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Immediate Release

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Environment Department Announces Air Quality Public Meetings on Regional Haze

(Santa Fe, NM) — The New Mexico Environment Department, Air Quality Bureau is holding two public meetings, one in Santa Fe and one in Farmington, on the proposed Regional Haze state implementation plan revisions and proposed revisions to the good neighbor provisions of New Mexico's infrastructure state implementation plan. The Regional Haze program is a federal program that implements Clean Air Act requirements for improving visibility at specific national parks and monuments, wilderness areas and national wildlife refuges across the nation. The New Mexico revisions include a determination of Best Available Retrofit Technology for San Juan Generating Station in Kirtland, NM.

The meetings will be held from 2:00 pm until 6:00 pm, with an open house and poster session scheduled from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm where staff will be available to answer questions individually. From 4:00 pm until 6:00 pm, a presentation will be given with an opportunity for the public to provide comments directly to the Department.

Dates and locations of the public meetings are:

May 3, 2011, in Farmington at the Civic Center, 200 W. Arrington.

May 4, 2011, in Santa Fe at the Toney Anaya Building, Rio Grande conference room, 2550 Cerrillos Road.

A public hearing is scheduled in front of the Environmental Improvement Board on these two plans beginning June 1 in Santa Fe at the State Capitol building, and continuing June 2 (3 and 4 if necessary) in Farmington at San Juan College.

The proposed revisions are on the Department's web site at http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/aqb/reghaz/Regional-Haze_index.html. For additional information, contact Rita Bates at (505) 476-4304 or by email at rita.bates@state.nm.us.