



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE**

*SANTA FE, NM* – In order to offer the public better access to information about the environmental health of their communities, the New Mexico Environmental Law Center (NMELC) is excited to announce the launch of their new website just in time for Earth Day. The new website will offer regular updates on cases, issues and events, as well as easier navigation and a cleaner interface.



“This website helps the New Mexico Environmental Law Center achieve its goal of being a source of quality information for the public,” says Juana Colón, Communications and Public Education Associate for NMELC. “In this new climate of an engaged democracy, people want to know what’s going on in their government and community, and they want to pay attention and be directly involved.” Array Design, in Santa Fe, worked with the Law Center to create the new site.

New sections will include *NMELC in the News*, featuring articles, interviews, audio and video in which NMELC’s work with communities around the state is highlighted in the media. A *Press Release* page gives the media easy access to the latest NMELC developments. The *Green Business Partners* page features a growing list of local businesses that support the NMELC. The *Newsletters* page archives NMELC newsletters for easy access or research. Also, it has a *Links* page that will provide useful access to other non-profits, allies and related government agencies. Finally, the ability to search the entire site for any term and RSS subscription ability have been added.

The original NMELC website was launched in 2001. “The new website still holds current case information as well as an *Issues* page, but these sections are now much easier to read and navigate,” describes Colón. The website will be accessible via [www.nmenvirolaw.org](http://www.nmenvirolaw.org).

Future plans for the website include a *Community Resources* page that will house information for communities and individuals who are faced with threats to their environment and health. “There will be downloadable fact sheets on definitions of terms, histories of long running issues and timelines. We are

also working on an interactive map where visitors will be able to pull up their neighborhoods or even their backyards and see, for example, where any mining permits have been issued in relation to their groundwater.” Ms. Colón hopes to have the *Community Resources* page completed and running by late 2009.

[www.nmenvirolaw.org](http://www.nmenvirolaw.org)

*The mission of the New Mexico Environmental Law Center is to protect New Mexico’s natural environment and communities through legal and policy advocacy, and public education. The New Mexico Environmental Law Center’s attorneys have handled over 100 critical cases in low-income and minority communities fighting pollution and environmental degradation. The Law Center charges few, if any, fees to its clients, most of whom are from Hispanic and Native American communities. The NMELC celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2008. Membership and gifts help New Mexico communities protect their natural environment and their health from toxic pollution, the degrading effects of growth and liabilities created by irresponsible mining. Contact: Sebia Hawkins, Director of Development 505-989-9022.*

### **INTERVIEWS AND IMAGES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

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