



2016 Year In Review:

Protecting New Mexico's communities and our air, land and water in the fight for environmental justice. By the end of 2016 we knew the road ahead was going to be a rocky one. We didn't know then just how difficult it would be. But as I write this letter in spring 2017, it's clear that our environment – and low-income communities and communities of color that often bear the brunt of environmental degradation – are going to be even more vulnerable over the next four years.

In New Mexico, we have been dealing since 2011 with an administration that favors the financial interests of industry and development over the basic protections of individual residents' health and wellbeing. We fought hard every day of 2016 to preserve protective regulations, promote safe and sustainable industry practices, and to defend the right of the public to participate in rulemaking processes.

As you'll see in our Top 10 list of case highlights through the year, we achieved a number of important successes. Environmental law is a long game. Some victories, such as the hard-won termination of the Churchrock uranium permit, are meaningful outcomes for our clients. Other successes came in the form of simply preserving the right to keep fighting. This is important, as while we are fighting, often the destructive activity we are fighting against cannot move forward.

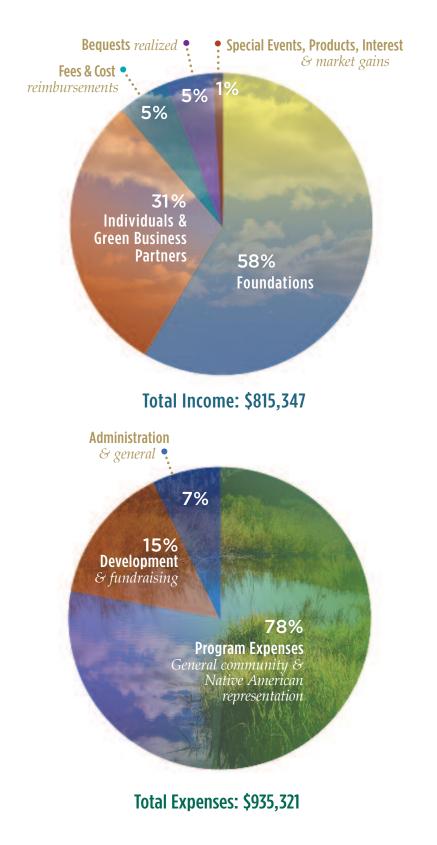
We vow to fight just as hard when rollbacks of federal regulations and decimation of protective agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency itself threaten harm to the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the land we inhabit here in New Mexico. And we promise to keep fighting our own state administration when necessary to protect our resources and our communities as well. The fight can only happen with your support.

Thank you for making it possible.

Douglas Meiklejohn Executive Director

2016 Unaudited Financial Report

(January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016)





2017 Law Center Board of Directors

Michael Casaus, Albuquerque, President Eileen Gauna, Albuquerque, Vice-President Ramón Padilla, Jr., Las Cruces, Secretary Harry Browne, Treasurer, Silver City Myron Armijo, Santa Ana Pueblo Stuart Bluestone, Santa Fe Sandy Buffett, Albuquerque Susanne Hoffman-Dooley, Santa Fe Donna House, Alcalde Renee Ingold, Fallbrook, CA A. Paul Mitchell, Albuquerque Terry Odendahl, Boulder, CO Kitty Richards, Albuquerque Juan Reynosa, Albuquerque Frank Sanchez, Roswell

Law Center Staff

Jonathan M. Block, Staff Attorney Juana Colón, Public Education Officer Eric Jantz, Staff Attorney Janiece Jonsin, Administrative Assistant Shelbie Knox, Development Officer Elizabeth Lee, Director of Philanthropy Douglas Meiklejohn, Executive Director Yana Merrill, Director of Administration & Finance Jaimie Park, Staff Attorney Baxter, Brisa and Lulu, Office Dogs

If you have any questions about our accounting, please contact Yana Merrill, Director of Administration and Finance, at ymerrill@nmelc.org or call (505) 989-9022.

