

From: [Diane Reese](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#); [Kenney, James, ENV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Message to Commissioners: pls fwd! NO Produced Water HEARING!!!
Date: Monday, August 11, 2025 1:58:47 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from reesedianem@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Ms Jones: please forward to the Commissioners.

Secretary Kenney and Commissioners - there should be ***NO hearing - no redo of the rule making on produced water~!!***

In May 2025 - just weeks ago! you concluded an exhaustive 18-month public process filled with scientific testimony and public input - overwhelmingly against any reuse outside of the oil production areas. You voted to limit the reuse of produced water to pilot projects that require a permitting process. The rule also banned the discharge of fracking waste into New Mexico's land and water because there is no evidence it can be treated safely. You DID YOUR JOB! Please do not bow to the pressure of the polluters and politicians! DO NOT vote to hold another hearing on fracking pollution ! Keep it OUT of our precious water - needed for life, for agriculture, for a healthy New Mexico!

Thank you for your service, Commissioners! Please protect us! Diane Reese
1620 Bernard Thomas Ave SW, Abq, NM 87105, 505-507-6416

August 11, 2025

Water Quality Control Commission

Harold Runnels Building, Suite S-2102
1190 S. Saint Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Dear Members of the Water Quality Control Commission,

My name is **Derick Graham**. I run cattle out in Torrance County. Out here, water is about the most valuable thing we've got. Without it, you can't raise cattle, grow feed, or keep a ranch running.

We live in a dry country, and it is only getting drier. That is why we have to start using every drop we can, and that includes treated produced water. If it is cleaned up right and tested right, it can take some pressure off our fresh water and help keep ranchers, farmers, and towns going.

Too often I watch good water get hauled off or wasted while our own wells run low and the pastures dry up. That makes no sense. If we have the means to treat it and the rules to keep it safe, then we ought to be putting it to work right here at home for the people and the land that need it most.

Where I come from, you make do with what you have. You fix fence with scrap wire, you haul water when the wells run dry, and you do not turn your back on something that can keep the herd fed and the grass growing. Treated produced water can be part of that if we handle it right.

I am asking you to move ahead with this rule change and put solid standards in place so we can make the most of what we have.

Sincerely,

Derick Graham

Cattle Rancher

Torrance County, New Mexico

dgeagle78@yahoo.com

From: [Anita Amstutz](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Profound disappointment
Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 5:47:45 AM

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To: Pamela Jones

Today's hearing regarding toxic fracking waste, otherwise known as "produced water" was a travesty. The Water Quality Control Commission is not listening.

The citizens of this state have already spoken on the issue of "produced water" and the issue was to require the Oil and Gas Industry to take care of their own toxic waste. Instead, the Commission decided to rule in favor of the faux WATR group representing the Oil and Gas Industry and reopen this subject, making a mockery of the hard work and the people's will the first time around. The fossil industry is so powerful in this state that evidently we can have no regulatory control over corporate toxic waste. There is no accountability. The power structure of this state is so beholden to their money that the Governor bows to their wishes and gaslighting.

What is pathetic is that the public, on their own dime and time, have chosen to come out over and over to watchdog the issue of our precious water. The people of this state have shown up to make it very clear what is most important. **The rest of us learned in kindergarten to "clean up our own mess". Why isn't the Oil And Gas Industry taught the same by our state's power structure? Why isn't the Governor and her water board holding them accountable and responsible for not only their water waste but the incredible misuse of our precious water resources? What a mockery of the people and the public health of New Mexico.**

We cannot drink oil and gas...nor their produced water. Our generation and the generations to come will be poisoned.

We are living in a time when the politicians and supposed leaders of our communities are giving in to money and greed, not the wishes of the people and the earth and what is needed to live. Water is life.

It is pathetic when those chosen to lead, do not care for public health, but are willing instead to sell out their soul for money.

