

COMMUNITY CHOICE ENERGY

LOCAL POWER, LOCAL JOBS, LOCAL CHOICE



Our Goal: 100% Renewable Energy that is Affordable for New Mexicans!

Current situation: PNM is the only source of electricity for the residents of Central New Mexico, producing 50% of our energy from coal, creating poisonous pollutants and carbon emissions that destroy our health and our climate.

Problem: New Mexico law prohibits other companies or municipalities from competing against PNM to produce and sell electricity. This is because PNM is a protected monopoly based on a very old law that was enacted when a big power company was needed to build expensive extractive fossil fuel plants and a massive infrastructure to produce and deliver our energy. Because of this outdated law, we can only buy solar that is produced, owned and sold by PNM.

Solution: Community Choice Energy! CCE reflects our values and provides safe, reliable, not-for-profit electricity at a reasonable price while protecting the environment. We need to change the law so that it is legal for city, county, and tribal governments to buy electricity from independent producers or own and operate electricity producing power plants and sell that electricity to residents. We would still pay PNM to use its electric poles and lines to deliver renewable energy, but PNM's energy resources and their prices would be forced to compete against independent power producers, who deliver renewables at a lower cost.

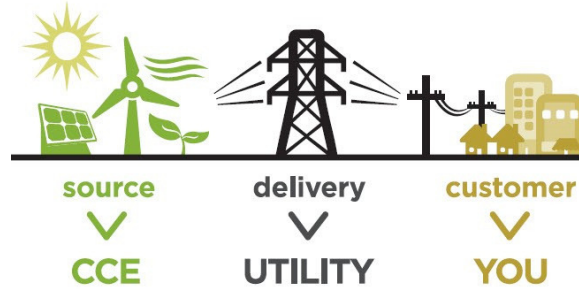
Local Power with Community Choice Energy: The people will have a direct and more powerful voice in energy decisions and policies. Municipalities, counties, and tribal governments could determine their own energy futures based on community values. We could produce and sell 100% renewable energy, and at a much cheaper rate than PNM. Instead of profits going to Wall Street, money generated from renewables would be reinvested into community needs.

Lower Costs Boost Local Economies: In seven states with Community Choice Energy, they measure success by the amount of renewables produced and how much money stays in the community through low rates and contributions to local programs and projects. Revenue earned creates local wealth through utility-bill savings for customers, and family-sustaining job creation in renewable industries.

Abundant Renewable Potential: New Mexico has the second highest potential for solar energy in the U.S. Renewable energy is now the cheapest form of energy to produce. At 4 cents/kWh, solar is half the cost of coal-fired electricity. Wind is even cheaper at 3 cents/kWh. 84% of New Mexicans polled believe we should use more solar energy and that 100% of our electricity should be produced from renewables in the near future. The clean-energy jobs sector outnumbers fossil-fuel jobs by a rate of 2.5 to 1.

New Mexico can pass Community Choice Energy legislation and free our state from the heavy costs of a fossil-fuel driven, extractive economy controlled by PNM and other monopoly investor owned utilities. During the 2019 legislative session, call for bold leadership to unleash renewable energy's full political potential.

How Community Choice Energy Works



COMMUNITY CHOICE ENERGY: UNLEASH NEW MEXICO'S RENEWABLE ENERGY & ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

**LOCAL
CONTROL**



**LOWER
RATES**



**HIGH RELIABILITY,
LOCAL WEALTH CREATION,
A HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT!**

PICURIS PUEBLO BLAZED A PATH



ALL NEW MEXICO CAN FOLLOW TO PROSPERITY

Picuris Pueblo, nestled in the "hidden valley" of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, completed construction of a 1 MW solar array in March 2018. One of the 19 Pueblo nations of New Mexico, Picuris is home to 300 tribal members who are already experiencing the many-fold benefits of solar energy development.



Why Solar? Picuris Pueblo set the goal of becoming **100% renewable** in 2014. In developing a 1 MW tribally-owned solar array, the tribe engaged in **economic development that is culturally-appropriate** and addresses the community's needs and concerns.

The array diversifies **the local economy, lowers household utility bills, provides jobs and social capital, and provides energy security** for the surrounding Peñasco Valley.

The 1-MW array provides power for 600 homes of the surrounding Peñasco Valley and is expected to generate over \$3 million over the next 25 years.

Revenue from the solar array funds community and youth programs, including a baseball field, skatepark, Boys & Girls Club, and hiking and mountain biking trails.

Revenue is also dedicated towards the Tiwa language program, which is vital for the protection of traditional Pueblo culture. Contrary to past energy and mineral extraction activities, solar development does not cause adverse public and environmental health problems. Rather, the solar array decreases Peñasco Valley's carbon footprint and is an effort to reduce the impacts of climate change. The array is a means to further protect local ecology and sacred places held dear to Pueblo people and their way of life.

Picuris was able to pursue their 100% renewable energy goal through a mutually beneficial partnership with Kit Carson Electrical, Inc. Can all of New Mexico learn from and replicate this renewable energy model of opportunity? No--under today's law it is illegal for most New Mexico communities until we break free of monopoly energy control, but that is about to change!

**NEW ENERGY ECONOMY'S LEGISLATIVE ACTION STRATEGY
AIMS TO BREAK OPEN THE RENEWABLE ENERGY ECONOMY**