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## **Environment Department Makes Permitting and Enforcement Information More Easily Available on the Internet**

(Santa Fe, NM) — The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) today announced the launch of a new Web site to give members of the public and industry an on-line and interactive tool to access information within NMED's Integrated Database for Environmental Assurance (IDEA) system. The eIDEA portal provides search functions for information concerning NMED permittees, such as contacts, addresses, regulated equipment, permits, compliance activities, and financial assessments. It is available online at: <http://eidea.state.nm.us>

"NMED is committed to making environmental information easily accessible to the public," said NMED Secretary Ron Curry. "This Web site will help New Mexicans better understand the status of their neighboring facilities as well get a better picture of the cumulative environmental condition of their hometowns."

Initially, eIDEA provides public access to information managed by the Department's Air Quality, Ground Water Quality and Solid Waste programs. The Petroleum Storage Tank and Solid Waste Bureaus as well as the Food Program will be added by January 2004.

Future releases will also add functions including the ability for industry to modify company profiles and submit certain reports and permits on-line, reducing cost and paper waste. eIDEA users will also be able to take advantage of more advanced search features and view, save and print environmental permits and other Department documents. A planned mapping feature will offer users a powerful new way to display and interpret environmental data.

"eIDEA uses technology to provide unprecedented accessibility to NMED's environmental information," said NMED Chief Information Officer, Lynn Harris. "I hope that the public and industry will find it a valuable tool in helping to protect New Mexico's environment."

For further information contact Jon Goldstein, Communications Director, NMED at (505) 827-0314.

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