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**Annual Infrastructure Finance Conference to be Held Oct. 27 through 29 at Isleta
Casino & Resort**

(Santa Fe, NM) A consortium of state and federal agencies and private consulting firms is planning the Fourteenth annual New Mexico Infrastructure Finance Conference at Isleta Casino & Resort from Oct. 27 to 29 in Albuquerque. The theme of this year's conference is "The Up Side of Down: Building a Stronger New Mexico."

"Addressing New Mexico's many infrastructure needs is critical to ensuring the health, safety and economic future of all New Mexicans" said Ron Curry, Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Environment Department. "This year's Infrastructure Finance Conference is an opportunity for all stakeholders to come together and look to the future to build a stronger, sustainable New Mexico."

The conference will open at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 27 with a general session featuring

- o A visual presentation on New Mexico infrastructure, past and present
- o An update on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act activity in New Mexico
- o A keynote talk on economic trends in New Mexico by Larry Waldman of UNM's Bureau of Business and Economic Research

The day will continue with a general session entitled "Do you want to be FIRST in line for funding?"

The schedule for Wednesday, Oct. 28 will feature six tracks – housing, utilities, transportation, planning, tribal, and tourism/economic development – with four sessions each. The featured speaker at Wednesday's lunch is Peter C. Lemon. President Barack Obama presented Lemon with the Outstanding American by Choice award in May 2009. That award recognized Lemon's life of professional achievement and civic contribution.

An awards breakfast the morning of the Thursday, Oct. 29 will honor individuals with outstanding contributions in housing, utilities, tourism, transportation, planning, tribal, and economic development. The Joe Guillen Award will be given to an individual whose work has been dedicated to the service (either locally or statewide) of New Mexico communities, and whose efforts have provided vision for the long-term

sustainability and health of the community. The conference will adjourn at noon after a panel treating "The Life Cycle of a Project".

Organizing partners of the conference include the state departments of Finance and Administration, Transportation, Economic Development, Environment Department, Indian Affairs, state Finance Authority, New Mexico Municipal League, New Mexico Association of Counties, Rural Community Assistance Corporation, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S.D.A. Rural Development, CH2M Hill, Inc. HDR Engineering, Inc, Molzen-Corbin & Associates, Sites Southwest, Souder Miller & Associates, Tetra Tech, Inc., and Wilson & Company.

Scholarships to assist organizations and agencies with registration are available.

For more information and/or to register, visit:
<http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/cpb/InfFinCon/index.html> or
<http://nmml.org/nmml-events/all-events/nmml-events/nm-infrastructure-conference>

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