



For immediate release  
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Contact: Pahl Shipley  
(505) 476-2282

## **Governor Bill Richardson's Competitive Grant Advisory Team to Open Regional Briefings in Acoma and Ruidoso**

*Team will outline benefits of ARRA and discuss competitive grant opportunities*

SANTA FE—Governor Bill Richardson's Competitive Grant Advisory Team will begin a series of regional briefings on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to assist local communities with accessing federal funding. The first briefings will take place in Ruidoso and Acoma, and will feature a summary of the allocation of federal recovery funding under the recovery act and information on how communities and organizations can access competitive grant funding.

“There are a lot of programs, funding sources and initiatives available for rural communities, small businesses and individuals – but you have to know where to look to take advantage of them,” said Rick Homans, New Mexico Secretary of Taxation and Revenue and chair of the Competitive Grant Advisory Team. “Governor Richardson has directed the team to ensure New Mexico receives the maximum available federal grant funding to create and protect jobs and to help build a strong, prosperous economy for the future.”

The meetings will feature briefings by representatives from key state and federal agencies responsible for implementing the recovery act. There will also be extensive question and answer segments to ensure participants are able to obtain information that can help their communities apply for the millions of dollars available through competitive grants.

The meetings are open to the public but are specifically targeted for community leaders, elected officials, and representatives from community organizations. The Acoma meeting will feature a special focus on recovery funding and grant opportunities for New Mexico's Native American Tribes and Pueblos.

The meetings are sponsored by the seven New Mexico regional Councils of Government, the New Mexico Association of Counties and the New Mexico Municipal League.

**Monday, May 4**

**Ruidoso**

1:00-3:30 PM. Museum of the Horse, inside the Hubbard Museum of the American West, 841 W. Highway 70, Ruidoso Downs.

**Acoma**

3:00-5:00 PM. Sky City Casino, I-40 at exit 102, Pueblo of Acoma.

Upcoming Competitive Grant Advisory team meetings:

May 6	<b>Silver City</b> , Southwest New Mexico Council of Governments
May 11	<b>Gallup</b> , Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments
May 13	<b>Tucumcari</b> , Eastern Plains Council of Governments
May 14	<b>Española</b> , North Central New Mexico Economic Dev. District
May 20	<b>Albuquerque</b> , Northern Summit: Mid-Region Council of Governments
May 21	<b>Las Cruces</b> , Southern Summit: South Central Council of Governments