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## **Environment Department Issues Final Order to San Juan Refining Co. and Giant Industries for pollution at facility in Northwestern New Mexico**

(Santa Fe, NM) – The New Mexico Environment Department issued a Compliance Order to Giant Refining Co., Bloomfield Refinery that requires the company to conduct a facility-wide investigation and clean up releases of hazardous and solid wastes into the environment.

“This 145-page order requires Giant to clean up years of contamination of soil and water from crude oil operations at the facility,” said New Mexico Environment Department Secretary Ron Curry. “The refinery must do everything possible to correct problems created by hazardous leaks at the facility into the environment. The order ensures citizens and the environment are protected.”

Giant Refining Co., Bloomfield Refinery (Giant) is a crude oil refining facility operated by the San Juan Refining Co. and owned by Giant Industries Arizona, Inc. The facility, which has the refining capacity of 18,000 barrels per day, processes crude oil into petroleum products. The Bloomfield Refinery, which began as a crude topping unit, changed ownership over the years and has operated since the late 1950's as a processor of crude oil into petroleum products. Western Refining Co. of El Paso Texas recently purchased Giant Industries Arizona, Inc.

The company violated the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act by failing to clean up releases of hazardous and solid waste from process areas storage tanks, pipes and other areas of diesel, gasoline crude oil and other products into the soil, surface water and groundwater.

Hazardous constituents and other contaminants released at the facility include: organic contaminants such as benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes (BTEX); other volatile organic compounds (VOCs); semi volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), including polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH's); separate phase hydrocarbons; diesel range organics (DRO); gasoline range organics (GRO); oil range organics (ORO); 2) metals such as arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury, manganese, selenium, and zinc; and 3) other inorganic contaminants such as fluoride, chloride, nitrate, and sulfate. Most contaminants detected beneath the facility primarily consist of BTEX, GRO, DRO, and separate phase hydrocarbons.

NMED is issuing the Final Order after a 60 day public comment period between June 21, 2006 and August 21, 2006. The Facility was the only respondent to provide comments on the draft Order. The Final Order contains investigation and cleanup requirements and a schedule for implementation at the Giant facility.

The Final Order and NMED's response to public comments may be viewed at the NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau located at 2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303 or at NMED's website: [www.nmenv.state.nm.us/HWB/grcbperm.html](http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/HWB/grcbperm.html) under Final Order.

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