



Celebrating  
Eighteen Years of  
Environmental  
Victories

Summer 2005

# Green Fire Report

A publication of the New Mexico Environmental Law Center, a non-profit, public-interest law firm dedicated to protecting New Mexico's environment and communities

## Major Community Victories

**SPRING AND SUMMER 2005 YIELDED SIGNIFICANT SUCCESS** for several of the communities with which the Law Center works, including the three extremely important victories below. These and other triumphs not only have tremendous impact for the communities that achieved them, but also statewide and national implications for environmental justice and environmental protection.

*See inside for details.*

### **1. Picuris Pueblo regains sacred lands**

For more than forty years, the Picuris People watched as industrial mica mines destroyed lands sacred to the tribe. In April, 2005, the Pueblo **regained the land** and is now working with the Law Center to heal the site and restore ancient land-based traditions.

### **2. Navajo Nation bans uranium mining**

The Eastern Navajo Diné Against Uranium Mining (ENDAUM), the Southwest Research and Information Center (SRIC) and the Law Center succeeded in educating Navajo lawmakers, who passed a **ban on all uranium mining and processing in Navajo Indian Country**. This is the first tribal law in the country outlawing uranium mining.

### **3. NM Supreme Court rules in favor of community input**

Although the New Mexico Environment Department was mandated by the NM Solid Waste Act to hold public hearings before issuing landfill permits, the agency relied completely on technical evidence and disregarded public testimony on quality-of-life issues. The Supreme Court decision affirms that **community concerns must be considered during the permitting process**.

### **Inside:**

#### **CASE UPDATES**

- More on Picuris Pueblo's sacred land victory
- More on the Crownpoint uranium mining case
- Mesquite citizens fight polluting fertilizer plant
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- Phelps Dodge Water Quality Victories
- The Valle Vidal Pumpjack Debate
- The Chaparral victory -- New Mexico's strongest stand for environmental justice in a decade

#### **WELCOMES & FAREWELLS**

- New Board Members William deBuys and Peter Stacey
- Summer Law Clerks Return to Big City Life

#### **2005 NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS**

This year's winners are...

Please visit the expanded version of the newsletter online at

[WWW.NMENVIROLAW.ORG](http://WWW.NMENVIROLAW.ORG)



## MORE NEWS ON THE CROWNPOINT URANIUM PROJECT

### SECTION 8 SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT BATTLE

In addition to needing its materials license from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to conduct mining, Hydro Resources, Inc. (HRI) also needs two different permits required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) before it can begin mining. Before the permits can be issued for its Church Rock Section 8 mine, however, there must be a determination about whether New Mexico or the federal government and the Navajo Nation have jurisdiction to issue the permits.

On March 3, the New Mexico Secretary of the Environment, Ron Curry, sent a letter to the U.S. EPA asking it to make a determination about whether HRI's Section 8 mine site was "Indian Country." If Section 8 is determined to be Indian Country, the federal government and the Navajo Nation will have jurisdiction under the SDWA. If it is not, then New Mexico will be able to issue permits under the SDWA. In the letter, Mr. Curry took the position that the State has the authority to issue permits to HRI. The letter was copied to HRI, but not to the Law Center's clients.

*According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 98% of Church Rock's residents are Native American.*

**Which sovereign has jurisdiction to issue HRI permits pursuant to the SDWA is critically important.** If Section 8 is determined to be Indian Country, the Navajo Nation's ban on uranium mining and processing will apply and HRI will be prohibited from conducting operations. If New Mexico is determined able to issue SDWA permits, the uranium ban would not apply. The U.S. EPA will be taking public comments on this issue in the future, and the Law Center's clients will be submitting comments advocating Indian Country status for Section 8.

