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Environment Department Honors Top Employees

(Santa Fe, NM) — The New Mexico Environment Department's Employee Recognition Committee (ERC) recently announced the recipients of the Spring 2006 Employee of the Quarter Awards and the Annual Group Achievement Recognition Award.

Individual candidates were evaluated for their performance from April 1 to June 30. A winner was selected from each division that submitted nominations. Groups were evaluated for their performance from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006, and one winner was selected from the Department. Please join the ERC in congratulating these outstanding employees for their commitment to the Department.

Donald Sleeman, of the DOE Oversight Bureau was selected from the Water and Waste Management Division (WWMD). He was recognized for his positive attitude as well as his dependability and efficiency. Sleeman produces and reviews documents, trains staff, encourages recycling in the office environment and maintains sampling equipment.

Mary Hilbert of the Air Quality Bureau was selected from the Environmental Protection Division (EPD). She was recognized for her integral role in the recent revisions of two of the Air Quality Bureau's General Construction Permits (GCP) as well as a new GCP for concrete batch plants. Her calm attitude, professionalism, and dedication was evident during the permit development process and during public outreach opportunities.

The WIPP Hazardous Waste Permit Negotiation Team was selected for the Annual Group Achievement Recognition Award. The group consists of James Bearzi, Steve Zappe, Kate Lynnes, and Chuck Noble. This group was recognized for their contribution in the issuing of the largest draft permit modification to the WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit since the Permit was issued in 1999. The group negotiated the Permit with both applicants and intervenors over the course of 18 days from March-May 2006.

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