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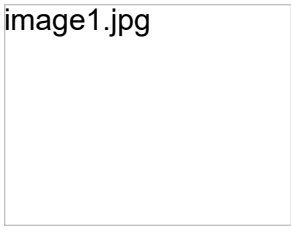
A.F. Amstutz
Taos, NM

<https://olympiapublishers.com/authors/a.-fisher>

Founder/<https://thinklikeabee.org/>

A non-profit, tax exempt organization for pollinator education and advocacy

image1.jpg



August 11, 2025

Water Quality Control Commission

Harold Runnels Building, Suite S-2102
1190 S. Saint Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Petition No. WQCC 25-34 – Support for Rule Change on Treated Produced Water

Dear Members of the Water Quality Control Commission,

My name is **Lorenzo Garcia**, and I am a Journeyman Utility Technician with the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority. I work with water systems day in and day out, in the dirt, in the heat, in the cold, making sure people have the water they need when they turn on the tap.

I will be straight with you: we cannot afford to waste water in New Mexico. We are in a dry state, and it is not getting any wetter. Every gallon we can safely reuse is a gallon we do not have to pull from our already stressed freshwater supply.

Right now, a lot of produced water is just being sent away, and with it goes an opportunity to make our water situation better. I have seen what modern treatment systems can do. If we have the right rules in place, with strong testing, real safety standards, and accountability, this water can be cleaned up and put to good use without risking people's health or the environment.

This is not about politics. It is about common sense. You do not throw away something valuable just because it is not easy to work with. You figure out how to make it useful, and we can.

I am asking you to push this rule change forward. Put solid, science backed standards in place, and give New Mexico the chance to make the most of every drop we have got.

Sincerely,

Lorenzo Garcia

Journeyman Utility Technician
Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority
lfgarcia@abcwua.org

From: [Robert Bernstein](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#)
Cc: [Robert Bernstein](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Use of produced water
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 10:20:50 PM

You don't often get email from robertbernsteinmd@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Ms. Jones,

As a physician, I am very concerned about the decision to allow the oil and gas industry to retry the prohibition on the use of produced water.

As you likely already know, Produced water has potential to contaminate water sources and harm human health and the environment. It is a wastewater that contains heavy metals, hydrocarbons, and radioactive materials.

I request the Environmental Department to please voice opposition to the use of produced water outside of the industrial use.

If you are not the person I should contact, would you please forward this email, or send me the correct email address?

Robert M. Bernstein, MD
Cell Phone: (505) 501-0200
robertbernsteinmd@comcast.net

To my Friends and Colleagues: In an effort to be more efficient, I am now using voice recognition for emails. Occasionally the voice recognition system makes an error that I do not notice in my proofreading. Please accept my apologies for any inconvenience.

Hi, I'm Lauri Costello, a physician currently living in northern NM and thrilled to be here after testifying online during the previous Produced Water hearings.

The truth matters. NMED's decision to prohibit fracking wastewater from discharge to our surface and groundwater was science-based and focused on public health and the planet. It was in keeping with NMED's mission to "protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations."

I spoke previously about the impossibility of detoxifying produced water. Industry's blatant disregard for NMED's decision is much more bold than their decades-long deceit while poisoning us and the planet. This is the same industry that I read about last month when they were caught falsifying lab results that proved groundwater pollution in CO.

Senator Heinrich has joined Senator Sheldon Whitehouse in shining a light on the existential threat of continued fossil fuel domination and the coming increase in energy prices despite the availability of lower-cost renewable energy.



In May an article in the Santa Fe New Mexican quoted the President and CEO of the NM Oil and Gas Association saying NMED's decision would "stifle innovation" and impair the state's water conservation efforts.

This is the playbook of Big Pharma, among others, when in fact they spend much, much more on marketing than on innovation.

The truth matters.

Please deny the petition.

And please remember that the 17+ BILLION gallons of toxic wastewater is Industry's dirty HUGE secret.

The truth matters.

Just say NO!