### THE DINÉ NATURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION ACT (DNRPA)

Working with the Navajo Nation Office of Legislative Counsel and our clients, the Southwest Research and Information Center (SRIC) and the Eastern Navajo Diné Against Uranium Mining (ENDAUM), the Law Center drafted legislation for consideration by the Navajo Nation Tribal Council. This legislation **bans conventional uranium mining**, such as shaft and pit mines, and **places a moratorium on uranium processing, which includes ISL mining**, in order to protect the Navajo Nation's water resources. The distinction between conventional uranium mining and processing was made to conform to federal jurisprudence interpreting the authority of states (and by analogy tribes) to regulate nuclear materials under the Atomic Energy Act. The DNRPA also imposes civil penalties on any person violating the terms of the Act, and invokes Navajo traditional law to protect the Nation's water resources.



On April 29th, Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr. signed the DNRPA at the Crownpoint Chapter House. In attendance at the ceremony were members of ENDAUM, SRIC, and the Law Center, including lead attorney Eric Jantz.

### NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION LITIGATION

Despite the ban, the struggle to keep the groundwater pristine in Crownpoint and Church Rock continues. On March 4, ENDAUM and SRIC filed a 1,200 page presentation on groundwater issues, where we again presented compelling technical testimony that **HRI's ISL mining operations would substantially endanger Crownpoint and Church Rock's underground drinking water sources**.

On June 4, we filed a brief on radioactive air emissions on behalf of ENDAUM and SRIC. In that brief, we argued that radioactive air emissions from HRI's ISL operation on Church Rock Section 17 would impermissibly add to existing radioactive contamination in Church Rock from past uranium mining. **Rather than cleaning up existing radioactive contamination, the NRC is permitting an entirely new operation that will further irradiate Church Rock's residents.**

Finally, on June 28, we filed a brief on issues relating to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). We argued a number of issues in that brief, but in particular we emphasized that the Final Environmental Impact Statement's (FEIS) justification for the purpose and the **need for the HRI project was inadequate**. In the FEIS, the NRC concluded that the purpose and need in generating the FEIS was to issue a materials license to HRI. Under NEPA, this statement of purpose and need is clearly inadequate.

## PARTIAL NRC GROUNDWATER RULING

On July 20, the NRC administrative law judge presiding over the HRI case issued a partial initial decision on the groundwater issue. Unfortunately, he sided with HRI and the NRC Staff. In his decision, Judge E. Roy Hawkens determined that HRI's mining operations would not threaten underground sources of drinking water adjacent to its mine sites. In other words, Judge Hawkens concluded that HRI could contain its highly toxic mining solution in a discreet area for the duration of its operations. The Judge also concluded that HRI could restore the groundwater to "average well field levels" (read "highly contaminated") and that the water would never migrate to nearby underground sources of drinking water. In many instances, the Judge refused to consider new evidence presented by ENDAUM and SRIC in regards to the three remaining minesites, instead applying the decisions that a former administrative law judge made when ruling on the Section 8 minesite in 2004. ENDAUM and SRIC plan to appeal Judge Hawken's decision to the full Commission.

## RESIDENTS TACKLE HELENA CHEMICAL

The citizens of Mesquite have been living next to the Helena Chemical fertilizer plant since the mid-20th century. The chemical plant has operated without a permit under the Air Quality Act since the 1980's. Some residents who live near the plant believe their children have suffered eye irritation, sore throats, skin rashes, bloody noses and breathing problems as a result of the plant's operation.

Since March, the Law Center has been advising and consulting Arturo Uribe and the citizens of Mesquite as they meet and bargain with NMED on the issue of enforcement against Helena Chemical. Recently, through the efforts of the Mesquite citizens and the Law Center, **NMED issued a compliance order against Helena Chemical, fined the company nearly \$250,000 and ordered it to obtain an operating permit.**



*Below, the Helena Chemical plant in Mesquite. Left, a neighborhood resident's house is located only yards from the Helena plant (the metal building in background.)*

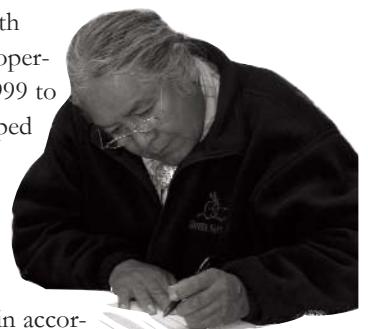


*photos courtesy of Rad Ventura*

But is it enough? Already, the company is refusing to pay the fines, and bargaining for much less -- the company alleges it should pay only \$12,000, and that the calculation of damages against them was a violation of constitutional law. A hearing before the Environment Department is likely the next step. The Law Center will be there representing the citizens of Mesquite.

