

# NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

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## MEDIA & PRESS CONTACT

Carlos A. Padilla  
Public Information Officer  
Office: 505-827-4446  
Mobile: 505-467-9116  
[carlos.padilla2@state.nm.us](mailto:carlos.padilla2@state.nm.us)  
1120 Paseo de Peralta  
Suite 423  
Santa Fe, NM 87504

## CHIEF OF STAFF

ERNEST D. ARCHULETA, P.E.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 8, 2017**

**NEWS RELEASE**

# Commission Unanimously Approves EPE's Economic Development Tariff

**SANTA FE** – The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) on Wednesday, March 8 unanimously approved an economic development tariff proposed by El Paso Electric Company (EPE) for Doña Ana County and southern Sierra County.

EPE's proposed Economic Development Rate (EDR) tariff aims to provide eligible customers with the option of negotiating an economic development rate contract with EPE, subject to Commission review and approval.

EPE is lawfully permitted to enter into special rate contracts with potential high load customers in order to spur economic development within EPE's New Mexico territory. The EDR tariff approved by the NMPRC today will be available to new EPE customers who meet qualifying criteria and who will have the ability to negotiate a four-year special rate contract with the company at a rate not lower than EPE's incremental cost of service.

This economic development rate provides an incentive for new customers to relocate to EPE's New Mexico market.

EPE's existing customers will not bear any costs associated with the company's offers of economic development and other special rates or contracts. Any cost above the incremental cost of generation and delivery will be borne solely by EPE shareholders.

Qualifying criteria for the EDR tariff is available at <https://www.epelectric.com>.

Economic development rates across the United States have proven to be an effective economic development tool in attracting new businesses to an area and creating jobs.

## ABOUT THE NMPRC

*The NMPRC regulates public utilities, telecommunications companies and motor carriers operating in the State of New Mexico. It also administers the State Fire Marshal's Office, the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy in Socorro, N.M., and the Pipeline Safety Bureau.*

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