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**Environment Secretary Issues Statement on President Bush's Intermediate Greenhouse Gas Emissions Goal**

New Mexico Environment Department Secretary Ron Curry issued the following statement today regarding President Bush's Intermediate Greenhouse Gas Emissions Goal:

“It is unfortunate that the Bush Administration continues to rely on weak half-steps when the issue of global climate change clearly calls for strong action. A goal is meaningless if you do not mandate emissions reductions to get there. Today’s announcement does little but again highlight the growing irrelevance of the Bush Administration on this issue. Luckily, states like New Mexico are stepping in to fill this leadership vacuum. Strong action, including a mandatory cap and trade system to reduce emissions, is needed and I am proud that states like New Mexico are stepping up to make this a reality. The Bush Administration is missing an opportunity to be a climate change leader by showing the rest of the world how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Until that time, the states will continue to lead and reap the benefits of the clean energy economy that reduces those emissions.”

For more information, call Marissa Stone at (505) 827-0314.

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