



NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



Office of the Secretary

BILL RICHARDSON
Governor
DIANE DENISH
Lieutenant Governor

Harold Runnels Building
1190 Saint Francis Drive (87505)
PO Box 5469, Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469
Phone (505) 827-2855 Fax (505) 827-2836
www.nmenv.state.nm.us

RON CURRY
Secretary
SARAH COTTRELL
Deputy Secretary

June 4, 2010
For Immediate Release

Contact: Marissa Stone Bardino, NMED Communications Director
(505) 827-0314 or (505) 231-0475

Environment Department Requests Hearing before EIB on Cap and Trade Program

(Santa Fe, NM) The New Mexico Environment Department petitioned the New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board today to schedule a hearing for a new regulation to cap and trade greenhouse gases in the state.

The proposed regulations will enable the state to participate in a regional greenhouse gas cap-and-trade program. New Mexico will not implement the program unless there are sufficient greenhouse gas emissions allowances within the region to make the trading program efficient and cost-effective. In addition, the proposed rule includes language that “sunsets” the state regulation if the federal government implements an equally effective national cap-and-trade program.

The department requests that the board consider the department’s petition if the New Mexico Supreme Court dissolves the preliminary injunction issued by the district court in *Leavell v. New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board*. The department asks that the board hear the state’s petition at the EIB’s regularly scheduled meeting on June 21. Today is the deadline for requesting that the board accepts a petition for that meeting.

The department has received and reviewed public comments regarding the draft cap-and-trade rule. The draft proposed regulation included in the petition has been changed to reflect those comments. In addition, the proposed draft regulation contains new language addressing imported power and the allocation of allowances for new emissions sources. Prior to a scheduled hearing on a proposed regulation, the EIB will initiate a 60-day public comment period when interested parties can submit additional comments on the proposed regulation.

The petition can be downloaded at <http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/cc/> .

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

###