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Testimony Before the New Mexico House Government, Elections and Indian Affairs Committee Regarding HB 6

**Bette Grande, State Government Relations Manager
The Heartland Institute
February 7, 2022**

Chairwoman Louis and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for holding a hearing on HB 6 which would establish greenhouse gas emissions limits in New Mexico.

My name is Bette Grande, and I State Government Relations Manager with The Heartland Institute. The Heartland Institute is a 37-year-old independent, national, nonprofit organization whose mission is to discover, develop, and promote free-market solutions to social and economic problems. Heartland is headquartered in Illinois and focuses on providing national, state, and local elected officials with reliable and timely research and analysis on important policy issues.

HB 6 would establish aggressive goals and processes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in New Mexico. However laudable the goal of this proposed legislation the targets, processes and impacts of this policy must be considered.

HB 6 states “statewide direct emissions of greenhouse gases shall be fifty percent less than 2005 levels” by 2030. The technology does not currently exist, nor is it projected to exist by 2030 to accomplish this requirement. An analysis on global energy storage by Wood Mackenzie projected that by 2030 batteries will supply 10.6 minutes of world electricity demand, for example.

Further, the an analysis of the costs associated with implementing net-zero policies will cost each family [\\$19,300 per year](#). The burden on your constituents who are already under the burden of higher energy costs, inflation and economic conditions must be balanced with the potential long-term benefits from reducing greenhouse gas emissions as contemplated by HB 6.

Current and anticipated technology will not allow for energy production and use to meet the timelines proposed in HB 6. The purchase of carbon credits will be required and the costs of those credits will be passed through to your constituents. In addition, the regulatory burden on impacted sectors of your economy will add additional costs at a time when consumers are already under immense pressure.

In addition, recent experience has demonstrated that the electric grid cannot function with the increase in renewable energy at this time. HB 6 would only accelerate the transition of an already overtaxed electrical grid.

Finally, it should be noted that any reductions in annual emissions of greenhouse gasses by implementation of HB 6 would be more than offset by new coal-fired power plants under construction in China, India, and elsewhere.

Regardless of your position on greenhouse gas emissions, the full cost and benefit to your constituents should be carefully considered. I served for 18 years in the North Dakota Legislature, and I understand the push and pull of the legislative process. I respectfully urge careful consideration of the impacts resulting from HB 6.

For more information about The Heartland Institute's work, please visit our websites at www.heartland.org or <http://heartland.org>. I can be reached at bgrande@heartland.org.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

<https://climaterealism.com/>

<https://climateataglance.com/>

THE FUTURE OF GB ELECTRICITY SUPPLY Security, Cost and Emissions in a Net-zero System<<https://www.heartland.org/publications-resources/publications/the-future-of-gb-electricity-supply-security-cost-and-emissions-in-a-net-zero-system>>

THE CLIMATE NOOSE BUSINESS, NET ZERO AND THE IPCC'S ANTICAPITALISM<<https://www.heartland.org/publications-resources/publications/the-climate-noose-business-net-zero-and-the-ipccs-anticapitalism>>

Biden Administration's Net-Zero Climate Agenda Is a Loser for Americans, International Energy Agency Confirms<<https://www.heartland.org/publications-resources/publications/biden-administrations-net-zero-climate-agenda-is-a-loser-for-americans-international-energy-agency-confirms>>

Net Zero Emissions Will Never Be "Achieved;" Reduced Global CO2 Emissions Will Be Hard Enough<<https://www.heartland.org/news-opinion/news/net-zero-emissions-will-never-be-achieved-reduced-global-co2-emissions-will-be-hard-enough>>

<https://heartlanddailynews.com/2021/11/cop26-at-odds-with-leaders-of-nearly-40-percent-the-worlds-people-making-it-likely-to-fail/>

<https://heartlanddailynews.com/2021/11/president-bidens-climate-energy-policies-are-an-exercise-in-magical-thinking/>

<https://www.heartland.org/publications-resources/publications/the-future-of-gb-electricity-supply-security-cost-and-emissions-in-a-net-zero-system>

<https://www.heartland.org/news-opinion/news/divesting-in-crude-oil-guarantees-shortages-and-inflation>