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For Immediate Release

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## **Environment Department Supports National Recall of Food Products and Dog Food Tied to Botulism**

(Santa Fe, NM) – The New Mexico Environment Department is supporting an expanded national recall of Castleberry’s food products and dog food tied to botulism. Food items may be contaminated with *Clostridium botulinum*.

See the following links for details on the products:

<http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2007/NEW01670.html>

[http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Recall\\_033\\_2007\\_expanded/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_033_2007_expanded/index.asp)

[http://www.castleberrys.com/news\\_productrecall.asp](http://www.castleberrys.com/news_productrecall.asp)

“NMED Food Program staff is continuing to make sure stores in New Mexico remove the affected Castleberry products from store shelves,” said New Mexico Environment Department Secretary Ron Curry. “We are doing everything possible to notify consumers of the recall to make sure they know about the tainted food and dog food.”

The New Mexico Department of Health monitors the state for illnesses that could be connected to the products involved in the national recall. There have been no reported illnesses from the affected foods.

Consumers who have the products should discard them. Botulism poisoning is a serious and potentially deadly illness. Symptoms of botulism poisoning in humans can begin from 6 hours to 2 weeks after eating food that contains the toxin. Symptoms may include double vision, blurred vision, drooping eyelids, slurred speech, difficulty swallowing, and muscle weakness that moves progressively down the body, affecting the shoulders first then descending to the upper arms, lower arms, thighs, calves, etc. Botulism poisoning can also cause paralysis of the breathing muscles which can result in death unless assistance with breathing (mechanical ventilation) is provided. Individuals who show those symptoms and who may have recently eaten the products under recall should seek immediate medical attention.

Pets that ate the affected dog food and show symptoms should be taken to the veterinarian. Consumers who have any the canned pet food items on the list should discard the product.

For more information, call Marissa Stone at (505) 827-0314.

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