



**BILL RICHARDSON**  
GOVERNOR

**State of New Mexico**  
**ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**Office of the Secretary**  
**Harold Runnels Building**  
**1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110**  
**Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110**  
**Telephone (505) 827-2855**



**RON CURRY**  
SECRETARY  
**JON GOLDSTEIN**  
DEPUTY SECRETARY

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For Immediate Release

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

## **Governor Richardson Appoints Carlos Romero as Director of Environment Department's Environmental Health Division**

(Santa Fe, NM) Governor Richardson appointed Carlos Romero as the new director of the New Mexico Environment Department's Environmental Health Division.

The department's Environmental Health Division, which oversees 22 field offices across New Mexico, includes the Radiation Control Bureau, Liquid Waste Program, Food Program and Public Swimming Pool and Public Bath Safety Program ([http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/NMED/field\\_op.html#abq](http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/NMED/field_op.html#abq)).

"Carlos – who has worked his way up to management in the department in his 21 years here – is familiar with the Environmental Health Division and will be able to run the division seamlessly," Environment Department Secretary Ron Curry said. "I have great confidence that Carlos' experience as a manager and familiarity with the division will help him have great success in serving the residents of New Mexico."

Romero will replace Environmental Health Division Director Ana Marie Ortiz, who is leaving the department to become the General Counsel for the state's Aging and Long Term Services Department. Ortiz had been with the department for the past five years.

Romero, a native of Tucumcari, graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemical Engineering from New Mexico State University in 1983. Romero has also been a School Board Member with the Tucumcari School District since January 2007. He is on the Board of Directors for TeamBuilders Counseling Services, Inc., a statewide counseling service for children, families and community members. Romero also completed the completed the inaugural New Mexico Public Leadership Program in December 2000.

Romero, who is currently District IV Manager for the department, will begin his new job March 24. He began his career with the department as an environmental scientist specialist and also worked briefly in the department's Drinking Water Bureau. He is married to Niva Romero, has three children and one grandchild.

"It's a wonderful to know that Governor Richardson and Secretary Curry have confidence in my abilities to oversee the Environmental Health Division," Romero said. "I look forward to working for them and the residents of New Mexico, while continuing on with the initiatives that Director Ortiz initiated for EHD. The division has a hardworking staff and we will make a great team that willingly serves the residents of this great state."

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