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Statewide gas outage updates

Latest on the crisis from around New Mexico

Updated: Friday, 04 Feb 2011, 3:38 PM MST
Published : Thursday, 03 Feb 2011, 11:02 AM MST

- offering assistance and transportation to shelter for those who needed it.
 - City of Las Cruces offices closed Feb. 4** - At the request of El Paso Electric (EPE), City of Las Cruces offices and facilities are closed today, Friday, February 4th to help reduce stress on EPE's power system. However, field operations will be maintained to include police and fire service, and street operations. Street crews will continue to salt and sand icy patches and repair road damage caused by harsh weather conditions. The decision was made to remain closed an additional day to help reduce EPE's electrical load. Other closures for Friday, Feb. 4th include municipal court and Juvenile Citation Program offices (JCP). JCP classes are canceled. RoadRUNNER Transit and Dial-a-Ride resumed normal operations at 6:30 a.m. today. Commercial and residential trash pick-up service resumed today on a slightly delayed basis. Residential customers whose regular trash pick-up days are Wednesday and Thursday are asked to leave their trash containers out and they will be serviced as soon as possible. Trash pick-ups will continue through Saturday and possibly Sunday to make up for lost days. Las Cruces Utilities continues to ask customers to limit natural gas use to reduce strain on the system.
 - Santa Fe Trails Bus service suspended Feb. 4** - Santa Fe Trails buses will not be in operation today, February 4th, due to the State of Emergency. Service will be suspended on all routes. No local connections will be provided for Rail Runner passengers. Santa Fe Ride operations will continue to serve the elderly and disabled. For more information call (505) 955-2001.
 - University of New Mexico closed until Monday** - In order to help make more power available to areas outside of the metro area, the University of New Mexico Albuquerque campus will be closed through Sunday, Feb. 6. UNM employees in previously designated critical areas including Campus Police and the Physical Plant will be expected to report to work as usual. All activities including classes at the Health Sciences Center are canceled through Sunday. Only those faculty, staff and students engaged in direct patient care should plan on reporting to work. Additionally, all scheduled administrative meetings are canceled.
 - Taos and Bernalillo shelter updates** - Taos County and the town of Bernalillo have released [details of shelters](#) open in the town of Taos and other communities.
 - Schools closing** - Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Alamogordo and likely other public schools won't open Friday. For the latest check the [School Closings](#) at KRQE.com
 - Albuquerque opens shelters** - Mayor Richard J. Berry has [opened four shelters in city](#) and East Mountain community centers and listed items people should bring if they need a place warm to stay.
 - PNM not planning outages** - Someone claiming to be with PNM has been calling residents of the town of Bernalillo saying they may experience a power outage tonight. A spokesman for PNM says no such outages are planned.
 - Water utility backlog of frozen pipes** - The Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Authority says it has a backlog of over 400 frozen pipe calls, five to six times the normal volume. They give the highest priority for service to calls where pipes have burst and homes or businesses are being flooded. In those cases they send someone to turn off the water.
 - Albuquerque hotels offer discounts** - Almost immediately after Albuquerque Mayor Richard J. Berry asked for help from the community, hotels around the city responded by offering discounted rates during this cold weather spell. These are just several around the city that have offered discounts:
 - Plaza Inn \$39
 - Fairfield Inn \$49
 - Hampton Inn \$69
 - Marriott Pyramid \$69
 - La Qunita Suites Midtown \$69
 - Holiday Inn Express on 12th Street \$69
 - Santa Fe city offices close** - In response to the State of Emergency declared by Governor Martinez, city offices close at 4:00 today. At this time, this is a precautionary measure for the City to help preserve natural gas and electric service for all New Mexico residents. This closure affects all non-essential employees.
 - Statewide emergency declared** - Gov. Susana Martinez announced today that she has signed two executive orders in response to extreme cold weather and natural gas outages across the state. The governor [declared a State of Emergency](#) in New Mexico and has also suspended regulations on the number of hours that propane suppliers may drive in order to more rapidly move liquid petroleum gas into and across the state.

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'Super Bowl flu' going around MDC

Super Bowl Sunday is practically a national holiday that goes hand-in-hand with chips, dips, booze -- and calling in sick the following Monday. [More »](#)

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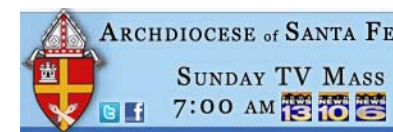
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- **Taos County gas emergency** - Taos County Emergency Operations Center will announce official Red Cross Shelter locations throughout the greater Taos area very soon. If you or anyone you know may need assistance – now or overnight – please have them call the following, central information phone numbers for the public.

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corinne.lebrun says:

February 04, 2011, 8:52AM

New Mexico has the nations largest field of natural gas reserves, and provides 10% of the ENTIRE nations natural gas. ... um so ... why are we getting as from Texas and not New Mexico?? Can anyone explain this?



JustTex says:

February 03, 2011, 10:16PM

Psssst. Hey, New Mexico. Windmills won't turn without wind. And solar panels won't create any electricity, whenever the sun doesn't shine.

Shouldn't somebody tell that to the -Green- politicians and to all the well paid bureaucrats too?

Maybe they'll listen now...



lobo59 says:

February 03, 2011, 8:35PM

To be clear. The PRC does not "run" NMG. NMG is a corporation that is run by its management and board of directors. NMG believes it has, and it does have, a fiduciary responsibility to make a profit. That is their job. They are not evil. The capitalist sy

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demonot says:

February 03, 2011, 7:27PM

I am not sure what state lobo59 is from but here in New Mexico the Gas Co. is run by the Public Regulation Commision. they ok where to get the gas how much to pay for it and how much can be charged for it and how to deliver it. Not to mention the evil pro

[More...](#)



rraabfaber says:

February 03, 2011, 6:44PM

I've always believed that KRQE news was reactionary and uninformed. After reading comments like those from candylynn and oropan, I understand why -- they're just giving their audience what they want to hear. I'm surprised you all pried your eyes away from

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New Mexico Headlines

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