

OTERO SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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June 26, 2025

New Mexico Environment Department
Occupational Health and Safety Bureau
1190 St. Francis Drive, Suite N4050
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

RE: Proposed Heat Illness and Injury Prevention Rule

The Otero Soil & Water Conservation District is writing regarding the "Proposed Heat Illness and Injury Prevention Rule" by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Occupational Health and Safety Bureau (OHSB).

As the board of Otero Soil & Water Conservation District we serve the majority of Otero in New Mexico. It is our mission to protect, restore, enhance and promote the proper use of soil, water and other natural resources. This includes employers and employees in the agriculture community.

The proposed Heat Illness and Injury Prevention Rule is impractical and unattainable in most cases. It lacks sufficient data to justify its stringent requirements and fails to properly address the economic impacts that it will have on the employers, workers, and the state of New Mexico as a whole. This proposed rule is a classic example of government overreach, it's impossible to apply, is burdensome on both producers/employers and workers/employees, and impossible to implement and enforce without proper funding.

The Otero Soil & Water Conservation District Board respectfully requests that NMED withdraw the Proposed Heat Illness and Injury Prevention Rule.

Sincerely,



Bob Nichols
Chairman