

PRESS RELEASE

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David Bacon 920-5707
Rick Lass 920-0540

Conservation Voters Endorse David Bacon for Public Regulation Commission, district 4

Conservation Voters New Mexico has announced that its choice for Public Regulation Commission in district 4 is David Bacon. "Conservation Voters New Mexico is proud to endorse David Bacon," stated Sandy Buffett, Executive Director of CVNM. "David will bring a fresh voice to the PRC for building a sustainable energy economy that benefits all New Mexicans while protecting our environment."

David Bacon is gratified to receive the endorsement. "I share the goals of Conservation Voters, and I look forward to being able to implement sound environmental values into decisions made by the PRC."

David Bacon knows we don't have to keep polluting our environment to supply basic needs. "By supporting local production of energy in solar, wind, and biomass, we create a win-win solution. Not only do we eliminate the need for large, highly polluting coal and nuclear plants, we also eliminate the long transmission lines that cost so much in loss of efficiency and in environmental destruction".

Some excerpts from David Bacon's CVNM questionnaire responses:

"I would like to see substantial increases in the renewable percentages over what is currently required. I believe that a 2020 goal of 50%, with compatible intermediate goals, is achievable.

My focus is on local generation for local use – a very different model than the traditional one of centralized generation at huge power plants and transmission over intrusive (and inefficient) lines to distant markets.

The PRC has a major role in determining the renewable portfolio for electric utilities. In addition to wind and solar, an additional local energy source is biomass for local thermal energy production, reducing the need for long transmission lines and as a way to have forest thinning occur in a sustainable way that can have significant benefits to local economies.

Nuclear energy is the antithesis of the kind of ecologically sensitive, renewable and decentralized energy system I am working towards.

I plan to strengthen net-metering rights in two ways: First, I will promote rules that require utilities to interconnect any renewable-energy system that meets safety standards set by a neutral third-party. Second, I will seek to implement feed-in tariffs that reward customers for installing renewable energy systems by paying a premium for the energy they generate. Such tariffs have become known worldwide as the single most effective tool for accelerating implementation of renewable energy.

The PRC should fund a legal structure to represent ratepayers in PRC proceedings.

Public financing or "clean elections" is one of the ways we can recover our democracy."

For the full text of the CVNM questionnaire and David's responses, please see www.DavidBacon2006.org

For more information on Conservation Voters of New Mexico, see www.cvnm.org