Foundation revenue does not include multi-year grants pledged in 2016 and does not include revenue from multi-year grants booked in earlier years, as required by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

Impact Report Top 10 Stories of the Year

- Once again, the Law Center held the line at the State Legislature! Thanks to persistent efforts by executive director Doug Meiklejohn and our many allies at the Roundhouse, not a single bad environmental bill got through in the 2016 session.
- In a case that threatens drinking water for half a million residents of Albuquerque, the Law Center entered into negotiations with the US Air Force to push for expedited cleanup of more than 24 million gallons of highly carcinogenic jet fuel that was discovered in 1999 to be leaking from a facility on the Kirtland Air Force Base. The toxic underground plume is moving toward several drinking water wells. The Air Force requested the confidential negotiations after the Law Center filed intent of notice to sue on behalf of SWOP, two state senators and several Albuquerque residents.



- In a hard-fought and welcome victory, we won our case to force the State to terminate a groundwater discharge permit for a new, controversial uranium mine proposed near Church Rock, NM. Without a valid permit, mining cannot begin at the site.
- 4 In a very disappointing decision, the New Mexico Supreme Court declined to hear our appeal of the Pit Rule, which governs the storage and disposal of wastes at oil and gas drilling pits in the state. Serving as co-counsel with the New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, representing Earthworks' Oil and Gas Accountability Project, the Law Center had been fighting to overturn the Rule since it was gutted in 2013.
- **5** In a major victory for our clients fighting the proposed Santolina mega-development on the western edge of Albuquerque, the 2nd Judicial District Court denied three attempts by our opponent to get our appeals of the Level A Master Plan dismissed. As of press time, we are waiting for a ruling on our arguments against the scheme, including that the developers have not proven the project has water. Executive director Doug Meiklejohn and staff attorney Jaimie Park continue to fight approval of the next step in the developer's path, the Level B Master Plan.
 - Law Center staff attorney Jon Block and our client, Nuclear Watch New Mexico, filed a lawsuit in federal court against the Department of Energy and Los Alamos National Security, the for-profit operator of Los



Alamos National Laboratory, over failure to meet critical cleanup milestones under a 2005"Consent Order" they agreed to with the New Mexico Environment Department. Our suit claims 12 violations of missed deadlines, of up to 675 days each. Our initial cost estimate of the alleged violations? \$300 million and counting!

© Photo: Nuclear Watch NM

hoto: NMELC, Juana Colón



Photo: Kirtland AFB

for Regulation Changes as discussed on 11/9/2015

Bringing the (former) might of the EPA down on local polluters, the agency decided to investigate the Albuquerque Air Board for civil rights violations after Law Center staff attorney Eric Jantz and our client SouthWest Organizing Project (SWOP) filed a complaint against it for ignoring poor air quality in environmental justice neighborhoods. Following the EPA notice, the Board agreed to respond to complaints in writing and to engage in informal dispute resolution with SWOP. Since Trump took office, however, the Board has taken no substantive or meaningful steps toward addressing the problems.

In an Inspection of Public Records Act request related to proposed ground water regulation amendments, staff attorney Jaimie Park discovered a literal "Hit List" of protective environmental regulations that the state Environment Department had targeted for attack. Jaimie filed comprehensive comments on the proposed amendments to surface and groundwater regulations, which constitute an attempt to limit public participation in the permitting process and roll back standards for certain contaminants. A hearing will be held in the future.

Eight years after it began, the Law Center and our client, the Rio Bonito Preserve, closed a successful case that will help keep water running in the beautiful Rio Bonito, which flows through Lincoln County.

Culminating more than four years of fighting the statewide Copper Rule, the Law Center presented oral argument

willing within case

before the state Supreme Court. The rule, adopted in 2013, is

In 2016, the New Mexico State Engineer gave Augustin Plains Ranch, LLC a chance to resubmit its failed application for more than 17 billion gallons of water annually. NMELC represents nearly 100 residents of west-central New Mexico in their effort to defeat the Ranch's speculative scheme.

NO WATER HERE MEANS NO HUNTING, NO RANCHING STOP THE DRILLING SanAugustinWaterCoalition.net

the first regulation since the state's adoption of its Water Quality Act in 1967 that allows an entire industry to intentionally pollute groundwater. The court's ruling will set precedent for how New Mexico protects water at industrial sites throughout the state. As of publication, the court has not yet issued its decision. This was our last line of defense – until the next governor takes office...