## PICURIS PUEBLO REGAINS MINE LAND

Sitting in the Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) conference room, Picuris Governor Richard Mermejo quietly **ended forty years of cultural devastation for the members of Picuris Pueblo** with a few strokes of his pen. On April 24th, the permit and the deed for the mine were transferred to the tribe as the result of a settlement negotiation with Oglebay Norton, the company that operated the U.S. Hill mica mine from 1999 to 2004. Oglebay Norton is now dropped from the aboriginal title claim.



*Above: Governor Mermejo signs the title transfer.*

As the new owner of the mine site, the Pueblo faces the challenge of complying with the New Mexico Mining Act and reclaiming the land in accordance with state law and in accordance with cultural needs. A revised closeout plan has been submitted to the state Mining and Minerals Division. The Pueblo is waiting for approval of this plan before beginning reclamation and **showing MMD and the entire mining community in New Mexico how proper mining reclamation should take place.**

At the same time, the Law Center continues as co-counsel for the aboriginal title claim against Franklin Minerals, the company that operated the mine prior to Oglebay Norton. If the Pueblo wins its case in federal court, it could obtain monetary damages from Franklin Minerals.

## PASEO DEL NORTE EXPANSION

The continuing battle to protect the petroglyph escarpment on the West Side of Albuquerque (which includes the Petroglyph National Monument and the Las Imagenes Archaeological District) has been taking place on several fronts.

The City of Albuquerque applied to the Cultural Properties Review Committee (CPRC) for an archaeological excavation permit to remove a number of petroglyphs from the pathway of the proposed extension of Paseo Del Norte. A number of parties including Picuris Pueblo and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, represented by the Law Center, **argued against the granting of the permit based on**

*(Continued on page 4)*

# 4 CASE UPDATES

## PASEO DEL NORTE, CONT.

**the fact that the City of Albuquerque's attempts at tribal consultation were inadequate.** The City of Albuquerque sent one-page letters to six apparently randomly selected Pueblos and Tribes, although more than twenty indigenous nations have spiritual and cultural connections with the petroglyph area. No attempts were made to follow up on these letters with phone calls, additional letters, or visits with tribal leaders.

Since July, tribal leaders have been meeting to decide the proper format and conditions for tribal consultation with the City of Albuquerque. The end result is that the extension of Paseo del Norte has been delayed pending the approval of the CPRC that the correct testing data has been collected and that tribal consultation has been adequate.

Recently, three west side neighborhood associations were allowed to intervene on the side of the City, against SAGE Council and other plaintiffs that are fighting the extension of the roadway. The City of Albuquerque has filed a motion for summary judgment against the plaintiffs arguing that there are no questions of fact in the lawsuit, and that the City should win automatically as a matter of law without going to a jury. The motion for summary judgment was heard in the district court in Albuquerque in late August; the Law Center and its clients await a decision.

