A JOINT MEMORIAL
REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO RENEWABLE ENERGY TRANSMISSION
AUTHORITY AND THE ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT TO COLLABORATE WITH THE WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE
AND OTHER NEW MEXICO MILITARY INSTALLATIONS WHEN DEVELOPING
RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAMS AND CORRIDORS FOR TRANSMISSION
LINES IN NEW MEXICO.

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, through participation in appropriate regional
transmission forums, the authority may also coordinate,
investigate, plan, prioritize and negotiate with entities

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within and outside of the state for the establishment of
interstate transmission corridors; and

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

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

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

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

    WHEREAS, the presence of lines for the transmission of
electricity and other renewable energy initiatives under
consideration within New Mexico, such as wind turbines and
solar array capabilities, have the potential to interfere
with the missions and training exercises performed at White
Sands missile range; and

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

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

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a report of this collaboration be presented to the interim military and veterans' affairs committee and the New Mexico finance authority oversight committee by October 2011; and

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