

**SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR**Ryan Flynn, *Cabinet Secretary*Butch Tongate, *Deputy Secretary***NEWS RELEASE****February 18, 2014**

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**New Mexico State Senate Confirms Ryan Flynn as
Secretary of New Mexico Environment Department**

SANTA FE – The New Mexico State Senate today confirmed Ryan Flynn as Secretary of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) by a vote of 30-11. Flynn was selected by Governor Susana Martinez as her choice for Cabinet Secretary in April of 2013. Flynn served as the General Counsel of the New Mexico Environment Department under Governor Martinez from January 2011 to April 2013. He accepted the appointment of Secretary at the New Mexico Environment Department after former Secretary F. David Martin moved over to the position of Secretary of Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources in April of 2013.

“Secretary Flynn has shown himself to be a dependable leader for the New Mexico Environment Department,” Governor Susana Martinez said. “He brings a balanced approach to environmental issues, basing big decisions on sound science and input from all parties. He has already demonstrated his strong leadership at the Environment Department by playing the role of lead negotiator for the state in the Regional Haze Settlement with the Environmental Protection Agency and PNM. He also was instrumental in crafting the framework agreement for the current 3706 Tru Waste Campaign to remove all aboveground transuranic waste from Los Alamos National Laboratory by mid-summer of this year.”

“My approach has always been to make sound and balanced decisions by considering what’s best for the environment here in New Mexico,” Secretary Flynn said. “I am humbled by the confidence Governor Martinez has entrusted to me, and by the confirmation that the New Mexico State Senate bestowed upon me. I also truly appreciate the views of those opposed to my confirmation. My track record has shown that I listen to all sides of environmental issues, carefully consider what options provide environmental protection, and work to the best of my ability to find common ground with all interests. I appreciate that many people share with me a strong passion to protect our precious natural resources. Many of these passionate people work long hours at the New Mexico Environment Department, and I am proud to work alongside them. I look forward to continuing to work with the Legislature, environmental groups and stakeholders to protect our great state.”

Ryan Flynn is a graduate of Harvard University where he majored in English and American Literature. He received his law degree from the University of Arizona. Following law school, Flynn clerked for the Honorable Stephen M. McNamee in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona.

Prior to becoming Cabinet Secretary, Flynn served as the Environment Department's General Counsel and Legislative Coordinator. Before joining the Environment Department, Flynn worked for the Modrall Sperling law firm. At Modrall Sperling, he worked in the firm's Commercial Litigation and Renewable Energy practice groups. Flynn is an Assistant Judge Advocate General in the United States Air Force Reserve where he is currently assigned to Schriever Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, CO.

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