



The Questa Hydrogen Project: A Bright Spot in Rural Economic and Energy Development

The Questa hydrogen project will use electrolysis to separate hydrogen from reclaimed water located at the former molybdenum mine site and develop long-duration (up to 16 hours) energy storage technology. Ultimately, the project will generate enough energy to power 25,000 homes annually, bringing reliability and stability to the region's energy needs, and generating \$298 million in economic benefit to the region. After assessing the technical feasibility, energy production potential, and economic impact, KCEC applied for and was awarded \$231 million in federal funding to create the hydrogen hub. This project:

- **Delivers a long overdue economic boost to Questa with substantial regional spillover benefits:**
 - Construction of the facility will bring more than 350 jobs to the region.
 - The hydrogen hub and associated energy production will sustain more than 70 local jobs.
 - The increased tax revenue from the facility will provide funding for additional public safety officers and a full-time, professional EMS/fire-fighting workforce in a wildfire-prone region.
 - There will be a \$298 million economic benefit to the region in the first five years, delivering a nearly 130% ROI on the original award in just a few years. Approximately \$206 million of the \$298 million in economic impact will benefit Questa.
 - The project will generate \$44 million in additional tax revenue with approximately \$26 million of that landing in Questa.
- **Charts a path forward for northern New Mexico's energy future:** The Questa hydrogen project—believed to be the first of its kind in the country—will generate enough carbon-free energy to power nearly 25,000 homes each year.
- **Transforms a local liability into an energy opportunity:** The project will convert a brownfield into a greenfield development opportunity. The on-site water at the former mine can be used in the electrolysis process, transforming “bad water” into good energy.
- **Develops economic opportunities without sacrificing our local way of life:** This clean energy project protects Questa's spectacular landscape and is aligned with the importance local community members place on clean air, clean water, and healthy lands and wildlife.

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