

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 15, 2023 "KIT CARSON ENERGY INDEPENDENCE DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, since 2013, Kit Carson electric cooperative members have set out to create change in how the cost of electrical power and the source of that generated power impacts the lives of its community members; and

WHEREAS, Kit Carson electric cooperative members agreed to a first phase of action as part of an energy independence transition plan, anchored by a necessary change in wholesale power suppliers, which restored local decision making for Kit Carson electric cooperative members in matters of electric power supply; and

WHEREAS, Kit Carson electric cooperative members set a goal to lower and stabilize the cost of power, and the cost savings goal has now been achieved with fixed wholesale power rates and with members realizing a reduction in power rates of up to twenty-five percent; and

WHEREAS, Kit Carson electric cooperative members set a goal to move away from the existing costly, fossil-heavy power mix served to its members and to secure the ability to self-generate renewable power by locally managed and maintained clean energy generation plants; and

WHEREAS, the clean, local power generation goal has now

1 been achieved with Kit Carson electric cooperative's  
2 forty-one megawatts of distributed solar power generation,  
3 plus sixteen megawatts of accompanying battery storage; and

4 WHEREAS, by Kit Carson electric cooperative leaving its  
5 former wholesale power provider in 2016 and partnering with  
6 new wholesale energy supplier, Guzman energy, Kit Carson  
7 electric cooperative set an ambitious goal of becoming one of  
8 the cleanest energy cooperatives in America; and

9 WHEREAS, that goal has been achieved with one hundred  
10 percent of its power needs supplied in summer by daytime  
11 solar power generation; and

12 WHEREAS, New Mexico has set an objective to achieve a  
13 statewide reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by forty-five  
14 percent by the year 2030, and Kit Carson electric cooperative  
15 is contributing to that reduction goal and is leading the way  
16 for other cooperatives around the state and the country to  
17 follow its model in driving the energy transition; and

18 WHEREAS, for Kit Carson electric cooperative to make  
19 these changes and advancements, it reached an agreement to  
20 exit its former wholesale power arrangement with a power  
21 generation cooperative at a cost of thirty-seven million  
22 dollars (\$37,000,000) based on Kit Carson electric  
23 cooperative's portion of generation cooperative related debt,  
24 and Kit Carson electric cooperative has fully repaid this  
25 charge; and

1           WHEREAS, Kit Carson electric cooperative will continue  
2 to recognize cost savings through the Guzman energy and Kit  
3 Carson electric cooperative wholesale power partnership that  
4 is now expected to save Kit Carson electric cooperative one  
5 hundred fifty million dollars (\$150,000,000) to one hundred  
6 seventy million dollars (\$170,000,000) over the total  
7 lifetime of the wholesale power agreement; and

8           WHEREAS, the Kit Carson electric cooperative and Guzman  
9 energy partnership has consistently shown community support,  
10 especially in the area of education, as demonstrated by the  
11 distribution of more than five hundred thirty-three thousand  
12 five hundred dollars (\$533,500) in scholarships to graduating  
13 high school students for their continuing education; and

14           WHEREAS, during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic,  
15 Kit Carson electric cooperative provided much-needed services  
16 to its community members, including providing wi-fi hotspots  
17 for students and teachers thrust into remote learning,  
18 supplying first responders with necessary broadband service  
19 and ensuring that the elderly had food delivery during a  
20 period marked by heightened isolation; and

21           WHEREAS, Kit Carson electric cooperative will continue  
22 its work on phase two of its energy independence transition  
23 plan with Guzman energy, focusing on expanding more  
24 distributed energy resources, local battery storage and  
25 electric vehicle infrastructure, as well as a commitment to

1 the exploration of joint green hydrogen development;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 15,  
4 2023, be declared "Kit Carson Energy Independence Day" in the  
5 house of representatives; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Kit Carson electric  
7 cooperative be acknowledged for achieving "energy  
8 independence" for its members through electricity price  
9 stability, cost decreases, the ability to serve additional  
10 renewable energy resources and restoring local  
11 decision-making ability to better serve its members; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
13 transmitted to the chief executive officer of Kit Carson  
14 electric cooperative. \_\_\_\_\_

15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25