



Hello RGI;

I know you haven't heard from me for the last 4 days, and no, I am not dead. I have been busy working on the big **Hands Off April 5th rally** which is going to be a major event. So far, I have answered over **330** emails from people that are joining us on for this event and we have **11** more days left!

Unfortunately, in Albuquerque there is another event that will coincide with our rally. That is the **32nd Annual Ceasar Chavez & Dolores Huerta Celebration** which will go on from 10am - 3pm. So in respect for this historic celebration, the **Hands Off Rally** will be moved to **2pm - 4pm**.

So, here are some links associated with the Hands Off Rally

You don't have to register for this event, but it would be nice to have an official count. Also, I send out an information email if you sign up through **Mobilize**.

**Link to Event through Mobilize**

[Hands Off! Join the National Mobilization to Fight Back · Hands Off on Mobilize](#)

If you would like to volunteer for this event you can on this link below:

**Link to Volunteer Form for Hands Off Rally**

<https://forms.gle/wGG6HSAfrYij4mCW6>

If you would like to make a small donation to cover some of the cost, you can at this link:

**Pay Pal Link**

<https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/H2BJTY3XVCGUL>

Once the guest speaker list is finalized, I will let you know.

Also in this email, there is an article from the Conservation Voters New Mexico summing up of the New Mexico Legislative 2025 session which ended March 22 on environmental bills. The ones that passed are now ready for the governor to sign.

RGI member, Terry N, has sent a great article about the Tesla Protest. These protestors have been called domestic terrorists by Trump and Musk, but we know who the real domestic terrorists are!

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### *From the Conservation Voters New Mexico*

In a historic win for climate and conservation, the 2025 long legislative session closed only hours ago. During this time, CVNM advocates, partners, allies, and stakeholders worked with our legislature to pass a record number of lands, water, wildlife, and community protection bills. This effort punctuates a remarkable session and sends a clear message to Washington: New Mexico will not stand idly by while decisions are made that harm our climate, environment, and democracy.

**Of the 81 bills we worked on, 21 are on their way to the Governor's desk.** We will be sending a full recap of each bill later. Here is a first look at the outcomes of our Priority bills.

- **HB 9** Immigrant Safety Act - **Died waiting to be heard in Senate Judiciary**
- **HB 108** Statewide Public Health & Climate Program - **Died waiting to be heard in HAFC**
- **HB 109** Extreme Weather Resilience Fund - **Died waiting to be heard in HAFC**
- **HB 307/SB 420** Internet Privacy & Safety Act - **Died waiting for HC & ED/Died waiting for senate judiciary**
- **HJR 18/SJR 1** Commission on Legislative Salaries, CA - **Died waiting for HGEIC/Died in Senate Finance**
- **SB 4** Clear Horizons & Greenhouse Gas Emissions - **Died in SFC**
- **SB 5** Department of Game & Fish Modernization - **Passed; received a partial veto from the Governor striking the Game Commissioner removal process. All other aspects were signed into law**
- **SB 21** Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Act - **Passed; waiting for Governor's signature**
- **SB 23** Oil & Gas Royalty Rates - **Passed; waiting for Governor's signature**
- **SB 37** Strategic Water Reserve Act - **Passed; waiting for Governor's signature**
- **SB 48** Community Benefit Fund - **Passed; waiting for Governor's signature**
- **SB 83** Innovation in State Government Fund - **Passed; waiting for Governor's signature**
- **SB 250** State Enforcement of Immigration Law - **Died waiting to be heard on the Senate Floor**

For climate, several bills passed with SB 48 - Community Benefit Fund being a historic win. It creates a state-funded grant program to support climate and community resilience across the state. SB 48 and its \$210 million funding in HB 2, the budget bill, represents the largest investment in community-based climate action in the state's history.

Regarding water protection and governance, we saw an enormous win with the passage of SB 21 - Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Act. SB 21 will create a framework allowing the New Mexico Environment Department to

administer a Surface Water Permitting program, giving New Mexico control over protecting our waters from pollution.

Several democracy bills will also be headed to the Governor's desk, including SB 16 - Non-Major Party Voters in Primary Elections, which allows voters who are not registered with a major political party to participate in the primary election process.

SB 5 - Game Commission Reform resulted from years of advocacy and tireless negotiations to bring a bipartisan bill to the Governor's desk. It passed at a critical moment as the Trump Administration is actively urging federal agencies to eliminate wildlife protection laws and accelerate fossil fuel extraction and logging on federal public lands at all costs, which will destroy ecosystems and watersheds critical to our wildlife.

Trump's federal push to dismantle environmental budgets, fire federal agency staff and cripple foundational environmental rules has already begun to impact New Mexico. But these suites of bills demonstrate a clear commitment by elected leaders to protect our environment and communities.

Here at CVNM, we are already looking ahead at the interim committee process, and our advocacy team continues to build momentum with an eye on the 2026 budgetary session and the opportunity to further strengthen our firewall.

Thank you for helping keep New Mexico's lands, water, wildlife and diverse communities safe!

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## Take Telsa Down Article

From Terry N., RGI member

A good short article in support folks protesting Tesla.

**Take Telsa Down: A Billionaire Was Never Going to Stop Climate Change - CounterPunch.org**

<https://www.counterpunch.org/2025/03/21/take-telsa-down-a-billionaire-was-never-going-to-stop-climate-change/>

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