2016 Law Center Supporters Thank you! Your generous support makes

Institutional Funders Anonymous Albuquerque Community Foundation, Sage Fund Susan Bell Herb Block Foundation Brindle Foundation Caprock Fund of Tides Foundation, on the recommendation of Ms. Kappy Wells Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area Con Alma Health Foundation Dawn Hill Fund Desert Southwest Combined Federal Campaign Dottie J. Barrett Giving Account Douglass Family Foundation **EMA** Foundation James M. Ewell Charitable Foundation W.K. Kellogg Foundation Charlotte L. Kiser Charitable Trust Lannan Foundation Max and Anna Levinson Foundation Livingry Foundation Maki Foundation Mills Family Foundation Mumford Family Foundation New Cycle Foundation New Mexico Community Foundation Lynda Taylor Environment, Education and Social Justice Fund, New Mexico Community Fdn. New Society Fund New-Land Foundation The Dennis A. O'Toole Family Foundation Patagonia, Inc. PrairieFire Foundation Santa Fe Community Foundation Blair-Weisfeld Fund, Santa Fe Community Fdn. Cabin Fund, Santa Fe Community Fdn. Cabin Fund, Santa Fe Community Fdn. Castagnola Family Fund, Santa Fe Community Fdn. Helen R. Homans Advised Donor Fund. Santa Fe Community Fdn. Just Woke Up Fund, Santa Fe Community Fdn. New Cycle Foundation, Santa Fe Community Fdn. Sanford and Jane Brickner Advised Fund, Santa Fe Community Fdn. Second Anonymous Fund, Santa Fe Community Fdn. Susan and Conrad De Jong Fund, Santa Fe Community Fdn. TW Family Fund, Santa Fe Community Fdn. Schwab and Donegan Gift Fund Sierra Club Foundation Sulica Fund Thornburg Foundation Turner Foundation United Way of Central New Mexico United Way of Northern New Mexico **Individual Donors**

Anonymous Thomas and Carol Aageson Rick and Kathy Abeles Naomi Aberly Rachel Aberly Esther Abeyta Ann Aceves Mercedes M. Agogino, Ph.D. Ann Alexander, MD, and Richard Khanlian Daniel and Cynthia Allan Kristina Alley, SFA Jonathan and Kathleen Altman Foundation Arden and Heather Anderson Neal Apple and Vicki Allen Amber Archer Michael Armstrong Chris Baker Diana Baker Reid Bandeen and Vickie Peck Leslie Barclay Paul Bardacke and Lisa Enfield Susan Bardes Avelina Bardwell, MD Michele Barlow and Phil Polzer Mike Batte and Wanda Kile 6 www.nmelc.org

Ann Hardy Batum Anne E. Beckett Reed and Melinda Benson Jean L. Bergeron Amy Bertelli Crawford Best Paul and Ellen Biderman Garland Bills Sallie Bingham Susan Binneweg and Owen Jones Fred and Daryl Black Billie Blair and Gene Weisfeld lovce Blalock Stuart M. Bluestone, Esq. Michele Boccia & Lewis Sawatzky Tony Bonanno Karen Bonime and Richard Weiner Adriano Bravo lane Brickner Grace Brill and Daniel Schwartz William Briney Michael Browde Lynda and Donald Brown Polly Brown and David Fowler Timothy Brown Harry Browne J & M Buchholz Judith Buckingham Sandy Buffett David W Burling Mary Ellen Burns-Gonzales Virginia Burris Jay Bush and Peggy Rudberg I.A. Carden Mary Jo Carey Michael Casaus Ellen Casey and Nubia Domres Liliana Castillo John Catron Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Catron Carolyn Chambers Rod Chambers Susan Chappell, Esq. Wendy Chase Barbara Chatterjee Peter and Elizabeth Chestnut P.R. Christie Cecilia Clark Jack and Cindy Clark Camille Coates A.T. and Cinda Cole luana Colón Carol Condie Philip and Quarrier Cook Dianne C. Cress & Jon B. McCorkell Michael and lennie Crews Florence Cromwell Bill and Liz Crosman Margo Cutler Nancy Dahl Roger and Jeanne Daigger Richard and Barbara Davis Nancy Day Steven Dayton Charles de Saillan Russ Deal Bryan and Beverley Dees Glen DeGarmo Marcia and George deGarmo Michael and Sheryl DeGenring Allison Dellinger & Ches Hortenstine Anita Deming Elaine Diers Fileen Dodds David Doezema, M.D. Phyllis Dolhinow Michael Donlan David and Rebecca Donohue Dale Doremus Jamie Douglass Bruce Driver Charitable Fund Stephen Dubner