From: [Camilla Feibelman](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concern
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 3:24:32 PM

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I'm deeply concerned to hear the current speaker all how to "get around" the advisory committee requirement. The whole point of the requirement to allow all interested and impacted parties to play a meaningful role in the rulemaking. Without NMED participating meaningfully in the rulemaking, experts and the public need more access than ever.

Camilla Feibelman, camilla.feibelman@sierraclub.org, 505-715-8388

From: [Charles Goodmacher, Do Good LLC](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#); [Schlegel, Daniel, GOV](#); [Buerkle, Caroline, GOV](#); [Kenney, James, ENV](#)
Cc: [Stefanics, Elizabeth](#); [McQueen, Matthew](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gagging State employee scientists on Produced Water: TRUMP LIKE BEHAVIOR!
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 4:51:36 PM

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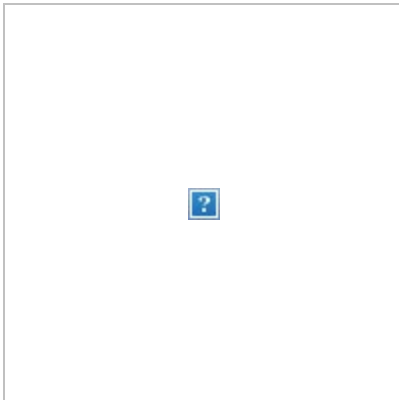
Hello Lujan Grisham Administration:
(also being submitted as a letter to the editor)

After months of hearing on this very topic and having reached a conclusion and established new wastewater rules, the oil and gas industry has done a massive endrun. The Environment Department so far is not intervening in the rulemaking leaving Commissioners without new independent expert testimony. It's a profound disappointment.

Stopping the use of NMED employee scientists from testifying in the rehearing of the recently adopted waste water discharge rules is what Trump would do! It's the equivalent of Trump's firing of the BLS Director and other professionals doing their jobs because it doesn't fit his imperial view of the world. In both cases, the public suffers when decision makers move forward despite a lack of factual evidence from professionals. Well, at least in New Mexico, the professionals get to keep their jobs. In both cases, the action takes us backwards to a time when corporate oligarchs got their way no matter the facts.

Respectfully,

Charles Goodmacher



<https://www.dogoodconsultant.com/> He/Him/His. On Pueblo Land.

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From: [Ann McCartney](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Rehearing the produced water rule
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 3:29:20 PM

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Dear Ms. Jones: Please let the Water Quality Control Commissioners how disappointed I am that they have allowed the oil and gas industry to bully them into a rehearing.

We must stand up to the industry which is literally heating our planet to the point of mass extinction and polluting our remaining groundwater.

Ann McCartney
Los Lunas, NM

From: [Ronald Parry](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] My comments on case: WQCC No. 25-34
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 7:59:26 AM

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Dear Pamela,

I will be participating virtually in today's meeting. Here is a copy of my comments.

Sincerely,

Ronald Parry
32 Diamond A Dr.
Silver City, NM 88061

My name is Ronald Parry. I live near Silver City, NM. I am retired from the chemistry department of Rice University in Houston, Texas, where I was a Professor of organic chemistry. Because of my professional training, I am quite familiar with the toxicity of many organic and inorganic compounds. Produced water contains over 1,000 compounds including toxic and carcinogenic aromatic hydrocarbons like benzene and xylenes as well as toxic metals like barium, arsenic and mercury. It also contains the indestructible, toxic, and carcinogenic perfluoroalkyl compounds known as PFAS. The NMED scientific staff has already evaluated the toxicity of produced water, and they have concluded that produced water should not be allowed to contaminate New Mexico ground and surface waters. My scientific opinion is that this is the correct decision. Nevertheless, the Commission has decided to revisit this decision, and to not allow NMED staff scientists to participate. This is outrageous. New Mexico is an arid state with limited and dwindling amounts of usable ground and surface water. We must not permit that water to be contaminated. To do otherwise is folly. Thank you for allowing my participation in this important matter.

