

**SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR**Ryan Flynn, *Cabinet Secretary-Designate*Butch Tongate, *Deputy Secretary***NEWS RELEASE****August 30, 2013**

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Grant Enables City of Santa Fe to Expand Compressed Natural Gas Fleet

Santa Fe, NM-- The City of Santa Fe received \$114,670.00 in grant funding from the New Mexico Environment Department, funded through the U.S Environmental Protection Agency Diesel Emissions Reduction Act, to partially fund an early vehicle replacement on their solid waste fleet. This funding will enable the City of Santa Fe to remove one older dirtier diesel-fueled solid waste vehicle and replace it with a new low-emission vehicle that is fueled with compressed natural gas (CNG). This new CNG vehicle will be added to the City's current fleet of CNG vehicles which includes passenger cars and transit buses.

"This new compressed natural gas vehicle for the City of Santa Fe will help protect the health of the residents," said Environment Department Cabinet Secretary-Designate Ryan Flynn. "We are very pleased to have worked with the City to reduce harmful diesel emissions."

Diesel-fueled solid waste vehicles travel slowly along city streets picking up household and commercial refuse and recycled materials leaving behind toxic air pollutants and soot in neighborhoods, exposing the community, especially children, the elderly and those with respiratory ailments, to the harmful emissions generated from diesel engines.

Solid waste vehicles fueled with natural gas rather than diesel fuel aid in improving the quality of life for communities and the fleet operators who are exposed to diesel emissions on a regular basis.

Since 2008, the Environment Department has administered grant funds for qualifying diesel emissions reduction projects within New Mexico, including projects in Albuquerque, Deming, Taos, Bloomfield, Farmington and Las Vegas.

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