Spin Dunbar Ellen and Bill Dupuy Greg Dye and Estevan Trujillo Mary Dykton Kathleen Economy Connie Eichstaedt & Alan Osborne Elizabeth Elliston Bernard Ewell and Sali Randell Allison Muller Fabara Fairholm Builders, Inc. lames Faris Stuart Feen and Sunny Sonnenschein Maria Fellin Ella Joan Fenoglio Elizabeth Ferguson Kathleen Fiero Kristina Fisher and Phil Carter Barbara Fix Thomas & Nancy Florsheim Family Fdn Richard and Karen Ford Wallace and Valerie Ford Lisa Foster Jennifer Fowler-Propst Lisa Freeman Martha Anne Freeman Dody Fugate Jamie Gagan, M.D. Gwendolyn Gallagher and Don Krier Faith Garfield Fileen Gauna Nicholas Gentry Sheila Gershen Marvin J. Godner, M.D. The Golden Eye Dick Goldsmith Carol Goodman Eda Gordon Susan Gordon Tom Gorman Fancher Gotesky Joel and Cherrin Green George Greer, M.D. & Requa Tolbert Gila Tree Thinners Sharon Gross Jana Gunnell, M.D., MPH Peter Hagen & Lindsay Faulkner Hagen Gail and Daryl Haggard lim Hannan Wendell and Harriett Harris Richard and Anna Harrison Jonathan E. Hartshorne Don and Cheryl Hastings Steven Hecht Gary Hein Karen Heldmeyer, Ph.D. Juliana Henderson Gregg Henry and Wenda Trevathan Ellen and Bruce Herr Matthew and Julia Meredith Hess Ann and Jerry Hicks Catherine Hill Christianne Hinks Robert and Patricia Hinton Paula Mays Hodges Susanne Hoffman-Dooley, JD, and Con Dooley, MD Dave and Liddy Holland Rosemary Holland Anita Holtz Elizabeth Hoobler Elaine Hounsell Donna House Ms. Jeanette Howard Hank and Bonney Hughes Tracy M. Hughes Paul Hultin and Vicki Laszlo Tim Hunter Joanna Hurley Jeffrey Huser and Debra Colonna-Huser Don Hyde Tova Indritz Renee Ingold

Diane Jacoby Patricia Jahoda Suzanne Jamison Kitty Jansen Amy Jenkins Tom and Carlyn Jervis Sam and Isabel Jewell Richard and Ella Jones Mark and Susan Kalin Norty and Summers Kalishman Marjorie Kamine Heather Karlson and Bill Leeson Diane Karp Dr. Kirt Kempter Cynthia Kiersnowski Larry J King Holly Kinley Gayle Kinsey Don Kirby and Joan Gentry Richard Klein and Claire Zoeller Pat Klock Shelbie Knox and David Clark Sandra Koenig Ruth and Paul Kovnat Patricia Kuhlhoff Diana Lahm Joan Bluestone Landorf Michael and Barbara Langner Ellen LaPenna David and Barbara Larson Robin Laughlin Kirsten Lear Elizabeth Lee Lynn Lee Ellen Leitzer Deirdre Lennihan Greg and Amy Lewis Edwina Lieb Jason A. Lillegraven Michael W. and Diane Lilley Carlie Lines and B.C. Rimbeaux Debra Link lane Lipman Lucy Lippard Larry and Julianne Littlefield John Loges & Lori Remegio-Loges Margaret Lovd Arabelle Luckhardt Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lundgren Sonia Macdonald Ouida MacGregor **Kimberly Macloud** Carol Madley Laurie Maitre Hal Malone Eileen Mandel Michael Mandell Claire Mandeville Sarah Manges James C. and Sherry Martin Alexandria I. Martinez lames A. McGrath , Barbara McIntyre Alexander M. Meiklejohn Colin Meiklejohn Douglas and Harriet Meiklejohn Stuart Meiklejohn Daniel Merians Yana Merrill Linda Milanesi Betsy Millard Matthew Miller Robbie Miller David Milliken Ralph Milnes Karen Milstein, PhD, and Phil Milstein, MD Charlotte Minter A. Paul and Genevieve Mitchell Lois Mohr and Tom Arner Dennis Montova Andrew Mooney Julia Moore

