



# State of New Mexico

## *Office of the Governor*

**Bill Richardson**  
Governor

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### **Governor Bill Richardson Praises PRC Vote to Approve Qwest Settlement**

SANTA FE – Governor Bill Richardson released the following statement today following the unanimous decision by the Public Regulation Commission approving a settlement with Qwest that will invest \$270 million in communications infrastructure and new technology for New Mexico:

“This settlement is a significant victory for the future of New Mexico because it ensures a steady and predictable investment in our technology infrastructure,” Governor Bill Richardson said. “The result will be increased access to high speed Internet service in rural areas within the Qwest territory.

“The PRC and Chairman Ben Ray Lujan deserve credit for building on the agreement we reached with Qwest, and insisting on stronger oversight and additional money for Qwest customers.”

As a result of the settlement, Qwest will invest \$255 million in technology infrastructure; pay \$10 million in credits to Qwest customers; and pledge \$5 million in new technology investments for the most disadvantaged schools across New Mexico.

The PRC will monitor and hold Qwest accountable for each phase of the project.

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