negotiate with entities
10 within and outside of the state for the establishment of
11 interstate transmission corridors; and

12 WHEREAS, one such corridor under consideration by the
13 authority may intersect or approximate the border of the United
14 States army garrison, White Sands missile range; and

15 WHEREAS, White Sands missile range is the largest overland
16 military test range in the area, occupying a two-million-acre
17 area of southern New Mexico; and

18 WHEREAS, White Sands missile range houses state-of-the-art
19 research and test facilities for the United States army, the
20 United States air force and the national aeronautics and space
21 administration; and

22 WHEREAS, some of the world's most advanced and
23 sophisticated weapons systems are tested at White Sands missile
24 range; and

25 WHEREAS, the presence of lines for the transmission of

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1 electricity and other renewable energy initiatives under
2 consideration within New Mexico, such as wind turbines and
3 solar array capabilities, have the potential to interfere with
4 the missions and training exercises performed at White Sands
5 missile range; and

6 WHEREAS, White Sands missile range is fully committed to
7 renewable energy and is engaged in a formal initiative known as
8 the New Mexico initiative, in partnership with the public
9 service company of New Mexico and other partners, to ensure
10 energy efficiency, use of renewable energy and implementation
11 of water conservation programs; and

12 WHEREAS, it is important to find a balance between
13 promoting energy projects for energy independence and ensuring
14 the continuation of military missions and training exercises
15 that are vital to the state economy and to national security;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
17 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico renewable energy
18 transmission authority and the energy, minerals and natural
19 resources department be requested to collaborate with the White
20 Sands missile range and other military installations when
21 developing renewable energy programs and corridors for
22 transmission lines in New Mexico; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a report of this collaboration
24 be presented to the interim military and veterans' affairs
25 committee and the New Mexico finance authority oversight

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1 committee by October 2011; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the chair of the board of the New Mexico
4 renewable energy transmission authority and the secretary of
5 energy, minerals and natural resources.

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