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Documentary Series Released on the New Mexico Green Amendment Movement
“The Green Amendment: New Mexico” Released Today

Albuquerque, NM -- The first episode of a documentary series focused on the effort in New Mexico to pass a Green Amendment was released today, February 2, 2021, and explores the implications a Green Amendment could have for the immense and disproportionate health and environmental burdens that communities of color, indigenous, immigrant and low-income communities face across New Mexico, including pollution from fracking and industrial operations, water scarcity, climate change, and health impacts of environmental degradation.

Today’s release is well timed with a first hearing before the New Mexico Senate Rules committee of Senate Joint Resolution 3 which proposes amending the New Mexico Constitution by adding environmental rights. The hearing is to be held Wednesday, February 3.

Directed by Emmy-nominated journalist Steve Rogers, episode one features interviews with Senate sponsor Senator Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, CEO/Founder of Final Emma Rose Cohen, Beata Tsosie-Peña, Environmental Health and Justice Program Coordinator for Tewa Women United, Artemisio Romero y Carver, founding member of Youth United for Climate Crisis Action (YUCCA), and Dee George and Penny Aucoin, impacted residents of Otis, NM. The series follows Green Amendments For The Generations founder Maya van Rossum as she travels across New Mexico meeting with legislators, indigenous activists, business owners prioritizing sustainability, youth leaders and policy advocates to discuss environmental issues facing the state and how a Green Amendment could provide a pathway for solutions.

“The Green Amendment will be a powerful statement by the people of New Mexico about how important they believe it is to protect our land, air and water for future generations! We the people will stand up to protect our beautiful and fragile environment! I am so fired up to be a part of this important movement!” **said Senator Antoinette Sedillo Lopez**, District 16 and sponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 3, the NM Green Amendment.

“Waste is just a design flaw,” **said Emma Rose Cohen**, CEO/Founder of Final, a business leader highlighted in the film.

“The rights of New Mexicans are under constant assault by pollution. Communities of color in our state have been subject to environmental racism for decades. Future generations are endangered by the emissions and waste generated in the Permian Basin. We need a means by which to hold our

government accountable. That's what the Green Amendment offers," **said Artemisio Romero y Carver**, founding member of Youth United for Climate Crisis Action (YUCCA).

"My travels through New Mexico were both inspiring and heartbreaking. Hearing the stories of those impacted by environmental degradation and those working to make positive change was an affirmation of the monumental power of Green Amendments for advancing environmental rights, environmental justice protections and ensuring government officials are constitutionally prohibited from creating environmental sacrifice zones. A Green Amendment will provide all communities with the protections they deserve," **said Maya van Rossum**, Founder, Green Amendments For The Generations.

"My interest and inspiration for working on Green Amendment films with Maya van Rossum is purely to contribute to the common good of all people and the environment. There is no tremendous leap involved. Doing whatever each of us can do to take this obvious step towards recognizing the need for a legal and sacred acknowledgment of our rights to exist in a healthy place with healthy resources is purely pragmatic. To do anything else would be counter to survival. I make movies. It's what I do. Others can contribute to this movement in whatever way they can," **said Steve Rogers**, Director, The Green Amendment: New Mexico.

The Green Amendment movement that is advancing in New Mexico provides a constitutional tool that would transform environmental protection and strengthen environmental justice in the state. New Mexico is poised to become among the first states to pass a modern day Green Amendment, with Senate Joint Resolution 3 currently advancing which would enshrine the right to pure water, clean air, a stable climate and healthy environments in the Bill of Rights section of the state's constitution.

View the first episode of "The Green Amendment: New Mexico" at
<http://bit.ly/TheGreenAmendmentFilmsNM>.

To speak to those interviewed for the project or for distribution questions, contact Colleen Burns at colleen@fortheGenerations.org, 267-428-3425.

To learn more about the New Mexico Green Amendment movement, visit www.nmgreenamendment.org.

To learn more about the National Green Amendment movement and what is happening in other states, visit www.ForTheGenerations.org.

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