



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

News advisory
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New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson to Attend Western Governors Conference

SANTA FE - New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson will continue to push for a regional presidential caucus and implement an aggressive clean energy strategy during this week's meeting of the Western Governors' Association.

Western governors, during the WGA winter meeting Friday and Saturday in La Jolla, CA, will get an update on efforts to increase renewable energy generation. Governor Richardson, the immediate past chairman of the WGA, worked with California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger last year to set ambitious targets for clean energy growth in the West. The governors will also get an update on efforts to create a Western Presidential Caucus.

Governor Richardson will also contribute to discussions about improving the Endangered Species Act.

"As a western Governor, I strongly support efforts to protect habitat," Governor Bill Richardson said. "While I recognize the Endangered Species Act is a 30-year-old law that can be improved, I don't want to open up the entire law and possibly weaken it.

"I am encouraged by the bipartisan collaboration in New Mexico that has resulted in a balanced water policy, protected the water rights for farmers and their communities, and restored habitat for the endangered Silvery Minnow in the Middle Rio Grande Valley."

Here is a schedule for the WGA conference being held Friday, Dec. 3, and Saturday, Dec. 4, at the Hyatt Regency in La Jolla, CA.

Friday, Dec. 3

1:30 - 2:00 p.m. Opening News Conference

2:00 - 3:15 p.m. Endangered Species Summit

3:30 - 5:30 p.m. Summit Breakout Groups

Saturday, Dec. 4

8:30 - 8:50 a.m. Summit Breakout Group reports

8:50 a.m. - 12:35 p.m. Roundtable discussions

12:35 - 12:45 p.m. Summit Wrap-up

12:45 - 1:15 p.m. Closing News Conference

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