

Senator:

My name is Frank Pagurko, and I write to you on behalf of the Rio Grande Foundation, an economic policy think tank based in Albuquerque. We work to promote the interests of the people of New Mexico through free market policy.

In the interest of New Mexico ratepayers, I strongly urge you to **vote NO** on SB 67, the “Facilities for Clean Energy Generation” bill. This bill would drive up energy costs for New Mexico residents unnecessarily by mandating the use of expensive energy generation systems rather than taking advantage of our state’s abundant natural resources. Issuing a mandate to electricity producers is inherently economically inefficient and even runs the risk of destroying communities across the state that rely on traditional power plants for employment and tax revenue. Thousands of New Mexico jobs rely on the energy sector, and this bill would gut that industry.

Even with the proportion of electricity currently coming from renewable sources, grid reliability is a serious problem (<https://nmpoliticalreport.com/2020/03/09/natural-gas-will-play-a-big-role-in-states-energy-transition/>). If all new power generation facilities are forced to use solely renewable sources, producers will struggle to fill in the gaps left by renewables. For New Mexico tax and ratepayers, please vote no on SB 67. Thank you.



Frank Pagurko III

