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PNM begins work on bird protection project for Valle Del Oro Urban National Wildlife Refuge

(Albuquerque, N.M.)—To support the mission and extensive habitat development plans of the Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in the South Valley of Albuquerque, PNM will be removing an unused line segment along a refuge boundary and will install bird guarding on remaining infrastructure within the refuge.

The refuge recently contacted PNM with concerns over avian interactions with electrical equipment. When its Environmental Services team received the call, Sharon Brown and Alaina Pershall quickly made a site visit to see what improvements could be made to the existing infrastructure and developed a plan for removal of unused powerline and poles and installation of wildlife protection devices on the existing infrastructure.



“We are thrilled to be working collaboratively with PNM to make the refuge and surrounding area safer for wildlife,” said Jennifer Owen-White, Valle de Oro NWR Refuge Manager. “We appreciate that PNM took our concerns seriously and moved quickly to find a solution. Our refuge is grounded in strong community partnerships, and we pleased to add PNM to this list of collaborators working with us as we transition this land from an old dairy farm to native wildlife habitats.”

Before coming to PNM, Pershall worked on restoration, urban habitat development, and volunteer tree planting projects for the refuge, and was very aware of the importance of the work that has gone into developing this refuge. The refuge would not exist if it wasn’t for the collaboration between numerous organizations, agencies, the public, and the hard work of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff. The refuge is important to the community and vital urban habitat, especially considering the magnitude of wildlife habitat loss and the decline of wildlife species, particularly avian species.

Our PNM team knew that the expansion of habitat on the refuge meant that we needed to identify opportunities to limit the potential for avian interactions with our equipment. Jacob Guin, Rotation



Engineer I, and Jeremy Tabet, Engineer II, quickly completed the design and scheduling for deenergizing the unused line segment and pole removal and will be starting work next week. Wes Gray is supporting the bird guarding for the remaining infrastructure which will be completed before bird migration and breeding season. The cost for this will be covered by PNM.

This is one more initiative PNM is doing as part of our long list of commitments


to our environment. Recently, PNM announced Maureen Gannon as its Chief Environmental Officer. The Chief Environmental Officer will be responsible for developing and implementing the PNM sustainable business strategy and will be charged with establishing and organizing existing department environmental policies, strategies, goals, and objectives. The position will also oversee the continuation and implementation of future programs that promote sustainability and ensure compliance with regulations and the overall execution of PNM's aggressive environmental objectives.

In addition, here is what else we are doing to be more environmentally conscious and sustainable:

PNM produces nearly **50% carbon-free energy** today, and we were the **first investor-owned utility** in the US to commit to produce **100% carbon-free energy**.




Our transition to cleaner energy has **reduced PNM carbon emissions by 23%** in 2021 compared to 2005 levels. Total plant **carbon emissions (PNM and other owners) reduction is 43%** when compared to 2005.




Over the next 20 years, PNM projects energy efficiency and load management programs will provide the equivalent of approximately **9,500 GWh of electricity savings**, which will **avoid at least 1.0 million metric tons of CO2** based upon projected emissions from PNM's system-wide resources.



Since 2005, our use of renewable energy has **avoided approximately 4.4M metric tons of carbon emissions** emitted into the atmosphere in 2021. This is **equivalent to greenhouse gas emissions from over 950,000 passenger vehicles** driven in one year.



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About PNM

With headquarters in Albuquerque, PNM is the largest electricity provider in New Mexico, serving more than 530,000 customers in dozens of communities across the state. PNM strives to create enduring value for customers, communities and shareholders built on a foundation of Environmental, Social and Governance Principles. At the core of our business, we are focused on our vision of creating a clean and bright energy future, our purpose of working together with our customers and community to serve their energy needs, and our values of safety, caring, and integrity. PNM is a subsidiary of PNM Resources, an energy holding company also headquartered in Albuquerque. For more information, visit PNM.com.