

Catherine Lukes

The previous submission did not accurately reflect my statement. Here is the PDF of my full statement.

Members and Commissioners,

I would like to thank you for your dedication and service on this important Board and Commission. My name is Catherine Lukes. I am a midwife in Albuquerque and my husband is a high school teacher. I am here to represent our family's values, in hopes that my comment today will lead to more wellness in our community, our state and our planet.

Our family believes that moving our society to electrification in multiple sectors will be the path that leads us toward restoring environmental balance on our planet and thereby lead to more unity for humanity. My husband and I have watched the world change right in front of our eyes in the 22 years since our son was born. When he was little, we used to have frogs and toads visit our home every monsoon season, our bird feeders had to be replenished weekly and colorful insects could be found throughout our garden. These days, the bird feeders only need filling every month or so and the absence of toads and bugs in the garden is palpable.

We believe that adopting clean car and truck standards is key to helping reverse environmental degradation and improve the health of human beings as well as nature - which we are not separate from. Both hubby and I drive EVs and love them in every way! We never have to take them in for an oil change, and maintenance non-existent! It only costs us about \$45/month to charge both cars, as opposed to the same amount just once at the gas pump! No longer do we contribute to toxic carbon dioxide emissions and global wars.

Our son (the one who used to wonder at the toads) is now an electrical engineer working for a company bringing large-scale solar installations to grid systems. In our family, we see first hand how moving toward renewable energy is the path to a livable future. PNM is rapidly increasing capacity with enormous solar and wind installations! Have you seen the huge battery packs? They are the size of a bus! 200 megawatt hours of storage capacity each! In just his project alone there are 53 batteries and 800 acres of solar panels - and there are several others going up in other parts of the state as we speak. There will be enough capacity, and the charging of cars and trucks will be via clean energy!

There is no down-side to adopting these rules in New Mexico, there are only benefits to humanity and for the planet. I urge the Environmental Improvement Board and the Albuquerque - Bernalillo Air Quality Control Commission to approve the Clean Cars and Trucks Rules. Lets bring the birds and toads back for future generations... I can guarantee, babies keep coming!