



SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR

Ryan Flynn, *Cabinet Secretary-Designate*

Butch Tongate, *Deputy Secretary*

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Jim Winchester
Communications Director
New Mexico Environment Department
(505)231-8800 / jim.winchester@state.nm.us

New Mexico Oil and Gas Industry Groups Join with NM OSHA To Prevent Heat Illness in Outdoor Workers

Information Can Also Keep Your Family Safe in the Heat

Albuquerque -- The New Mexico Occupational Health and Safety Bureau (NM OSHA), together with New Mexico oil and gas industry groups (New Mexico Oil and Gas Association (NMOGA), Four Corners Safety Network, and the Southeast New Mexico Service, Transmission, Exploration and Production Safety Network) are working cooperatively on a heat illness prevention initiative.

The goal of the training-based initiative is to prevent heat-related illnesses and deaths within the state by raising awareness of employers and employees about the hazards of working outdoors in hot weather, and how to prevent heat-related illnesses.

“Remember three simple words when working outdoors: Water, Rest & Shade,” said Harry Buysse, NM OSHA Consultation Program Manager, “Drinking water often, taking breaks, and limiting time in the heat can help prevent heat illness.”

The following training materials are available:

http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/heatillness/osha_heattraining_guide_0411.pdf
http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/heatillness/osha_heattraining_guide_0411_sp.pdf

“Heat illness can be a matter of life and death,” said Wally Drangmeister, NMOGA Communication Director. “People throughout the country die from heat stroke every summer and every death is preventable.”

“The same information that companies can use to train their employees is also great advice for all New Mexicans as the weather starts to heat up,” says Mr. Buysse, “Our goal is for every worker and every New Mexican to make it through the heat of the summer safely.”

For more information, contact Harry Buysse at the New Mexico Environment Department at (505) 476-8720.