Susan Morgan Letitia Morris Susan Morris Linda G Mowbray Virginia Mudd and Clifford Burke Werner and Helen Muller Ann Mumford James Murphy Paula Musetta Phil Musser and Carol MacLennan Shirley Ann Myers Julia and Albert Nathanson Judith Naumberg lean Neblett Sharon Kellum Neuman and Richard Neuman News Corp Giving Betsy Nichols Charles Noble Steven Oakey Elizabeth O'Brien Christopher O'Connor . Terry Odendahl William C. Olson Peter and Jean Ossorio Dennis and Trudy O'Toole Lois Owens George and Elise Packard Ramon Padilla Ronald Parry Jim and Jan Patterson David and Therese Patton Charles and Sharon Pedersen Van and Katherine Perkins Roger Peterson Patricia Phelps Stephen and Rodene Phillips Glenn Conroy & Jane Phillips-Conroy Sarah Piltch and David Heber Ellen Pinnes Ray and Carol Pittman Plastic Bottle Corporation Dan and Nancy Potter Charles M. Powers V.B. and Rini Price Betty Pritchard Jennifer Pruett and Kennan Girdner Sheila Pugach Ioan Ouinn Dr. Patrick and Stacy Quinn Bonnie Raitt Bishop Ricardo Ramirez Edward and Melanie Ranney Mary Ray Margaret and Lewis Reade Lee Reynis Geri Rhodes Jean Richards Kitty Richards and Chuck Logan , Ronald Rinker Michael Ripberger Rhonda Rivera Edward Roden-Lucero Hilario Romero David Rose and Ceil Murray Rose Mountain, Inc. Ellen Rosen and Bruce Reynolds Dena Ross Patsie and Paul Milasevich Pamela Roy Vicente Roybal Richard J. Rubin Santy D. Sacco , Kent Salazar David M. Salman Marjorie R. and William J. Salman Allen and Mary Anne Sanborn John McAllen Scanlan Robert Schiller Rich Schrader & Carol Gish Schrader Merry Schroeder & David Matthews Mary Schruben Nan Schwanfelder

our work possible.

Ira and Lorraine Schwartz Norman A. Segel Donna J. Seifert Bruce Shah Geoff and Catherine Shandler Laurence Shandler, M.D., & Joan Shandler Deborah Shapiro Patricia A. Sheely **Betsy Sheils** Danielle Shelley Betsy and Tom Shillinglaw Linda Siegle lanet Simon Pat Simons Ken and Martha Simonsen Water Singing-on-the-Rocks Daryl and Lucia Smith Jane Smith-Decker Leona Sonne Sherill Spaar Theodore Spencer Elliot Steinberg, Esq. Natali Steinberg Stephens and Associates Eliza Stewart lean Stokes Nancy Stone Gavin F. Strathdee Kim Straus, Jack Lain & Jose Lain-Straus Persis Suddeth Cathie Sullivan Kristine Suozzi Scott Swearingen Karen and Bob Sweeney lane Swift T & E Incorporated John and Katie Tauxe Edwina Taylor Margo Taylor Fred Teitelbaum Alice Temple and Frank Herdman Mr. and Mrs. Simon Teolis **Beverly Terry** Aiia Thacher Gordon and Mary Anne Thompson Todd Tibbals and Andrea Escher Mary Toll Jere and Harry Turner Robert Lawrence & Olive Wilkinson Turnipseed Mary Uhl Kristin and Ross Ulibarri United Church of Santa Fe Eric Unzicker, MD Alice Van Buren Roderick Ventura and Josette Haddad Stephen Verchinski Donna and John Vogel Wendy Volkmann Garret and Sandra Vreeland Adair Waldenberg and Jon Peck Richard & Carol Warren L. Watchempino Anne Weaver and Stephen Thompson Alan Webber and Frances Diemoz Maurice Webster Kappy Wells Stanley Wernick Joan and Truel West Peter T. White Robert Wickham Anne Heath Widmark Richard and Martha Wilder Paul Wilken Marie B. Wilkinson and Cyril Christo John and Carolyn Wilson Emily Wolf John H. Wood, Jr. Patricia Wood Peter and Maureen Wurzburger Michael Zimber Naida Zucker and Richard Spellenberg