## VALLE VIDAL: VALLEY OF PUMPJACKS?

The Valle Vidal, near Cimarron, teems with life. In the winter, one of the state's largest elk herds winters in the low-lying vegas, while in the summer the lush valley is home to horseback riders, hikers and 3,000 Boy Scouts. The Coalition for the Valle Vidal, of which the Law Center is a member, is working to protect the Valle as one of New Mexico's natural treasures. But El Paso Corp. and other energy developers seek to turn the site into an industrial gas zone, complete with hundreds of miles of pipelines and powerlines, noisy compressor stations and hundreds of pumpjacks. Drilling in the Valle Vidal could provide as little as **eleven hours of our national energy supply.**

Because the Valle Vidal Unit has never been incorporated into the Forest Management Plan for the Carson National Forest, the U.S. Forest Service is now working to amend the plan to include the Valle. As part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, the Forest Service initiated a public scoping process in June. During this process, which ended on September 14th, the Forest Service gave the public an opportunity to provide ideas for the scope of issues and alternatives that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

This summer saw important strides for the Valle campaign. First, Governor Richardson and the NM Dept. of Game and Fish nominated the creeks in the Valle Vidal for "Outstanding National Resource Waters" status, which would protect them from future degradation. Second, Congressman Tom Udall (D-NM) announced

that he is developing legislation to permanently protect the site, while Representative Heather Wilson (R-NM) submitted comments to the Forest Service stating that the Valle Vidal should be protected from drilling. Third, the Coalition has recruited a diverse group of spokespeople, including a former NM Oil and Gas Association president, to advocate for the protection of the Valle Vidal. You can help; see [www.vallevidal.org](http://www.vallevidal.org) for details.

## VICTORY IN CHINO MINE EFFORT

Representing the Gila Resources Information Project (GRIP), we won a unanimous decision before the New Mexico Court of Appeals. The decision overturned a 2004 ruling by the Water Quality Control Commission to dismiss GRIP's appeal of the closure/closeout plan for the Chino copper mine in Grant County.

Literally years in the making, the infamous Chino closure/closeout plan was the product of a behind-the-scenes "secret deal" between the Johnson administration and the Phelps Dodge Mining Company, which owns the Chino mine in southern New Mexico. This plan contained provisions such as the "open pit capture zone" in which hundreds of tons of waste rock would not be reclaimed, and the "cleaning up" of mine-contaminated water by simply diluting it with thousands of acre-feet of potable water.

The Water Quality Control Commission refused to hear GRIP's appeal after Phelps Dodge filed a Motion to Dismiss based on technicalities. The Court of Appeals unanimously reversed, entitling GRIP and the Law Center to now present its case before the Commission to determine once and for all if this dirty deal is sound and legal. In 2004, the Law Center and GRIP had a tremendous victory on the Tyrone closure/closeout plan before this same commission on similar issues.





## THE NEW MEXICO SUPREME COURT GIVES COMMUNITIES A VOICE

Recently, the New Mexico Supreme Court made a decision that changes significantly the manner in which communities may participate in NMED decision-making procedures concerning proposed solid waste facilities such as landfills. The case involved a landfill, but the Court's ruling will apply to all solid waste facilities that operate pursuant to permits issued by the NMED under the State Solid Waste Act, and it may influence decision making under other laws as well.

The case that was decided in the Supreme Court began with a public hearing in Chaparral in early September, 2001. The hearing was conducted by the NMED pursuant to the State Solid Waste Act and Solid Waste Management Regulations. They require that a public hearing be conducted by the Department whenever it is evaluating whether to issue a permit pursuant to the Act, and this hearing addressed whether the Department should issue a permit to Rhino Environmental Services, Inc. to construct and operate a municipal waste landfill in Chaparral.

The hearing was interrupted by the events of September 11th, but Chaparral residents came to the hearing and expressed their overwhelming opposition to the proposed landfill. They spoke about their reasons for coming to Chaparral, which included seeking clean air and drinking water. They also expressed their concerns about Chaparral being overrun by industrial sites and turned into a dumping ground, and their fears that the proposed landfill would bring flies, dust, noise, traffic, and pollution.

The NMED Hearing Officer who conducted the hearing let the people from the community speak, often conducting the hearing into the early morning hours. After voicing the position that NMED has taken for years, **the Hearing Officer also made clear that the Department would make its decision based only on technical issues (such as the design of the liner for the landfill), and that concerns expressed by the members of the community would not be taken into account by the Department in determining whether to issue a permit for the landfill.** The Hearing Officer also refused to let a member of the community, Dr. Diana Bustamante of the Colonias Development Council, question a witness for the landfill company about the social impact that the landfill would have on the community.

