

For Immediate Release
June 25, 2003

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Lt. Gov. Announces Plan to Discourage Fireworks This July Fourth

Santa Fe - Lt. Governor Diane D. Denish today unveiled a plan to encourage New Mexicans not to use fireworks during the Fourth of July holiday.

“Yesterday’s Bosque fire and dry conditions around the state demand that we act responsibly when it comes to fireworks,” Denish said. “Starting today, I will be calling every mayor in the state of New Mexico to ask them to impose fireworks bans this year.”

The plan will include public-service announcements encouraging people not to use fireworks as well as calls to all pueblos, tribes and county officials around the state.

“Governor Richardson has banned fireworks on all state lands this holiday season,” Denish said. “I will be calling around to win support for fireworks bans on city, county and tribal lands as well.”

Governor Richardson asked Lt. Governor Denish to head up fire-awareness efforts this fire season.

New Mexico continues to be in a severe drought. Dangerous fire conditions exist throughout the state. Early indications are that yesterday’s Bosque fire, which burned more than 600 acres, was caused by fireworks.

“Yesterday, one person’s misuse of fireworks led to a fire that charred hundreds of acres and disrupted the lives of thousands of New Mexicans,” Denish said. “When you’re celebrating the Fourth this year, go to a controlled civic fireworks display, have a barbecue with your family or celebrate with a picnic. Do not put your community at risk by setting off fireworks.