

RE: Oppose SB 99 No Fuel Less-Than-Zero Carbon Intensity

Mr./Madame Chair and Committee Members:

Better Together New Mexico (BTNM) brings together hundreds of advocacy groups and thousands of New Mexicans statewide. Our mission is to unite New Mexicans through grassroots initiatives and work to positively shape the decisions that affect our lives, families, and communities.

BTNM strongly opposes SB 99 No Fuel Less-Than-Zero Carbon Intensity. This bill bans credits for renewable natural gas (RNG), biogas, and renewable hydrogen, which will harm New Mexico's economy and weaken our energy future. We believe SB 99 will:

Harm Rural Communities and Statewide Job Opportunities:

- *Job Losses:* This ban will eliminate jobs in construction, operations, and maintenance, especially in rural areas where they are needed most.
- Loss of Farm Income: Farmers and agricultural producers will lose new revenue opportunities from renewable projects, slowing rural economic growth.

Weaken Energy:

 Without the renewable energy options that are mentioned in SB 99 being fully developed, eventually New Mexico and the nation could be forced to rely more on imported energy, putting our energy security at risk.

Stifle Innovation and Send Mixed Messages to Renewable Energy Investors:

- This bill hinders innovative, market-driven energy solutions that will slow economic progress and limit energy diversification efforts.
- While New Mexico strongly promotes renewable energy, this bill targets key renewable sources creating confusion and discouraging investment.

Waste Existing Infrastructure:

 RNG and hydrogen use existing gas infrastructure. Discouraging development of these energy sources wastes past investments and limits future job creation and diversified energy sector growth.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge you to vote **NO** on SB 99 No Fuel Less-Than-Zero Carbon Intensity.

Thank you for considering my comments,

Carla J. Sonntag
President and CEO