From: Wilkins.jim@gmail.com
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fracking water dispersal
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 2:42:37 PM

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I sat in on your meeting today. I am a PhD scientist who has had experience at the laboratory scale and at large scale. The process is called “scaling up “. Although university scientists are very skilled and may have developed new technologies in the 3 months since your original ruling on this issue it is highly unlikely that that technology is scalable on the scale required to adequately treat fracking effluent of millions of gallons of water. Please do not be fooled by industry lobbyists who claim that “new” science has been done in 3 months. Good science takes a lot longer than that to come to fruition. And as I stated above even if there is a technical breakthrough it still must be implemented at scale.

Respectfully
Jim Wilkins
650.213.6262

Dear WQCC Commissioners,

I virtually attended the public comment earlier today but unfortunately had to leave before you moved to hearing from virtual attendees. Below I share my comments which are adjusted to express my response to today's decisions. Thank you so much for your service and for your time in receiving this, and all, public comments.

My name is Rev. Clara Sims, and I am a young adult born and raised in Los Lunas, NM. I work as the Assistant ED of New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light – an organization that lifts up voices of people of faith and conscience across the entire state who care deeply for our sacred lands, waters, air, earth, and her peoples.

On behalf of New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light, I want to express deep disappointment and alarm in your decision to move forward with the Water Access Treatment & Reuse Alliance (WATR) petition. This reversal of course is unjust and reckless. Just a short time ago, after a comprehensive 18-month process, this body made the moral and science-based decision to prohibit the discharge of fracking wastewater into our freshwaters. To now revisit this exact issue is a profound waste of public resources and a serious blow to public trust in this body.

This decision not only ignores the rigorous work that has already been done, but it also dismisses a fundamental moral obligation. Water, a sacred gift and shared heritage in every faith tradition, is being put at great risk for the financial benefit of industry. Our duty as stewards of this land is to protect New Mexico's life-giving waters for all people and all creatures—for now and for all generations to come. It is deeply disturbing to witness profit-driven interests once again being prioritized over what is holy and what sustains all life.

The WATR petition is a clear attempt by industry insiders to relitigate a decision they didn't like, and the WQCC's willingness to entertain it is nothing short of alarming. This is especially true given that the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has been sidelined. This Commission's decisions must be based on objective science, and without the participation of NMED staff scientists, this cannot be a fair and balanced process. Furthermore, we are disappointed that the commission is allowing the use of language designed to mislead. We must be honest about what we're discussing: **produced water is toxic waste**, full of trade-secret chemicals. It should not be disguised in intentionally confusing language that misleads the public.

The acceleration of this process is reckless and unjust, and the commission's decision to move forward with it is out of step with science and the public's concerns. We are profoundly disappointed that the WQCC has chosen not to uphold the moral, science-based decision it had already made. Instead of standing by its commitment to protect New Mexico's sacred water, the commission is now opening the door to an unnecessary risk as well and an ever-greater foothold for oil and gas money to influence and control our public processes.

I pray that in spite of today's decision and through the remainder of this process you will lead not for the interests of the few, but for the common good of all by protecting our sacred, life-sustaining waters for all generations of New Mexicans to come.

In hope,

Rev. Clara Sims

From: [Heather Karlson](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on case: WQCC No. 25-34
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 12:43:46 PM

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Dear Ms. Jones:

I cannot attend today's hearing, but please pass my message on to the commissioners that **I do not want fracking waste in our waterways** because it is not safe for people or the environment.

Fracking wastewater contains known hazards and carcinogens such as PFAS, arsenic, barium, bromide, mercury, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene, and more.

The science-based rule the Commission passed is sound. Our state's water experts – who are charged with protecting public health and the environment – need to be allowed to participate in this hearing.

Please tell the commissioners that I urge them not to allow Big Oil to dump its fracking waste in our waterways.

Thank you.

Heather Karlson
Santa Fe, NM

From: [Ximena Zamacona](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WQCC must dismiss the WATR petition
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 12:08:12 PM

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Dear WQCC Administrator,

The WQCC's decision to grant the WATR petition a hearing defies the public, the science and the democratic process.

