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Environment Department Fines South Valley Waste Hauler \$138,900 for Illegally Disposing of Construction Debris

(Santa Fe, NM) – The New Mexico Environment Department fined Guzman Construction Solutions, LLC of Albuquerque \$138,900 recently for illegally dumping about 5,500 cubic yards of construction debris at the company's South Valley property.

NMED agreed to reduce the penalty to \$58,900 if the company cleans up the site by June 7.

“The disposal of construction garbage at this unpermitted site poses health risks to the public and other threats to soil, groundwater and the environment,” said NMED Secretary Ron Curry. “Illegal dumping is a menace to the environment and to the quality of life for residents of the South Valley as well as to New Mexicans throughout the state.”

Rudy Guzman, the owner of the business, agreed last week to settle the Administrative Compliance Order and signed a Settlement Agreement and Stipulated Final Order acknowledging the violations and penalties.

Guzman's company, at 6020 Industry Way, provides construction and waste hauling services in New Mexico. Employees of the company disposed of about 4,000 cubic yards of waste at the South Valley work yard and disposed of about 1,500 cubic yards of the refuse in an on-site pit to fill the land. The garbage is visible from the company's property.

Environment Department investigators, who received information from the Bernalillo County Office of Environmental Health about stockpiled and buried waste at the site, visited the work yard several times beginning May 3, 2006. The dumping of the refuse violates the state's Solid Waste Act and Solid Waste Management Regulations. Guzman violated the act and regulations by transporting solid waste to an unauthorized facility, improperly disposing of waste at the unpermitted facility and failing to register as a commercial waste hauler.

For more information, call NMED Communications Director Marissa Stone at (505) 827-0314 or (505) 231-0475.

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