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October 14, 2008
For Immediate Release

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Environment Department Outreach Manager Named National Recycler of the Year

(Santa Fe, NM) – The National Recycling Congress named New Mexico Environment Department Outreach Manager E. Gifford Stack as Recycler of the Year at a recent meeting in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Stack, who works in the department's Solid Waste Bureau, also received a Lifetime Achievement Award for his work in the recycling field that began in 1976.

"Gifford Stack has been a great asset to the New Mexico Environment Department -- he has expanded and instituted many recycling programs within the department," said New Mexico Environment Department Secretary Ron Curry. "It is fitting that he receive this award."

Stack's more than 30-year career around the country includes developing waste paper recovery systems, directing the glass industry's national recycling activities, selling recycling equipment, and creating programs for PET plastic beverage containers.

"The honor of this award is truly shared with the coalitions, individuals, governmental organizations, Native American communities, and private companies that help advance recycling in New Mexico," Stack said. "They deserve equal recognition."

Stack worked for the National Soft Drink Association in directing their environmental affairs program prior to joining the department in 2001. He is a past president of the New Mexico Recycling Coalition, the Washington State Recycling Association and that National Recycling Coalition. Stack also chaired the recycling committee for Keep America Beautiful and served on the board of the Council on Packaging in the Environment and America Recycles Day.

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