NMOGA members and other "WATR" alliance directors participated fully in the 23-84 hearing and had their chance to present evidence that proved reuse of fracking waste safe for public health and the environment. They failed to do so, and have presented no additional evidence to justify asking for a new hearing before the 23-84 rule was even adopted. They allege that they have new evidence but did not provide a single new peer reviewed scientific paper in their petition.

The law is clear - parties cannot simply rename themselves and try to relitigate a question that has already been decided. The WQCC's vote to grant the WATR petition a hearing is a gross miscarriage of justice and spits in the face of the people of New Mexico, who overwhelmingly spoke against allowing discharge of potentially dangerous toxic and radioactive produced water "treated" by companies that have a financial interest but no specific scientific standards against which their treatment protocols or discharged liquids can be measured.

Please share my comments with all Commissioners and act quickly to dismiss the WATR petition.

Sincerely,
Ximena Zamacona
22705 S HIGHWAY 28
La Mesa, NM 88044

From: [Maude Dinan](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WQCC 25-34(R) public comment
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 11:43:12 AM

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Hello Pam!

I hope you've been well. I'd like to send in my written public comment for WQCC 25-34(R), below, as I wasn't able to make an oral testimony. Thank you so much, and please let me know if you need anything else!

Dear Commision,

My name is Maude Dinan, and I am a resident of Dona Ana County. I write as a young person who is profoundly fearful for the disregard of democratic and scientific process in the decisions posed by WQCC and the implications that has for the health and prosperity of our landscape and communities. Just yesterday, I read how New Mexico has been ranked as the worst state to live ([WalletHub](#)), as our health, economy, and school systems are the worst in the nation ([New York Times](#)). There is a profound disconnect between what the oil and gas industry promises for the wellbeing of our state in terms of our economy and education systems and what we the people are actually experiencing on the ground. Time and again, we are treated as a sacrifice zone for the sake of industry that is rarely held accountable for the harm it causes. I urge the commission to not allow a hearing to go forward without NMED participation - the true subject matter experts who can actually speak to the impacts of fracking water on the environment - instead of relying on industry and industry interest groups. Further, the process as it is isn't fair - it's not what the Commision has done in the past, and does not allow community members and nonprofits the ability to meaningfully participate. Thank you for your time.

From: [L. S.](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#); [Lopez, Luis, ENV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WQCC No. 25-34, Produced Water Rule 2.0, Public comment
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 11:10:19 AM

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Dear Pamela Jones and Luis Lopez,

Thank you for your help with the online portion of the hearing today. I regret I could not stay for the entire length, so I'm sending an email with my comment.

Dear chair and members of the commission,

My name is Laura Stupin, I am a resident of Santa Fe county. I want to thank the members of the commission for their service and their patience and consideration of so many public comments.

I especially want to thank them for all the hard work you put in over the past 18 months to carefully consider the scientific evidence and prohibit the discharge of produced water in the previous ruling.

The science has not changed since that ruling.

Scientists at the New Mexico Environment Department have already determined the technology to safely treat fracking waste water at scale (millions of gallons per day) does not exist yet.

During public comments we heard some scientists who spoke about progress towards filtration methods.

However, Produced Water Rule 1.0 already allows for pilot projects and re-visiting the rule in 5 years as the science progresses.

I would ask you to dismiss this rushed petition from the WATR alliance.

I would like to ask the Commissioners that they should not allow a hearing to go forward without (New Mexico Environment Department) NMED participation.

NMED staff scientists are charged with protecting human health and the environment with objective scientific information. I'm very concerned they are not currently participating.

The petitioner, WATR alliance represents the oil and gas industry, not the public.

It is not a fair process to push this rulemaking forward so fast, and it's not what the Commission has done in the past.

Thank you,

Laura Stupin

From: [Dan Pritchard](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#); [Lopez, Luis, ENV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WQCC motion hearing comment
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 11:09:44 AM

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I submit the following comments in lieu of giving verbal comments via WebEx today. I am not able to be online any longer.

