

## DOCKETED

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# Energy Prospects West

## **PNM to Build Four Solar Projects Next Year**

June 10, 2014

PNM will build four 10-MW photovoltaic solar power projects in 2015, raising its solar capacity to 107 MW, according to its 2015 renewable energy plan filed with the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission on June 2.

The four projects, which will cost \$79 million to build, will help the investor-owned utility meet its 2016 RPS requirements and replace some coal-fired generation.

"When the state renewable energy requirement increases from 10 to 15 percent next year, PNM will be ready with a fully diverse portfolio that includes eight existing solar centers plus three new centers currently under development, geothermal energy, additional wind energy from the Red Mesa Wind Energy Center plus renewable energy certificates from its customer solar program and wind generated in eastern New Mexico," PNM's announcement said.

New Mexico regulators have already approved the aforementioned resources in PNM's previous renewable plans. This year's plan will be reviewed and potentially approved by the PRC later this year.

PNM used a competitive bidding process to select developers for the projects. Albuquerque-based Affordable Solar and GranSolar S.A. have been selected to build two of the projects, and Juwi Solar will build the remaining two. Currently, PNM is evaluating potential sites in the central part of the state.

- Penelope Kern

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