



**Bill Richardson**  
Governor

For Immediate Release  
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## **Governor Bill Richardson Announces Executive Order Declaring Emergency Conditions for Ruidoso Downs**

SANTA FE- Governor Bill Richardson today announced an executive order declaring an emergency condition for the City of Ruidoso Downs due to drought conditions and severe water shortages.

“It’s important for my administration to respond swiftly and provide the necessary resources to help the City of Ruidoso Downs overcome severe conditions,” said Governor Richardson. “I’m glad that we were able to provide this badly needed assistance. I want local communities across the state to know we are there for them when help is needed.”

Lieutenant Governor Diane Denish, in her capacity as acting governor, signed the executive order Thursday evening.

Up to \$750,000 has been reserved to assist with the emergency conditions and the National Guard has been made available to provide necessary military support.

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 2004-040**

**DECLARING AN EMERGENCY CONDITION FOR  
THE CITY OF RUIDOSO DOWNS**

**WHEREAS**, severe drought conditions throughout the State have impacted communities Statewide;

**WHEREAS**, the sole drinking water source for the City of Ruidoso Downs has declined to the point where a severe shortage is affecting the community;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Ruidoso Downs has declared an emergency condition exists and has enacted its most strict water conservation measures;

**WHEREAS**, all available local and state resources may be insufficient to prevent damage from the results of this shortage and the resulting loss will pose a significant threat to the health and safety of the citizens of, and visitors to the area, as well as to the economic base of the affected local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, this situation constitutes an emergency condition with potentially catastrophic consequences.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Diane D. Denish, Acting Governor of the State of New Mexico pursuant to Article V, Section 7 of the New Mexico Constitution, by virtue of the authority vested in the Governor by the Constitution and Laws of the State of New Mexico do hereby declare that a State of Emergency exists in the City of Ruidoso Downs due to severe drought conditions.

**I FURTHER DIRECT** the Department of Finance and Administration to provide emergency financial resources in the amount of \$750,000 to the Department of Public Safety. The Office of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety is directed to coordinate all requests for assistance and responses to such requests under the authority of and as determined by the Governor or his Authorized Representative pursuant to and in accordance with NMSA 1978, Sections 6-7-1 through 6-7-3 as amended, and to request such aid and assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency as may be appropriate.

**I FURTHER DIRECT** the Adjutant General to order into service any elements of the New Mexico National Guard as are or may be needed to provide military support to civil authorities as needed for this emergency. This action is pursuant to and in accordance with Section 20-1-6 and 20-4-3A New Mexico Statutes Annotated, 1978 Compilation, as amended. Such emergency assistance will be provided during the period of need at the discretion of the Governor's Authorized Representative.

**I FURTHER DIRECT** all Cabinet Departments and agencies of the State of New Mexico to provide any assistance that may be requested by the Office of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety or State Emergency Operations Center under the authority of the Governor's Authorized Representative.

**THIS ORDER** supersedes any other previous orders, proclamations, or directives in conflict. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until such time as the Governor rescinds it.

**ATTEST:**

**DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE THIS  
22<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2004.**

**REBECCA VIGIL-GIRON  
SECRETARY OF STATE**

**WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL  
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

**DIANE D. DENISH  
LT. GOVERNOR, PURSUANT TO HER  
AUTHORITY AS ACTING GOVERNOR  
OF NEW MEXICO**

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