



Bill Richardson  
Governor

**NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

*Office of the Secretary*

Harold Runnels Building  
1190 Saint Francis Drive (87505)  
PO Box 26110, Santa Fe, NM 87502  
Phone (505) 827-2855 Fax (505) 827-2836  
[www.nmenv.state.nm.us](http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us)



Ron Curry  
Secretary  
Jon Goldstein  
Deputy Secretary

October 24, 2008  
For Immediate Release

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

## **Governor Richardson Appoints Joe Chavarria to Water Quality Control Commission**

(Santa Fe, N.M.) Governor Richardson recently appointed Santa Clara Pueblo Environmental Director Joseph Mark Chavarria to the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission.

The commission, which has 13 members, is a quasi-judicial body that sets New Mexico's water quality standards and hears appeals of environmental issues before state agencies. Chavarria, who will serve a four-year term on the commission, has been the Environmental Director for Santa Clara Pueblo for the last decade.

"Joe Chavarria is a true conservationist who is committed to protecting New Mexico's water resources and environment," Governor Richardson said. "He has the background, experience and knowledge to bring new expertise to the commission."

"I have been fortunate to have worked with Joe on environmental issues related to Santa Clara Pueblo and I know his commitment to water quality," said New Mexico Environment Department Deputy Secretary Jon Goldstein, who is Chairman of the Commission. "Joe is a strong advocate for Santa Clara Pueblo and for environmental protection across the state and will be an excellent addition to the commission."

Chavarria, who is in his second term on Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board to the U.S. Department of Energy, also serves on the New Mexico Environment Department's Storage Tank Committee. He also worked for the Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Environmental Department and the Los Alamos National Laboratory Environmental Restoration Program. He is a former member of the Santa Clara Development Corp. Chavarria, a native of Santa Clara Pueblo, is married to Janay Chavarria. The couple has two daughters and a son.

"I am honored to serve on the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission under Governor Bill Richardson's administration," Chavarria said. "I will do my best to address water quality issues to make the waters of our state safe for every New Mexican. Surface water quantity and quality are currently major priorities for the state now and into the future. It is gratifying to be part of a governing body that protects water quality, and to know I can contribute to safeguarding a vital natural resource that provides life for all wildlife, vegetation, domesticated animals, livestock and humans."

The commission consists of nine members representing constituent agencies, one member from the counties or municipalities and three members who are appointed by the governor. By statute, the Commission is chaired by the New Mexico Environment Department.

For more information about the commission, visit <http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/wqcc/Commission.htm> . For further information, call Marissa Stone at (505) 827-0314.

###