The NMED Secretary issued a permit for the landfill, ruling that it was appropriate for the Hearing Officer to have told the community members that their testimony could not influence the ultimate outcome, and to have refused to let Dr. Bustamante question the landfill witness on the landfill's social impact. The Colonias Development Council appealed the Secretary's decision to the New Mexico Court of Appeals, but that Court affirmed the Secretary's ruling. The Court of Appeals decided that it was proper for the Department to make its decision based only on the technical evidence presented in the hearing, and that the Department did not have to take into account the non-technical opposition to the landfill expressed by members of the community.

The Colonias Development Council, represented by Nancy Simmons, a private attorney in Albuquerque, asked the New Mexico Supreme Court to review the case, and the Supreme Court agreed to do so. The Law Center filed a brief on behalf of the South Valley (of

Albuquerque) Coalition of Neighborhood Associations supporting the position of the Colonias Development Council; in addition, Law Center Staff Attorney Rod Ventura participated in the oral argument conducted by the Supreme Court. On July 18th, the Supreme Court issued its decision, and **it is an opinion that will change dramatically the way that decisions are made pursuant to the Solid Waste Act.**

The Supreme Court pointed out the provisions of the Act and of the Regulations that require a demonstration that the proposed landfill would not cause a hazard to public health, welfare, or the environment, an undue risk to property, or a public nuisance. The Court also emphasized the many provisions of the Act and the Regulations that call for public participation in the process used to determine whether to issue a permit for the landfill.

On the basis of those considerations, the Court held that the NMED Secretary must consider whether the proposed landfill would create a public nuisance or a hazard to public health, welfare, or the environment. The Court specifically pointed out the testimony of community members that Chaparral is being overrun by industrial facilities including numerous pre-existing landfills, and stated that the Department should consider whether the cumulative impact of pollution, exacerbated by the poverty in the community, could rise to the level of a public nuisance or a hazard to public health, welfare, or the environment. The Court specifically stated that **NMED must take these considerations into account in reviewing evidence concerning the impact of the landfill on the quality of life in the community.**

The Supreme Court ordered that the case be sent back to the NMED for another limited hearing. The Court stated that the Colonias Development Council would be able to present additional evidence on the impacts of the proliferation of landfills in and around the community. The Court also ordered that the Department allow Dr. Bustamante to question the landfill company witness about the social impacts of the landfill. The Court indicated as well that the landfill company would have a reasonable opportunity to respond on behalf of these issues.

Finally, the Court stated that the **NMED Secretary would have to explain his decision following this hearing.** The Court pointed out that it was not ruling that the Secretary would have to reach a different result and deny the landfill company's application, but that it was ruling that the Secretary would have to explain why he decided to reject the public opposition to the landfill if that was his decision.

**This case marks a significant change in the way that the Environment Department will make decisions concerning applications for permits for solid waste facilities.** Since the enactment of the Solid Waste Act in 1990, the Environment Department has taken the position that it was limited to considering only technical issues in applications for such permits. The Supreme Court has changed that, and has given communities the voice concerning such applications and permits that they should have had for the last fifteen years.

--*Douglas Meiklejohn, Executive Director*



# 2005 New Mexico Environmental Awards



*Photos generously contributed by Ossy Werner.  
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Awards ceremony scrapbook, clockwise from bottom left:  
 Law clerks Kimberlee Sanchez, Patrick Ferguson and Molly McOwen; Gauna Award winner Linda Lopez watches the festivities; Salisbury Award winner Don Hancock hugs presenter Kimi Green as he accepts his award; Emily Souder and mom Jennifer Pruitt try their hands at cross-country croquet; emcee Robby Rodriguez entertains the crowd with groan-out-loud lawyer jokes; Navajo Council Member George Arthur is one recipient of the Souder Award, flanked by Lynnea Smith, Project Coordinator for ENDAUM and Esther Yazzie, chairwoman of SRIC who accepted the award on behalf of Harris Arthur; our first annual horseshoes contest was a hit!

