

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS

DISTRICT 1 JASON MARKS

DISTRICT 2 PATRICK H. LYONS, CHAIRMAN

DISTRICT 3

DISTRICT 4 THERESA BECENTI-AGUILAR, VICE CHAIR

DISTRICT 5 BEN L. HALL



DISTRICT 4 COMMISSIONER:

Theresa Becenti-Aguilar

Office: 505-827-8019

t.becenti@state.nm.us

PRC CONTACT:

Arthur D. Bishop, PIO

Office: 505-827-4446

Cellular: 505-467-9116

arthur.bishop@state.nm.us

CHIEF OF STAFF

Johnny L. Montoya

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 7, 2011

PRC Vice Chair Touts Native American Tax Exemption and Utility Issues on District Four Outreach Tour

SANTA FE—New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (PRC) Vice-Chair, Theresa Becenti-Aguilar, has been on the road the past few weeks providing information about the PRC and its different divisions to residents, tribes and pueblos in District 4.

Becenti-Aguilar kicked off the tour in October with a Native American Heritage Month event attended by PRC staff, representatives from various utility companies and Tribal Leaders from around New Mexico.

Among the topics on her tour's agenda is the PRC's Native American Tax Exemption program, which provides certain types of tax breaks and surcharge exemptions to Native American businesses and individuals living on pueblos or reservations in New Mexico. Potential exemptions include:

- State, city and county gross receipts taxes
- 911 fees
- Municipal and county franchise fees
- Telecommunications relay service charges
- New Mexico Universal Service Charges

("Quote on importance of exemptions")

The PRC offers a tax exemption application form on its website, which is filled out and turned in to each individual's utility, phone and cable companies. Members of Santa Clara, Tesuque or Ohkay Owingeh Pueblos are asked to return the form their Tribal Government office.

The first leg of the tour travels through Zuni, Farmington, Crownpoint and Shiprock. A second leg will begin in early 2012. Throughout the excursion, Becenti-Aguilar and her staff will work in conjunction

About the NMPRC

The NMPRC regulates public utilities, telecommunications companies and motor carriers operating in the State of New Mexico. It also administers the State Fire Marshal's Office, the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy in Socorro, New Mexico, Pipeline Safety Bureau and the Corporations Bureau, which registers state corporations. The NMPRC is also responsible for the oversight of the New Mexico Insurance Division and the state's superintendent of insurance.

with volunteered participation from local gas, utility and telecommunications companies to deliver messaging and materials.

###

Visit the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission on the web at: www.nmprc.state.nm.us or call the PRC toll-free at 888-427-5772.