December 6, 2018

Beth Beloff
Executive Director
Coalition of Sustainable Communities NM
20 Polaris Road, Santa Fe 87506

Mrs. Beloff:

First, thank you for your organization’s commitment to addressing climate challenges at the local level. The City of Albuquerque is pleased to join as a founding member and support collective efforts aimed at building sustainable and resilient communities throughout the state.

Within the first month of assuming office, I signed the Climate Mayors National Action Agenda pledge to reduce the City’s carbon footprint with the goal of meeting the standards established by the Paris Climate Agreement. We simply cannot wait any longer without risking irreparable damage.

The City is taking important steps to chart a more sustainable future. We:

- announced a roadmap to offset our municipal electric use and move to 100% clean energy within four years;
- issued an executive order to raise the energy conservation standards for City facilities;
- are in the process of adding solar to fire stations, community centers and other buildings;
- are in the final stages of converting over 20,000 city-owned streetlights to energy efficient LEDs;
- launched a City Green Team and Sustainability Working Group to advance sustainability initiatives throughout the city;
- worked with fleet managers to decarbonize the City’s fleet with light-duty electric vehicles, and explore medium-duty and heavy-duty natural gas and electrification options; and
- implemented energy efficiency and cost saving measures throughout government.

However, fundamental change requires collective action. Over the last 30 years, New Mexico has seen some of the highest increases in temperature compared with other states. New Mexico’s average yearly temperature has increased by more than 2.1
degrees Fahrenheit. Action is critical. We must engage all stakeholders and work to change the legislative and regulatory framework to make it more conducive to renewable energy production and efforts to address climate change. This entails working closely with city, county and tribal officials, and facilitating an all hands on deck approach to enlisting businesses, community groups, national laboratories, universities, and residents. It is also important to take an inclusive approach that recognizes that the adverse consequences of climate change often fall on underserved and disadvantaged communities.

The Coalition of Sustainable Communities NM is well positioned to facilitate and build these necessary partnerships. On behalf of the City Albuquerque, we are pleased to join as coalition members and work together to advance resilient and sustainable communities.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Timothy M. Keller
Mayor