



March 25, 2020

Office of the Governor of New Mexico, Michelle Lujan Grisham
State of New Mexico Office of the Attorney General, Hector Balderas

From:

The Enchanted Circle Community Organizations Active in Disasters (COAD)
Members are: Holy Cross Hospital, Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, Taos Community Foundation, Shared Table, Taos Ski Valley, Town of Taos, Taos County, and Taos County Chamber of Commerce, Village of Questa

Re: Formal Request to Lower Gasoline Prices in Northern New Mexico

Dear Honorable Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and Honorable Attorney General Hector Balderas,

As you know, gasoline prices are lowering because of the COVID-19 health emergency and the global price of oil. In Northern New Mexico and the Enchanted Circle, gas prices remain high. As community leaders, we are deeply concerned with the impact this is having on our businesses, residents and employees. As New Mexicans are losing their jobs, having reduced work hours, closing their businesses, we need your offices to act to protect New Mexicans from unaffordable gasoline prices.

According to New Mexico Gas Prices, <http://www.newmexicogasprices.com/>, all of our local gas stations have maintained high prices:

Sinclair at \$2.48

Smith's at \$2.45

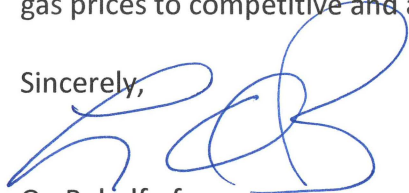
Speedway and Phillips and at \$2.39

In other parts of the state, the lower prices range \$1.35 - \$1.49. The New Mexico Gas Prices website shows a dollar difference per gallon. Our people cannot afford an extra \$15 - \$25 each time they fill up their vehicles. Too many people are losing their jobs, being furloughed or are attempting to keep open small businesses.

We are requesting immediate assistance in your respective offices contacting the above-mentioned companies to lower their prices immediately and keep affordable gas prices during the COVID-19 crisis that is affecting all New Mexicans. If these companies decide not to cooperate then we request to please open an investigation into *price gouging* from Smith's, Sinclair, Speedway, and Phillips.

During these troubling and uncertain times and this terrible health and economic crisis, we as the State of New Mexico citizens and businesses all have to cooperate and work with each other and share in the sacrifices that all of us are having to face and we encourage your respective offices to encourage the above mentioned companies also to be a good corporate citizen and lower the gas prices to competitive and affordable prices.

Sincerely,



On Behalf of

The Enchanted Circle Community Organizations Active in Disasters (COAD)

Luis A. Reyes, Jr.

Chief Executive Officer

Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, Inc.

lreyes@kitcarson.com

575-741-0213 (cell)

Cc: Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham – Office
Staff – Victor Reyes – victor.reyes@state.nm.us
Chief of Staff - john.bingaman@state.nm.us
Chief Operating Officer - teresa.casados@state.nm.us
State Auditor Brian Colon - Brian.Colon@osa.state.nm.us
Attorney General Hector Balderas – Office
Executive Assistant – Victoria Bransford – vbransford@nmag.gov
Administrative Assistant - hsandoval@nmag.gov

Senator, Roberto "Bobby" Gonzales - roberto.gonzales@nmlegis.gov

Senator, Richard C. Martinez - richard.martinez@nmlegis.gov

Senator, Pete Campos - pete.campos@nmlegis.gov

Representative, Daniel R. Barrone - daniel.barrone@nmlegis.gov

Representative, Joseph L. Sanchez - joseph.sanchez@nmlegis.gov

Representative, Susan K. Herrera - susan.herrera@nmlegis.gov