



# New Mexico Environment Department

James C. Kenney, Cabinet Secretary

Radioactive & Hazardous Materials Committee

Aug. 23, 2019





*For scientific and cultural reasons, for the protection of public health and our environment, I intend to lead a New Mexico where we take our environmental destiny into our own hands.*

- Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham

# Our Mission

To protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations.



**Air Quality  
Regulations**



**Hemp Manufacturing  
Regulation**



**Water Quality  
Protection**



**Liquid Waste  
(Septic) Regulation**



**Hazardous/Solid  
Waste Regulation**



**OSHA  
Program**



**Sampling &  
Remediation**



**Radiation Equipment  
Regulation**



**Food Manufacturing  
Regulation**



**Public Pool/  
Spa Regulation**



**Water Infrastructure Programs**

*I am honored the Governor and New Mexico Legislature have put their trust in me to lead NMED... science, innovation, collaboration and compliance that served me well at the EPA and I am confident they will serve me well here at the New Mexico Environment Department.*

- Cabinet Secretary James Kenney



# Our Foundation



Science: Using the best available science to inform our decision-making in protecting public health and the environment.



Innovation: Employing creative engineering and technological solutions to address environmental problems.



Collaboration: Engaging communities and interested stakeholders in environmental decision-making.



Compliance: Ensuring meaningful compliance with state regulations and permits.

# Our Leadership Team



Jennifer Pruett  
Deputy Cabinet Secretary



Maddy Hayden  
Public Information Officer



Sandra Ely, Director  
Environmental Protection Division



Stephanie Stringer, Director  
Resource Protection Division



Rebecca Roose, Director  
Water Protection Division



Jennifer Hower  
General Counsel



# Our Priorities

- Climate Change and Energy Waste Prevention (Executive Order 2019-003)
- Fluid Oil and Gas Waste Act (HB 546)
- Hemp Manufacturing Act (SB 581)
- Energy Transition Act (SB 489)

# Our Priorities

- Acting on permits, licenses, & rulemakings
- Ensuring compliance with existing rules
- Addressing federal legacy contamination
- Developing a robust and valued workforce





# Communicating

- Multiple stakeholder meetings throughout the state
- Averaging about five press releases per month (all posted in in English and Spanish)
- Multiple local and national media interviews per week
- Numerous meetings with constituents, associations, legislators, etc.



# Communicating

- Approximately 550 followers on Twitter as of August 12, 2019
- Average two new followers/day
- 43% are male; 57% are women
- 63% are from New Mexico; the remaining 37% are from Texas, California, Colorado, Nevada, Arizona, Oregon, Oklahoma, & DC.
- 99% like dogs

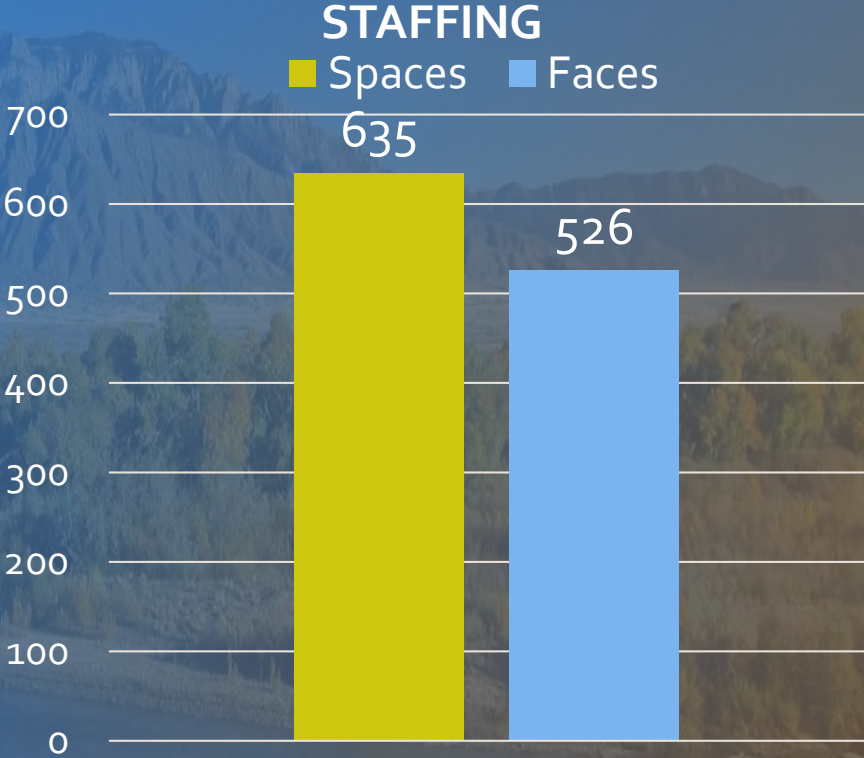
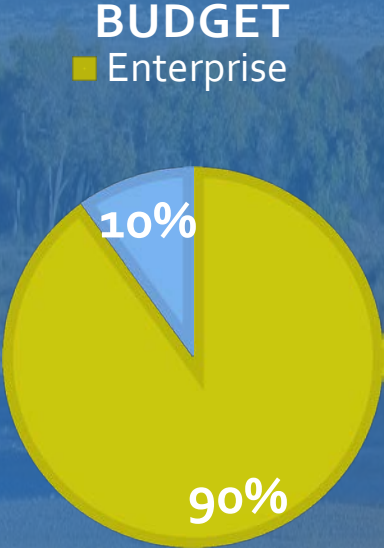


The image shows a screenshot of the New Mexico Environment Department's Twitter profile. The profile header includes the department's logo, which features a circular emblem with a mountain, sun, and water, surrounded by the text "NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT". Below the logo, the profile name "New Mexico Environment Department" and handle "@NMEnvDep" are displayed. The bio states: "Protecting and restoring the environment, fostering a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations. #IamNMED". The location is "New Mexico, USA" and the website is "env.nm.gov". The profile was joined in January 2019 and was born on July 1, 1999. There are 128 photos and videos in the gallery. The tweet statistics show 223 tweets, 30 following, 389 followers, 159 likes, 0 lists, and 0 moments. The "Tweets" tab is selected, showing two tweets. The first tweet, posted 4 hours ago, says "Hats off to #NMED's awesome #Groundwater Quality Bureau staff. They helped analyze water from 44 private well owners during Saturday's Water Fair at #GhostRanch! Go team! #IamNMED" and includes a photo of a water sampling station with a sign that reads "HOME OF COELOPHYSIS". The second tweet, posted 6 hours ago, says "Welcome to #NMED's new #Water Protection Division Director Rebecca Roose! She comes to us from the EPA's American Indian Environmental Office at EPA headquarters in Washington, D.C. More about Rebecca here: env.nm.gov/general/rebecca... #IamNMED" and includes a photo of Rebecca Roose. At the bottom right of the screenshot, there are icons for Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.



# Funding and Staffing

Multiple years of flat budgets, sweeping of revenues, and declining federal funds broke the mission and staff. NMED is now building capacity and making up for lost time.





Air quality permitting grew by 256% from 2008 to 2018 without any staff increases.

Four engineers directly or indirectly oversee 380 water infrastructure projects totaling \$265.8 million dollars.



95% of the largest hazardous waste generators in the State are not inspected annually due to funding limitations.



Our 11 drinking water staff are responsible for oversight and compliance at 1,100 treatment plants throughout the state.



Our 22 food personnel oversee 9,200 commercial food establishments across the state to ensure proper food handling/sanitation and conduct food borne illness investigations.

