

## Nicole Waltermire

I strongly support the New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED) strong draft heat protection rule. New Mexico is getting hotter, and workers across our state, especially those working outdoors and in non-air-conditioned indoor environments, are at serious risk of heat-related illness and death. The proposed rule addresses this new climate reality with best practices and science-based solutions including calling for written Heat Injury and Illness Prevention Plans (HIIPPs); providing for comprehensive worker training; implementing common sense preventive strategies including water, shade/cooling rooms, paid rest breaks, and acclimatization; and using trigger temperatures that are based on physiological science and years of experience from other states with heat standards. This standard is essential for protecting our workers and saving lives.