Thanks to the Randall Davey Audubon Center for the wonderful venue.

Thanks to copy editor James Beach for his invaluable assistance in the production of this newsletter.

## WINNERS OF THE 2005 NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS

### KARL SOUDER WATER PROTECTION AWARD

Navajo Councilmember George Arthur  
 Navajo activist and SRIC employee Harris Arthur  
 Eastern Navajo Diné Against Uranium Mining  
*For their work to enact the Diné Natural Resources Protection Act, outlawing uranium mining in Navajo Indian Country. Harris Arthur's award was made posthumously.*

### GRIFF SALISBURY ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AWARD

Don Hancock of the Southwest Research and Information Center  
*For his decades of work as an activist and watchdog on nuclear and nuclear waste issues.*

### JEANNE GAUNA COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY AWARD

SPONSORED BY DOUG WOLF AND ANN STRICKLAND

NM Senator Linda Lopez (Bernalillo Co.)  
 NM Representative Antonio Lujan (Dona Ana Co.)  
*For their work to sponsor the Healthy Communities Act, which is the first environmental justice legislation ever introduced in New Mexico.*

Thanks to our super ceremony volunteers!

David Clark	The Padilla Family
Mary Dickman	The Ventura Family
Mary Dykton	Ossy Werner
Barbara Fix	

Please support our Horseshoes & Croquet sponsors!  
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## WELCOMES & FAREWELLS

We are happy to announce two new Law Center board members, who bring with them a shared love of New Mexico's environment and a deep-rooted belief that the complex environmental problems faced by New Mexicans must be met with solutions that are developed with sound science and community participation.

### WILLIAM DEBUYS, PH.D.

For nearly two decades, Bill has been a well-known figure in northern New Mexico as an author, historian and leader on environmental projects such as the Valles Caldera National Preserve, where he served as Chairman and Trustee of the Valles Caldera Trust. He has also been instrumental in securing thousands of acres of New Mexico lands for conservation, including the purchase and transfer of Forked Lightning Ranch, which led to the establishment of the Pecos National Historical Park, and the Valle Grande grassbank, which has served as a model for sustainable grazing practices in the West.

In Bill's books, including *Enchantment and Exploitation: the Life and Hard Times of a New Mexico Mountain Range*, he examines how societies and their environments continually influence and alter each other in an unending cycle of reciprocal change. He writes in the preface to *Enchantment and Exploitation*, "...in an unforgiving environment, small errors yield large consequences." It is a lesson that is at the heart of many Law Center cases.

### PETER STACEY, PH.D.

Peter has spent the last twenty years studying the ecology of the West from the point of view of an ornithologist. As a Research Professor at the University of New Mexico for the past eight years, his passion is restoration ecology, centering upon population ecology and genetics, behavioral ecology and conservation ecology, including the restoration of bird communities in riparian ecosystems. His research has been key to the dialogue about the Southwest Willow Flycatcher and the Mexican Spotted Owl.

Reminiscing about his research on the spotted owl, he mused, "when I started out with this work, I thought I could just do science. But the issues we face are complex and require many people with many skills to create solutions. The way we're doing things now, I'm afraid of the world my son will have when he is my age. We need to work together and all make contributions to create those solutions."

The Law Center is tremendously pleased to have these two dedicated individuals add their voices to its board and looks forward to its new board members' viewpoints on requests for assistance, fund-raising, and policy matters.

Once again, the Law Center was tremendously fortunate in hosting very talented, hard-working law clerks for the summer. Having spent the summer immersed in environmental justice work with our attorneys, **Molly McOwen**, **Patrick Ferguson** and **Kimberly Sanchez** are now beginning their second year at Columbia Law School in New York City.

