



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

News advisory

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Governor Bill Richardson names Derrith Watchman-Moore As Interim Secretary of Indian Affairs

SANTA FE - Governor Bill Richardson today named Derrith Watchman-Moore to serve as Interim Secretary of Indian Affairs.

Watchman-Moore, the Deputy Secretary at the New Mexico Environment Department, will serve at Indian Affairs until a permanent Secretary is named.

"I trust Derrith to move this important Department forward and make a smooth transition to Cabinet-level status," Governor Bill Richardson said. "I selected Derrith for this interim period given her extensive experience working in federal, tribal and state governments and her unique sensitivity for tribal issues."

Derrith Watchman Moore is a member of the Navajo Nation and hails from Crystal, New Mexico. Watchman-Moore served as Chief of Staff for former Navajo Nation President Kelsey Begaye and Director of the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency.

"I am deeply honored to serve in this capacity for Governor Richardson," said Watchman-Moore. I intend to carry forward the Governor's vision for improving tribal/state relations in New Mexico. I look forward to the challenges ahead of me and will work with the leadership in Indian Country to make this a success."