Time and Talents Given By: Diana Baker Lynda Brown Lara Christensen Colin Cox Jamie Douglass Bruce Frederick, Esq. Robert L. Hiller, Esq. Tracy M. Hughes, Esq. Paul Hultin, Esg. Marjorie Kamine Warren Marr Marilyn Maxwell Pat McDaniel Colin McKenzie Michelle Mosser Phil Musser William Olson, P.E. Alice Sealey John Stroud, Esq Cathie Sullivan Alice van Buren Roderick Ventura, Esq. Garret Vreeland Emma Warren

Gifts Made in Memory Of:

Joan West

Winston O. Abbott lames B. Alley Jr. Frank Bell Florence Dobrinski Gene Haber Sebia Hawkins David Henderson Susan Hertel Gwen Ifill Keith A. Kellum Geraldine Kilpatrick Walter Maslowicz Donald and Betty Meiklejohn Elizabeth Meikleiohn Robert J. Myers Paul V. Thompson Mary Tony Young

Gifts Made in Honor Of:

Tom and Carol Aageson Jessica Aberly Richard Ford, Ph.D. Taran Hunter Robin Laughlin Douglas Meiklejohn Meiklejohn Legacy Circle Rose Miller Alan Osborne and Connie Eichstaedt

2016 Bequests

Flaine Hounsell Bonnie Jacobs Eugene and Jane Petchesky Fund at the Santa Fe Community Foundation

Meiklejohn Legacy Circle

Anonymous - 5 , Blythe Baebler* Stuart Bluestone Sandy Buffett Mary Dykton Barbara Fix Don and Lorraine Goldman* Harriett and Wendell Harris Elaine Hounsell* Frances (Bonnie) Jacobs* Shelbie Knox Michael and Diane Lilley Ouida MacGregor Lois A. Mohr Andrew Nowak* Peter and Jean Ossorio Eugene and Jane Petchesky* Fund David Rose Eugene Simon* *deceased



New Mexico Environmental Law Center

Green Business Partners

SERVICES

For more information about our Partner program, contact Elizabeth Lee at 505.989.9022 x 118, or elee@nmelc.org.



7



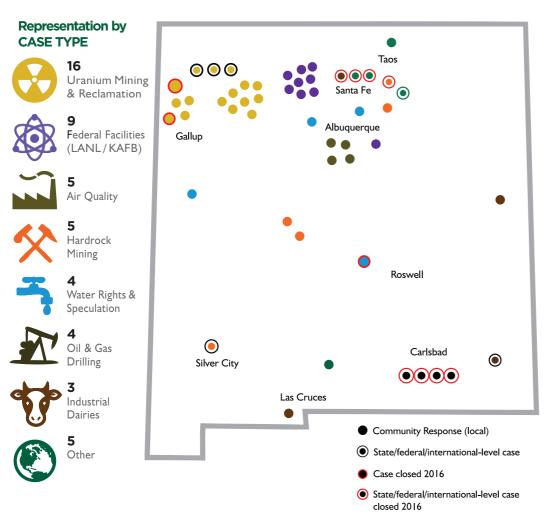
Twitter.com/NMELC Facebook.com/NMELC

1405 Luisa Street, Suite #5 | Santa Fe, NM 87505 505.989.9022 nmelc.org

Non-Profit Org US Postage PAID Santa Fe, NM Permit No. 259

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NMELC 2016 DOCKET



2016 Clients:

Amigos Bravos Colonias Development Council Communities for Clean Water Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety Earthworks Eastern Navajo Diné Against Uranium Mining (ENDAUM) Friends of Santa Fe County Gila Conservation Coalition Gila Resources Information Project (GRIP) Honor Our Pueblo Existence (H.O.P.E.) Individuals Lea County Concerned Citizens Mariano Lake Chapter Citizens Mesquite Community Action Committee Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environment (MASE) New Mexico Health Equity Working Group Nuclear Watch New Mexico Oil and Gas Accountability Project Pajarito Village Association Red Water Pond Road Community Assoc. Rio Bonito Preserve Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club **Rio Valle Concerned Citizens** SouthWest Organizing Project (SWOP) Taos Pueblo **TEWA Women United Turner Ranch Properties**