



## **Governor Richardson Launches Technology Development Strategies With Three Tech Summits In “Governor’s Technology Week”**

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SANTA FE -- Governor Bill Richardson today announced that his Administration will continue moving forward its technology-based economic development strategy with three conferences or summits on interrelated topics. The three events all will take place during “Governor’s Richardson’s Technology Development Planning Week” -- the last week of January.

“Technology-based economic development has been, and continues to be, a priority for my administration, and these three events will showcase the potential for growing sustainable, high-wage jobs and businesses building on New Mexico’s unparalleled technology resources,” Governor Richardson said.

The “Governor’s Technology Week” events include:

- Governor’s Science & Technology Plan: Conference launching the preliminary development of three emerging leading-edge technology “clusters,” so as to position the state for national and global leadership in breakthrough technologies. **Tuesday, January 25, 1:30 p.m., PERA Building in Santa Fe.**
- Governor’s Telecommunications Infrastructure Summit: A three-city videoconference in Las Cruces, Albuquerque and Santa Fe to identify ways to build out, on a statewide basis, advanced telecommunications infrastructure for government, health, education, research, and technology industry support. **Wednesday, January 26, 9:30 a.m. till noon. By invitation only, not open to the public. Interested media call Carroll Cagle at (505) 888-5805.**

- Governor Richardson's Media Industries Strategy Project: This well-developed cluster initiative will be the topic of a conference at the University of New Mexico, focusing on the Governor's plan to take advantage of "technological, structural and market changes" in film, television, interactive and other media technologies. **Friday, January 28, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, University of New Mexico, Student Union Ballroom.**

Three emerging technology "clusters" will be the topic of the first conference, based on the rollout of a development plan produced by the Office of Science and Technology of Richardson's Economic Development Department. The three emerging clusters are biotechnology, nano (ultra small, atomic-level) technologies, and the "hydrogen economy" (clean, robust energy production for automobiles and other applications)

The Governor's Telecommunications Infrastructure Summit is based on the fact that all types of technology industries, as well as traditional businesses and education and health-services in the public sector, will require robust development of New Mexico's telecom infrastructure (serving voice and Internet communications). This summit is sponsored by four tech industry organizations as well as the governor's office: High Tech Consortium of Southern New Mexico, Connect New Mexico, Technology Industries Association of New Mexico and the New Mexico Internet Professionals Association.

The January 28 conference hosted by UNM will focus on the continued implementation of a strategic plan prepared by the governor's Media Industries Strategy Project. Programs already funded under this plan at UNM, NMSU, Santa Fe Community College, and Albuquerque's TVI will be discussed, along with other implementation initiatives currently under way in support of this maturing industry cluster.

"Technology-based economic development builds on some of New Mexico's greatest strengths in science, research, and technology, while offering the potential for tremendous growth that respects our environmental, cultural, and life-style advantages," Richardson added. "The state can be a national leader in fostering a new economic development paradigm."

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