

SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNORRyan Flynn, *Cabinet Secretary*Butch Tongate, *Deputy Secretary***NEWS RELEASE****February 13, 2015**

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New Mexico State Senate Reconfirms Ryan Flynn as Secretary of New Mexico Environment Department

SANTA FE – The New Mexico State Senate today reconfirmed Ryan Flynn as Secretary of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). Secretary Flynn was reconfirmed today by a vote of 36-0. Flynn was selected by Governor Susana Martinez as her choice for Cabinet Secretary in April of 2013. Flynn served as the General Counsel of the New Mexico Environment Department under Governor Martinez from January 2011 to April 2013.

“Secretary Flynn has shown himself to be an outstanding leader of the New Mexico Environment Department,” Governor Susana Martinez said. “He brings a balanced approach to environmental issues, basing decisions on sound science and facts. He has already demonstrated his strong leadership at the Environment Department by playing the role of lead negotiator for the state in the Regional Haze Settlement with the Environmental Protection Agency and PNM. He has also proven himself to be a tough, but consistent regulator and a champion for rural communities, particularly when it comes to ensuring our rural areas have access to clean and reliable supplies of drinking water.”

“My approach has always been to make sound and balanced decisions by considering what’s best for the environment here in New Mexico,” Secretary Flynn said. “I am humbled by the confidence Governor Martinez has entrusted to me, and by the confirmation that the New Mexico State Senate bestowed upon me. My track record has shown that I listen to all sides when making decisions on important environmental issues, carefully consider what options provide the best environmental protection without stifling economic growth, and work to the best of my ability to find common ground with all interests. I appreciate that many people share with me a strong passion to protect our precious natural resources. Many of these passionate people work long hours at the New Mexico Environment Department, and I am proud to work alongside them.”

Ryan Flynn is a graduate of Harvard University where he majored in English and American Literature. He received his law degree from the University of Arizona. Following law school, Flynn clerked for the Honorable Stephen M. McNamee in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona.

Prior to becoming Cabinet Secretary, Flynn served as the Environment Department's General Counsel and Legislative Coordinator. Before joining the Environment Department, Flynn worked for the Modrall Spering law firm. At Modrall Spering, he worked in the firm's Commercial Litigation and Renewable Energy practice groups. Flynn is an Assistant Judge Advocate General in the United States Air Force Reserve where he is currently assigned to Schriever Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, CO.

Flynn and his wife Julia have a 1 year old daughter named Livia, a dog named Pedro Martinez, and two cats, Pepper and Cheerio.

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