Good morning commissioners. My name is Daniel Pritchard and I live in Taos. I am a state-licensed water system operator for a community of 30 homeowners. I am also on the executive board of Renewable Taos, a non-for-profit organization promoting energy efficiency, renewable energy, and the sustainability of our lands and our waters. I represent our many members on this topic.

Clean drinking water is very much on our minds here in north central New Mexico. That's why we participated in the original rulemaking. Where are any valid reasons for re-opening this rulemaking? There are none, because nothing has changed. Research is great, and when the Oil & Gas Poisonous Water Cleanup Alliance has something real to show us, such as being able to cleanup even one-tenth of their yearly 80 billion gallon poisonous water production, then it could be time to revisit the rules. Until then, please keep all produced water prohibited from discharge as your rules mandate. No means no. This needless, costly relitigating is a waste of public dollars and resources. Countless volunteer hours have gone into this effort to protect our environment. The Oil & Gas industry has deep pockets to pay their team of lawyers and lobbyists. Please stop this attempt to circumvent your process.

Thank you.

Best regards,
Daniel Pritchard
Renewable Taos
Executive Board
505-980-8345



From: [Bobbe Besold](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on case: WQCC No. 25-34
Date: Monday, August 11, 2025 7:22:51 PM

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Dear Commissioner Jones,

I am writing to express my concerns about this corporate backed group WATR made up of oil and gas companies (Exxon, Chevron, Oxy and others) being given the opportunity to overturn the science based rule the commission passed.

As you know fracked (or "produced") water contains hundreds of toxins: heavy metals, benzene, radioactive materials (radium 226 and radium 228), PFAS (the forever chemical) and much more that the industry will not disclose. There is no technology that can "clean" fracked water.

Knowing this, why then are you willing to put our communities at risk, by poisoning our land, air, water, our children, grandchildren, our elders and all life? For the sake of greed?

This decision you are about to make will impact New Mexico adversely for thousands of years, is this the legacy you wish to create for our people, our planet?

Do the right thing and instead give us clean water, clean air and earth that grows the finest chile and healthiest food for our people. C
When you care for Mother Earth you take care of everyone.

Sincerely,

Bobbe Besold
Santa Fe ,NM

--

Bobbe Besold
505.988.9244
505-577-8153

www.bobbebesold.com

www.riversrunthroughus.org

From: [Karilyn Haozous](mailto:Karilyn.Haozous)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](mailto:Jones.Pamela_ENV)
Cc: yucca@earthcarenm.org; info@newenergyeconomy.org
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to WATR Alliance Petition – Protect New Mexico's Water
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 9:07:20 AM

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Dear Chair Bruce Thomson and Administrator, Pamela. Jones,

I hope this message finds you well.

As a citizen of New Mexico and an Indigenous person from the Dinéh and Taos Pueblo Nations, I am writing to respectfully urge the Water Quality Control Commission to dismiss the petition submitted by the WATR Alliance. This organization is reportedly backed by oil and gas industry interests, including Chevron, OXY, and ConocoPhillips—entities whose involvement raises serious concerns about the intent and potential consequences of the proposal.

The Commission has already determined that there is no scientific justification for the discharge or reuse of toxic, radioactive fracking waste in New Mexico. Revisiting this issue would not only contradict that finding, but also disregard the overwhelming public opposition voiced by communities across the state.

Water is a sacred and finite resource in New Mexico. Its protection is not only a matter of environmental stewardship but of public health, cultural preservation, and intergenerational responsibility. Indigenous communities, in particular, have long upheld the sanctity of water as central to our lifeways and survival. Allowing hazardous waste to enter our water systems would jeopardize ecosystems, threaten vulnerable populations, and erode trust in the Commission's commitment to science-based decision-making.

I respectfully ask that you uphold the Commission's prior findings and reject the WATR Alliance petition in defense of New Mexico's waters.

Thank you for your time, leadership, and continued service to our state.

