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NEWS RELEASE

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City of Santa Fe Receives \$75,623 To Expand Compressed Natural Gas Fleet

Santa Fe – The City of Santa Fe has been awarded \$75,623 in grant funding from the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) to help fund an early vehicle replacement on their solid waste and recycling fleet.

"These new compressed natural gas vehicles for the City of Santa Fe will help protect the health of Santa Fe residents and workers," said New Mexico Environment Department Cabinet Secretary Ryan Flynn. "We are very pleased to have the opportunity to work with the City of Santa Fe again, reducing emissions generated by diesel-fueled vehicles, preserving air quality and enhancing the quality of life for Santa Fe residents."

This will be the second NMED/DERA diesel emission grant award to the City of Santa Fe. This funding will assist the City of Santa Fe in its effort to replace diesel-fueled solid waste/recycling vehicles with new low-emission vehicles that are fueled with compressed natural gas (CNG). This new CNG vehicle will be the second vehicle to receive DERA funding, adding to Santa Fe's current solid waste fleet of fifteen CNG vehicles. Since 2008, the Environment Department has administered grant funds for qualifying diesel emissions reduction projects within New Mexico, including projects in Albuquerque, Deming, Taos, Bloomfield, Farmington and Las Vegas.

Diesel-fueled solid waste vehicles travel slowly along city streets picking up household and commercial refuse and recycled materials on a daily basis. Solid waste vehicles fueled with natural gas rather than diesel fuel aid in improving the quality of life for communities and the fleet operators who are exposed to diesel emissions on a regular basis.

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