



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR

James C. Kenney, Cabinet Secretary

Jennifer J. Pruet, Deputy Secretary

NEWS RELEASE

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Environment Department and Office of the Natural Resources Trustee welcome Bruce Baizel as Legal Director

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and Office of the Natural Resources Trustee (ONRT) welcome environmental attorney Bruce Baizel to the role of Legal Director.

This new position will advise the Cabinet Secretary and the Trustee on legal strategies while directing various agency priorities. The New Mexico Office of Natural Resources Trustee is administratively attached to NMED.

“Bruce is a national leader in environmental law, regulations and policy,” said NMED Cabinet Secretary James Kenney. “He will further our efforts to improve public health outcomes for communities while protecting our environment.”

Within NMED, Bruce will focus on Governor’s Executive Order on Addressing Climate Change and Energy Waste Prevention, including the Department’s oil and natural gas regulations related to ozone. Within ONRT, Bruce will work in collaboration with the New Mexico Attorney General’s office in identifying and pursuing natural resource damage cases.

“NMED and ONRT are doing strong work on important environmental initiatives, and I look forward to assisting these agencies in securing positive results for all New Mexicans,” Baizel said.

Bruce comes to state government from Earthworks, where he served as the organization’s Energy Program Director since 2012. He has extensive experience in oil and gas industry policy and served on the New Mexico Methane Advisory Panel that met in the summer and fall of 2019 and that produced a technical document critical to the Environment Department and Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department’s efforts to draft nationally leading oil and gas regulations. He also served on review teams with the State Review of Oil and Natural Gas Environmental Regulations (STRONGER), evaluating the oil and gas regulations of Colorado, Louisiana, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

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