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## NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION FROM THE OFFICE OF DISTRICT 5 COMMISSIONER SANDY JONES

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2, 2018

### CONTACT:

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### *Public comment hearings planned on New Mexico Gas Co.'s proposed rate increase*

**SANTA FE, NM** – New Mexico Public Regulation Commission Chairman Sandy Jones is seeking feedback on a proposed rate increase for New Mexico Gas Company customers and is hosting public comment hearings in Silver City, Deming, Los Lunas, Alamogordo and Anthony.

New Mexico Gas Company serves more than 524,000 customers in 27 counties throughout New Mexico. Approximately 92 percent of the company's customer base is residential; commercial and industrial customers make up the remaining eight percent.

The company is requesting an \$8 million increase in annual base revenues, which correlates to an approximate 1.4 percent increase in an average residential customer bill.

According to the utility, since 2012, it has invested more than \$250 million in system upgrades and maintenance, as well as in operations, and says these investments are the primary reason for the proposed rate adjustment.

"As chairman of the agency that represents energy consumers, I urge New Mexico Gas Company customers to attend a hearing to learn what a rate increase would mean for them," said Commissioner Jones. "Their input is valuable and their voices will be heard."

Representatives of New Mexico Gas Company will address the audience prior to the comment portion of the meeting.

### **The public comment hearing schedule follows:**

#### **Silver City**

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Grant County Administration Center, Commission Meeting Room

1400 Highway 180 East, Silver City, NM

#### **Deming**

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

4:00-6:00 p.m.

Luna County Courthouse, Commission Chambers

700 S. Silver Ave., Deming, NM

**Los Lunas**

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

3:00-5:00 p.m.

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Los Lunas Transportation Center Auditorium

101 Courthouse Rd., Los Lunas, NM

**Alamogordo**

Thursday, May 10, 2018

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Alamogordo Public Library

920 Oregon Ave. Alamogordo, NM

**Anthony**

Thursday, May 10, 2018

5:30-7:30 p.m.

City of Anthony, City Hall, Board of Trustee Chambers

820 Highway 478, Anthony, NM

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*The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) regulates the utilities, telecommunications, and motor carrier industries to ensure fair and reasonable rates, and to assure reasonable and adequate services to the public as provided by law. The NMPRC promotes public safety through the offices of State Fire Marshal, the Firefighter Training Academy, Pipeline Safety Bureau, and Transportation Division.*