

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION TO CONVENE A TASK  
3 FORCE TO INVESTIGATE HOW AND WHY NEW MEXICO CONSUMERS LOST  
4 NATURAL GAS SERVICE AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO  
5 PREVENT SUCH LOSS OF SERVICE IN THE FUTURE.

6  
7 WHEREAS, nearly thirty thousand residents of the state  
8 lost access to natural gas service in early February of 2011;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, this loss of service endangered lives during a  
11 period of record low temperatures in New Mexico and has  
12 resulted in millions of dollars worth of damage due to burst  
13 water pipes and loss of business; and

14 WHEREAS, New Mexico gas company was unable to import  
15 enough natural gas to meet demand due to the shutdown of  
16 several compressors on the transmission lines in Texas; and

17 WHEREAS, the public regulation commission is granted  
18 sole and exclusive power to regulate public utilities and  
19 natural gas transmission lines in the state; and

20 WHEREAS, the commission is authorized to regulate the  
21 transportation of natural gas as may be necessary to  
22 safeguard deliverability and operational efficiency and to  
23 prevent undue hardship and anticompetitive conduct by a  
24 public utility; and

25 WHEREAS, the residents of New Mexico have suffered undue SM 30  
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1 hardship;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
3 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public regulation commission be  
4 requested to convene a task force to investigate how and why  
5 New Mexico consumers lost natural gas service in early  
6 February of 2011; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force make  
8 recommendations on how to prevent such loss of service in the  
9 future and determine whether state or federal legislation is  
10 needed to carry out its recommendations; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report to the  
12 governor and the appropriate legislative interim committee by  
13 August 1, 2011; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
15 transmitted to the governor, the New Mexico legislative  
16 council and the public regulation commission. \_\_\_\_\_

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