



NEWS RELEASE

April 15, 2015

For Immediate Release

Contact: Allison Scott Majure
Communications Director
505.231.8800 cell
505.827.0314 office
Allison.Majure@state.nm.us

Governor Susana Martinez Signs Critical Water Infrastructure Bills

Santa Fe – Governor Susana Martinez signed two critical water bills that will help to further secure safer, cleaner, and more reliable water infrastructure throughout New Mexico.

“These important bills continue to build on Governor Martinez’s vision for improving our critical water infrastructure,” said New Mexico Environment Department Secretary Ryan Flynn. “I’m proud that the Governor continues to lead in securing a more stable water future for our state, and grateful to the legislators who supported these efforts.”

Senate Bill 227, sponsored by Representative Kelly Fajardo (R-Belen) and Senator Richard Martinez (D-Española), changes the statute to make smaller water associations, known as mutual domestics, eligible for loans from the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Program for the first time. It also extends the loan payback period from twenty to thirty years, helping to lower monthly payments. This will help smaller communities and associations maintain their critical water systems, ensuring that more people have a safer and more reliable source of water.

House Bill 578, sponsored by Representative Candy Spence Ezzell (R-Roswell), authorizes projects ranging from flood prevention to watershed restoration to receive \$32 million through the New Mexico Finance Authority for Water Trust Board approved projects. The Water Trust Board will use these funds to pay for the approved water projects throughout the state.

This legislation continues Governor Martinez’s leadership on bolstering critical water infrastructure throughout New Mexico. Last year, Governor Martinez secured \$89 million for statewide water projects designed to improve municipal water systems, repair dams, and restore watersheds and river habitats.

###