

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SANTA FE

87503

FRY APODACA  
GOVERNOR

June 22, 1978

Dr. Eula Bingham  
Assistant Secretary of Labor  
Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
U. S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, D. C. 20210

Dear Dr. Bingham:

On April 1, 1978 the reorganization of the executive branch of New Mexico state government became effective. This reorganization is intended to facilitate a more efficient delivery of services to the citizens of New Mexico. Through legislation, numerous agencies, boards and commissions were combined into twelve cabinet level departments, each headed by a secretary. Those functions and duties assigned to the former Environmental Improvement Agency are now incorporated within the Health and Environment Department. Dr. George S. Goldstein, Secretary for Health and Environment heads this new department.

Under the New Mexico Occupational Safety and Health Plan, the Environmental Improvement Agency of the Health and Social Services Department was the state designee. The New Mexico Occupational Health and Safety Act vested regulatory authority in the Environmental Improvement Board, a five member appointed body, and vested enforcement adjudicatory functions in the Occupational Health and Safety Review Commission, a three member appointed body, much like its federal counterpart.

The changes which have resulted from reorganization have only limited affects on the state occupational health and safety program. The former Environmental Improvement Agency of the Health and Social Services Department is now the Environmental Improvement Division of the Health and Environment Department. Its new mailing address is:

Environmental Improvement Division  
Health and Environment Department  
P. O. Box 968  
Santa Fe, NM 87503

John A. Bingham

June 22, 1978

Page 2

The Commission is now the designee under the State Plan. Its Director is Mr. Thomas E. Baca.

Further, the authority of the Environmental Improvement Board and Occupational Health and Safety Review Commission granted under the New Mexico Occupational Health and Safety Act remains unchanged.

It is my sincere belief that the reorganization of state government will enhance this State's ability to protect its workers from occupational illnesses and injuries.

Sincerely,



JERRY APODACA  
Governor

JA:esg