



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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****Media Advisory****

Governor Susana Martinez to Highlight Efforts to Hold EPA Accountable for Gold King Mine Spill

Farmington, NM — Today, Governor Susana Martinez will highlight her efforts to hold the EPA accountable for the Gold King Mine spill. On August 5, 2015, the EPA caused a blowout at Colorado's Gold King Mine, causing millions of gallons of toxic waste to flow through downstream communities in New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah.

"The spill was absolutely devastating to our residents, communities, and wildlife in the area," Governor Martinez said. "We'll continue to do all we can to keep New Mexicans safe and informed about any long-term effects, as well as to hold the EPA accountable, the same way they would if a private business had been responsible."

Following the spill, Governor Martinez directed a coordinated response to the crisis, working with local and federal officials to protect the health and safety of New Mexicans. The Governor declared a state of emergency to free up much-needed funding to help test wells, study the potential effects of the spill, and help with other response efforts.

The Governor also established a Long-Term Impact Review Team to monitor any long-term effects the catastrophe may have on communities, agriculture, and wildlife in the area.

Additionally, the Martinez Administration sued the EPA and its contractors, the mine owners, and the State of Colorado. The lawsuits seek more than \$130 million in damages.

When: 11 a.m. Thursday August 4, 2016

Where: Animas Riverfront
Between Courtyard Marriott and Red Lion Inn
560 Scott Ave
Farmington, NM 87401

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