

# NM Net Zero

## **100% Clean Energy States and The 100% Clean Energy Collaborative**

Warren Leon  
CESA Executive Director



# The Underlying Premises

- States' adoption of 100% clean energy goals has likely been the most important positive policy development related to climate change in the past few years
  - These are the types of actions needed to meet the climate challenge
  - States' actions have built on each other and created momentum
  - They are evidence that government officials and the political system can take bold action
- It is essential that the states succeed in achieving their goals
- It is not going to be easy

- CESA is a national, bipartisan coalition of public agencies and organizations working together to advance clean energy
- CESA members—mostly state agencies—include many of the most innovative, successful, and influential public funders of clean energy initiatives in the country
- Member organizations in nearly 20 states
- Core member: New Mexico State Energy Office- Energy Conservation and Management Division (ECMD)
- Affiliate member: New Mexico State Land Office
- Information sharing, identification of best practices, group projects

# States with 100% Clean Energy Goals

- 21 states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico have established goals for 100% clean energy in their electricity sector
- Account for:
  - 51% of US population
  - 49% of US electricity customer accounts
  - 42% of US electricity sales

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. California     | 13. Nevada         |
| 2. Colorado       | 14. New Jersey     |
| 3. Connecticut    | 15. New Mexico     |
| 4. DC             | 16. New York       |
| 5. Hawaii         | 17. North Carolina |
| 6. Illinois       | 18. Oregon         |
| 7. Louisiana      | 19. Puerto Rico    |
| 8. Maine          | 20. Rhode Island   |
| 9. Maryland       | 21. Virginia       |
| 10. Massachusetts | 22. Washington     |
| 11. Michigan      | 23. Wisconsin      |
| 12. Nebraska      |                    |

# How the Goals Were Established

- Through legislation: 13 states plus DC and Puerto Rico
- Through Governor's executive order or a board/agency decision: 8 states
- The definition of "clean energy" varies
  - In some cases, restricted to renewable energy
  - In other cases, includes nuclear power and/or carbon capture with storage or other technologies

Learn more about the states and their goals in CESA's [Guide to 100% Clean Energy States](#) on the CESA website ([www.cesa.org](http://www.cesa.org))

# New Mexico Goal

- Energy Transition Act of 2019
  - SB 489



- 2045: “zero carbon resources shall supply one hundred percent of all retail sales of electricity in New Mexico”
- 2040: 80% renewable energy
- 2030: 50% renewable energy
- 2025: 40% renewable energy

# The Risk of State 100% Goals

- The states were bold and brave to adopt the goals
- But it is easier to adopt a goal than to achieve it
  - The states are working diligently
  - Success is not guaranteed
- There are many challenges
  - Technical, economic, policy, political, and educational
- Failure would be deflating
- 21 states plus DC and Puerto Rico are not enough
  - It will be harder to get other states to adopt similar goals if the early adopters seem to be stalling out or losing focus
- If the early adopters show that meaningful progress is possible, it will build momentum and create hope at a time when optimism is in short supply

# Strategies for Making Progress

1. Get help from the Federal government
  - The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will help, but more is necessary
  - Address regulatory barriers, as well as provide funding
2. Develop a strong state plan, including meaningful stakeholder input and engagement
  - 11 states have published plans
  - CESA “Guide to 100% Clean Energy States” includes [Summaries of State 100% Clean Energy Plans](#)
  - CESA has produced [Advice for States on 100% Clean Energy Planning](#)
3. Track progress closely and undertake regular evaluation
  - The public can play a useful role by monitoring progress and asking questions
4. Collaborate among states



# The 100% Clean Energy Collaborative

- Launched in 2020 at the urging of some of the states
- Established and managed by CESA
- In partnership with the United States Climate Alliance

- Purposes
  - Make it easier for the states to work cooperatively rather than in isolation
  - A forum for states that is focused exclusively on the 100% challenge
- The agenda and the activities are shaped by the participating states

# Roles of the Collaborative

- Facilitate meetings and discussions among the states
- Keep the states (and other stakeholders) informed about what is going on across the country related to states' 100% clean energy goals
- Package information in ways that make it easy for state officials (and others) to get useful information
- Surface the states' analytical needs
- Present the state of debates in the analytical community
- Help states address 100% clean energy in ways that advance energy equity and promote environmental justice
- Identify best practices
- Provide technical assistance to states

# Audiences

## Activities Restricted to State Officials

- Meetings
- Technical assistance
- Connect the states to the US Department of Energy and the national energy labs

## Free Activities for Wider Audiences

- Newsletter
- Publications, such as:
  - [How Wholesale Markets Work](#)
- Webinars
  - Recordings of past webinars

Warren Leon  
[wleon@cleanegroup.org](mailto:wleon@cleanegroup.org)