Warm regards,

Karilyn L. Haozous
1729 Figueroa Dr NE, Apt. C
Albuquerque, NM 87112
Ph: (575) 497-7288
Citizen of New Mexico
Dinéh and Taos Pueblo Nations

From: [Carolyn Simmons](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Fw: TOMORROW: Stop NM from allowing Big Oil to dump fracking waste in our waterways (again)
Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 11:01:56 AM

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Dear Ms. Jones,

Thank you for all you did to make it possible for the public to comment at yesterday's meeting. I'm incredibly shocked and disappointed by the outcome. Unfortunately, that seems to be the way government works these days.

Kind regards,

Carolyn Simmons, Director
Alliance Française School of Abq

From: Jones, Pamela, ENV <Pamela.Jones@env.nm.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 6:38 AM
To: Carolyn Simmons <simmonscj@msn.com>
Cc: Lopez, Luis, ENV <luis.lopez@env.nm.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Fw: TOMORROW: Stop NM from allowing Big Oil to dump fracking waste in our waterways (again)

If you would like to speak, we can call your name in the order it was received. If you are on the platform, and we haven't called your name, simply raise your hand or send us a chat and we will call on you.

Pam Jones
Paralegal
Office of Public Facilitation
(505) 660-4305 cell

From: Carolyn Simmons <simmonscj@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, August 11, 2025 10:08 PM
To: Jones, Pamela, ENV <Pamela.Jones@env.nm.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fw: TOMORROW: Stop NM from allowing Big Oil to dump fracking waste in our waterways (again)

You don't often get email from simmonscj@msn.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Good evening,

I was checking my email later than usual this evening and found this from Camilla. If you still

need other folks to speak, I should be able to join you at 9am on Zoom. I'm also happy to just join without speaking and raise my hand in protest if there is such a thing. In the meantime, I will look at your talking points and try to craft a short reponse.

Thanks for all you do!

Carolyn Simmons

From: Rio Grande Chapter - Lobby <RIO-LOBBY@LISTS.SIERRACLUB.ORG> on behalf of Camilla Feibelman <camilla.feibelman@sierraclub.org>

Sent: Monday, August 11, 2025 5:32 PM

To: RIO-LOBBY@LISTS.SIERRACLUB.ORG <RIO-LOBBY@LISTS.SIERRACLUB.ORG>

Subject: TOMORROW: Stop NM from allowing Big Oil to dump fracking waste in our waterways (again)

Friends, Please join us at 9am tomorrow to speak out against the Big Oil dumping fracking waste in our water ways. Thanks! Camilla

Sierra Club Rio Grande Chapter



The Pecos River near Fort Sumner, NM. Photo credit Gregory Lewis.

[RSVP to give comment! We'll follow up with you.](#)

Dear Camilla,

This summer, we won an important victory for New Mexico's waterways with a [new state rule prohibiting oil and gas companies from discharging treated fracking wastewater to our rivers, streams, and groundwater](#). Now, before the ink was even dry on that rule, the fossil fuel industry is trying to undo it with a new rule proposing discharge of the treated wastewater. And for the first time in the Water Quality Control Commission's 58-year history, NMED is opting out of participation in a rulemaking to pass a rule NMED will implement.

NMED scientists spent several years working on a rule to prohibit discharge of treated and untreated produced water and submitted several hundred pages of testimony in support of NMED's proposed rule to prohibition discharge on the grounds that, at this time, it is not safe to discharge treated or untreated produced water to New Mexico surface and ground waters. The Commission just spent 18 months considering NMED's proposed rule and assessing whether treated fracking wastewater can be discharged safely, with reams of information from NMED scientists and other scientific and engineering experts showing the technology to treat produced water at scale to levels safe for people and the environment does not

exist.

We need to overwhelm the Water Quality Control Commission with public comments saying we do not want fracking waste in our waterways

because it is not safe for people or the environment and that the science-based rule the Commission passed is sound. And that we need our state's water experts – who are charged with protecting public health and the environment – to participate in this hearing.

