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**New Mexico Class VI Primacy Workshop
Tribal & Rural Engagement**

Presented by: HBW Resources

Date: May 22, 2025



Why Engagement Matters & Where it Starts

- Engagement doesn't stop at permitting — it's a long-term commitment
- Many tribal members live outside tribal boundaries; rural outreach is equally critical
- Early, inclusive engagement builds trust and helps prevent future conflicts





Primary Audiences:

- Tribal governments & members
- Rural residents & homeowners (adjacent to project sites)
- Local businesses & chambers
- Community leaders & elected officials
- Environmental groups & education/training institutions
- Economic development organizations



*Tailored outreach is essential — one-size-fits-all **does not** work.*



Geographic Focus – Four Corners & Beyond

- **Navajo Nation** – Spanning NM, AZ, UT
- **Jicarilla Apache Nation** – Key regional partner
- **Southern & Mountain Ute Tribes** – Just north in CO
- **22 NM Pueblos** – All with unique governance and land ties

*HBW will serve as a **resource**, helping communities access technical info, permitting education, and partnership opportunities.*





Engagement & Benefits:

The Long Game – Continued Engagement & Benefits

- Community involvement must extend beyond approval stages
- Ongoing feedback loops build trust and ensure shared benefit
- Workforce programs, training, and long-term economic growth opportunities should be local
- Example: traffic or infrastructure impacts from CCS development



We're here to ensure communities aren't just heard, but helped.



TEAM LEADS



Andrew Browning – Partner, HBW Resources

- 25+ years in energy policy and government affairs
- Former DOE official; leads Western States and Tribal Nations initiative
- Works across utilities, tribal governments, and regional energy coalitions

Matthew Gonzales – Executive Director / Southwest, HBW Resources

- Nearly two decades in energy and natural resource development
- Former Mayor (Cimarron, NM); helped establish Four Corners Clean Energy Alliance
- Leads rural and tribal outreach across the Four Corners region and Western US



Proven Class VI Engagement Experience

HBW team members have supported Class VI primacy efforts in Texas and Louisiana, including:

- EPA and state permitting strategy
- Community and stakeholder outreach
- Legislative education and technical engagement

Our model is grounded in long-term relationships, meaningful community involvement, and deep policy fluency across geographies.



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Thank you for your time.

Matthew Gonzales

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