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## **New Mexico Environment Department Helps New Mexico Businesses Reduce Environmental Impacts While Saving Money**

NMED Recently Offered Waste Assessment to Acoma Pueblo Casino

(Santa Fe, N.M.) New Mexico Environment Department's Pollution Prevention Program offers free waste assessments to business owners around the state who are looking for ways to reduce their environmental footprint while at the same time saving money.

Those assessments can help businesses identify ways to conserve energy and water or create efficiency in their operations.

"By implementing a few changes, businesses can save thousands of dollars a year in disposal, electricity and other costs," said New Mexico Environment Department Deputy Secretary Cindy Padilla. "Simple changes can also help businesses be more environmentally conscientious."

NMED's Pollution Prevention Program staff helped one business reduce its solid waste and disposal costs by 78 percent by suggesting that the business reuse its packaging. Staff also helped other businesses implement recycling plans that reduced garbage disposal costs and institute water conservation methods by installing drought resistant landscaping and mopping floors less frequently.

Program staff — along with other participants in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 Pollution Prevention Roundtable in Albuquerque — recently conducted a waste assessment for the Acoma Sky City Casino Hotel. Hotel managers agreed to the waste assessment after members of the roundtable expressed their interest in conducting the assessment.

The New Mexico Environment Department Pollution Prevention Program works with businesses throughout the state to offer free waste assessments, pollution prevention training and technical assistance.

Business owners interested in obtaining a free waste assessment and an analysis of how their company can reduce its waste stream, should call Michelle Vattano at (505) 827-0677.

For more information, call Marissa Stone at (505) 827-0314.

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