Fracking wastewater contains known hazards and carcinogens such as PFAS, arsenic, barium, bromide, mercury, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes. And that's just a handful of the estimated 1,100 compounds estimated to exist in this toxic soup. The EPA estimates that oil companies keep 11% of those compounds hidden from the public as "trade secrets."

The group requesting this do-over is made up of oil industry insiders and its board includes representatives from Chevron and ConocoPhillips, which just last month were [cited by the state of Colorado for falsifying groundwater pollution lab results](#) to "[minimize] the levels of a wide variety of pollutants, including arsenic and barium in the soil and benzene in groundwater." This group cannot be trusted to keep our water safe.

We are taking action to fight back against this reckless and risky proposal, and right now we need your help to show the Commission the public is outraged that it is even considering letting Big Oil discharge fracking waste to our waterways and groundwater, especially after just prohibiting it and especially if the state's experts will not participate.

Please, please attend the Water Quality Control Commission meeting on this topic—in person or virtually—and tell commissioners not to allow Big Oil to dump its fracking waste in our waterways.

WHEN: Tuesday, August 12, 9 a.m.

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU CAN PARTICIPATE BY CLICKING [HERE](#):

**Please RSVP with us so that we can provide you with further resources.

Logistics for Speaking:

SEND AN EMAIL TO Pamela.Jones@env.nm.gov letting her know you'd like to comment during the meeting (You can say, I'd like to offer public comment on Tuesday on case no, WQCC No. 25-34

ATTEND IN PERSON: New Mexico Legislature, Room 307

ATTEND VIRTUALLY:

<https://nmed-oit.webex.com/nmed-oit/j.php?MTID=mb35087698e9e198d86933050527872f7>

Meeting number: 2865 437 5193

Password: YJxSc3JgM99

PREPARE YOUR TESTIMONY:

Please prepare a short 2 min statement

Talking points here: <https://westernlaw.org/producedwatertalkingpoints/>

Write it up, say it out loud on Tuesday. The commission needs to hear from us on Tuesday!

Send it by email to pamela.jones@env.nm.gov (before the Commission meeting if possible)

Consider turning your testimony into a letter to the editor.

Thanks for all you do for the environment,

Camilla Feibelman
Chapter Director | Sierra Club Rio Grande Chapter



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****FOR URGENT OR TIMELY MATTERS PLEASE TEXT****

Camilla Feibelman

Sierra Club Rio Grande Chapter Director

Office: 505.243.7767 Cell: 505.715.8388

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Working from occupied Tiwa land

For more information on the:

Para más información sobre el:

Sierra Club de Puerto Rico

adriana.gonzalez@sierraclub.org

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From: [M BELL](#)
To: [Jones, Pamela, ENV](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Case No. WQCC No. 25-34
Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 2:32:24 PM

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Water Quality Control Commissioners,

New Mexico is clearly facing a water crisis Yet every year we give billions of gallons of fresh water to the oil and gas companies for fracking, and we get a toxic sludge in return while they make millions off our natural resources. Now these oil and gas companies want to contaminate our remaining fresh water resources with that fracked wastewater which is known to contain known hazards and carcinogens such as PFAS, arsenic, barium, bromide, mercury, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylenes. And that's just a handful of the estimated 1,100 compounds estimated to exist in this toxic soup. After months of study and hearings, NMED issued a prohibition against allowing this toxic soup into our water systems. I am outraged at the Water Quality Control Commission's vacating that prohibition in favor of the oil and gas companies and with no regard for the impact of contaminating our scarce water resources on the health of our state, our economy, our environment and our communities with fracked wastewater. There is NO treatment for this toxic sludge that will make it safe to drink. The Water Quality Control Commissioners have made a grievous mistake for our state and our precious water resources. New Mexico cannot survive if our fresh water resources are contaminated, and the Water Quality Control Commissioners have just opened to the door for that. This is an existential decision for our state, and the Water Quality Control Commission has made a very bad decision. Shame on you.

Margaret Bell
Albuquerque 87107