



Stephanie Garcia Richard, Land Commissioner
State of New Mexico

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Contact:

Angie Poss, Assistant Commissioner of Communications
505.470.2965
aposs@slo.state.nm.us

**Great Divide, LLC Awarded Grant County Wind
Farm Project**
*State Land Office Dedicated to Jump Starting
New Mexico's Renewable Future*

SANTA FE, NM – Great Divide Wind Farm, LLC – a subsidiary of Scout Clean Energy - has won a bid for over 16,000 acres of state trust land located in Grant County. The area has been designated as prime for wind energy generation. The state trust land portion of the project is anticipated to generate 100 megawatts (MW), with the entire farm generating 250 MW, enough capacity to power approximately 250,000 New Mexico households.

“The announcement of the Great Divide Wind Farm is just a fraction of our strategy to jump start New Mexico’s renewable energy future. It is just six months into my administration, but we are on track to hit our goal by tripling the wind and solar generation on state trust land,” Commissioner Garcia Richard said. “Over the term of this lease, Great Divide will bring in \$16 million to New Mexico public schools, hospitals, and colleges. With the number of applications pending for projects on state trust land, New Mexico will soon see a booming wind and solar economy, which means new revenue flowing to the Land Office. It is our mission to diversify our revenue while also helping to move New Mexico toward a clean energy future.”

Applications for the 16,000 acres of state trust land were open to potential bidders for 10 weeks, with final applications due to the State Land Office by June 26, 2019 at 3:00 pm. The sealed bids were opened this morning at the Land Office. Great Divide was the

sole applicant for the land and have acquired or plan to acquire over 30,000 additional acres from other nearby land owners. Great Divide estimates that construction will last 18 to 24 months with 275-300 temporary construction jobs needed. 10-15 long term jobs will be filled once the project is operational.

Each acre of state trust land is designated to a specific beneficiary, with the funds raised by activity on that land going back to various New Mexico public institutions including public schools, colleges and hospitals. The majority of the revenue raised from the Great Divide Wind Farm will benefit New Mexico public schools.

Oil, gas, and mineral production, ranching and farming, and commercial development on State Trust Lands support public schools, seven universities, New Mexico Military Institute, New Mexico School for the Deaf, New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, three hospitals, correctional facilities, water conservation projects, and public building construction and repair. In fiscal year 2019, the State Land Office collected \$1 billion from lease payments, oil and gas lease sale earnings, rights-of-way, permits, interest, fees, and oil, gas and mineral royalties.