



March 12, 2021

Secretary James Kenney  
NM Environmental Department  
PO Box 5469  
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Senator Mimi Stewart  
490 Old Santa Fe Trail  
Capitol Room 115A  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

**RE: Senate Bill 11, New Mexico Clean Fuel Standard SUPPORT**

Dear Secretary Kenney and Senator Stewart:

As the voice of the US biogas industry, we're writing today to express our strong support for New Mexico Senate Bill 11 to create a Clean Fuel Standard. We know, from experience in other states, that a CFS in New Mexico as designed in SB 11 will, just from the biogas and RNG industry, create millions of dollars in new investment and thousands of new jobs. The CFS will incentivize our industry to build new recycling infrastructure to turn the enormous volume of organic waste in New Mexico into renewable electricity, renewable hydrogen, or renewable natural gas (RNG) for vehicles plus valuable soil amendments. And because biogas is at worst a low carbon source of clean transportation fuel, and at best a carbon negative fuel, we can be sure that more biogas will help plummet state GHG emissions from one of the highest emitting sectors.

The American Biogas Council is the voice of the US biogas industry. We represent more than 240 companies and 2,700 individuals, including many in New Mexico and more interested in doing business in the state. The American Biogas Council is focused on making it easier to build more biogas systems through education and improving policy, and SB 11 will help.

Biogas systems protect our air, water and soil by recycling organic material, like food waste and manure, into renewable energy and soil products. For vehicles, the biogas can be converted to renewable electricity for BEVs, renewable hydrogen for FCEVs, and RNG for CNG vehicles.

The potential for producing renewable vehicle fuel and building new biogas systems in New Mexico is enormous because there is a lot of organic material that needs to be recycled. Specifically:

- 8.3 million tons/year of manure (mostly dairy manure and some swine);
- 650,000 tons/year of food waste; and
- 31 billion gallons/year of wastewater.

If New Mexico does NOT pass SB 11, what will the state do with all this organic material? It can't all be composted. Even if it were, you'd be wasting the huge potential to produce renewable fuel and displace fossil fuel from New Mexico's organic waste that's already sending global warming methane emissions into the air. We must harness this resource and incentivize our industry to build the infrastructure to do so. SB 11 will help do that.

New Mexico's biogas potential is almost untapped. The state currently has 12 operating biogas systems but the potential to build 135 more according to our [Biogas State Profile](#). These new biogas systems would:

- produce 3,599 construction jobs, 239 permanent jobs, and at least \$432 million in new capital investments;
- produce 178 million gallon equivalents of fuel, if all the biogas was used for vehicle fuel;
- reduce emissions equivalent to removing 1.3 million cars from the road; and
- produce numerous secondary benefits from waste management and odor reduction on farms, to soil health, air quality, and more.

And that's just from the biogas industry....

SB 11 will be a win-win for New Mexico for the economy and the environment.

Sincerely,

  
Patrick Serfass  
Executive Director