What was the most challenging aspect of their jobs this summer? There is always the steep learning curve, as anyone who has practiced Indian law or atomic licensing law can tell you. But it is how law gets put into practice that gave our law clerks pause, rather than the technical aspects of our cases.

"Working here, you see how the lawmaking process has an impact on communities," said Patrick. "The erosion of environmentally-protective laws, and the politics behind that phenomenon, really have consequences for our clients."

Kimberly remarked that the challenges she saw were similar. "Being a good environmental lawyer is not just about lawyering," she said. "I've learned here that it is just as much about the networks you build with regulators, clients and elected officials." Another challenge she saw was the difficulty of how to provide the greatest good for the greatest number of people with limited resources.

When asked what the best part of the job was, Molly stated, "the dedication of the people - both those with whom we worked, and the people that we represented this summer." Our clients' dedication to their work to protect their homes and families has inspired all three of our law clerks to continue for the public interest in the future. And all three students concurred that the green chile and spectacular landscapes have definitely inspired them to return to New Mexico!

### MISSION

The New Mexico Environmental Law Center is a nonprofit, public interest law firm that provides free and low-cost legal services on environmental matters throughout New Mexico. The mission of the Law Center is to protect New Mexico's environment and communities. Founded in 1987, the Law Center works with clients -- often individuals, neighborhood associations, environmental organizations, Tribes and Pueblos -- seeking to protect the environment. The work of the Law Center is made possible by tax-deductible contributions from individuals, businesses, foundations and limited earned income.

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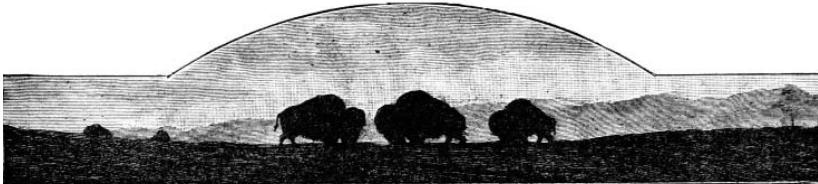
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Membership costs \$35.00 per year, which is tax-deductible. See our website or call the office for details.



**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

**A very special evening with Ted Turner**

Join us for a dinner ceremony honoring some of New Mexico's most courageous environmental champions.

**Special Recognition Award for Environmental and Cultural Protection**

**THE NAVAJO NATION**, represented by Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., for its courageous stand to protect communities from uranium mining.

**Defender of New Mexico Award**

**CISCO MCSORLEY**, New Mexico Senator, for his long-standing advocacy for New Mexico's environment and communities.

**The Toxic Turkey**

Come to the dinner and see who this year's "winner" is...

The Law Center is pleased to welcome special guest speaker **TED TURNER** and guest presenter **WES STUDI** for this event. Tickets are \$125 each, or \$1,250 for a table of ten. Underwriting opportunities are available. For more information or to purchase tickets, see [www.nmenvirolaw.org](http://www.nmenvirolaw.org), or call 505.989.9022.

**The Law Center gratefully acknowledges the support of our institutional funders:**

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**The Law Center also acknowledges the generous contributions made in memory of these individuals:**

Harris Arthur

Dr. George Fix

Bernice Pavola Josephine Dykton

Dr. Frances Harwood

Keith Kellum

Mitzie Krzeminski

Donald and Betty Meiklejohn

Paul V. Thompson

Arthur H. White



**New Mexico  
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returns to  
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**MONDAY EVENINGS**

**OCT. 10 - DEC. 12**

Join stellar speakers such as  
New Mexico Natural Resources  
Trustee **Jim Baca** (Oct. 24),

world-renowned conservationist **Dave Foreman**  
(Nov. 21), and author and Edward Abbey friend  
**Jack Loeffler** (Nov. 28), each Monday this fall at  
the Hotel Santa Fe. 6-7pm, \$5 tickets at the door  
for Law Center members, \$10 for non-members.

For the entire schedule, see [www.nmenvirolaw.org](http://www.nmenvirolaw.org),  
or call 989.9022. See you there!