State of New Mexico
Office of the Governor

November 15, 2006

Mr. Bill Richards, Co-Chair
25x’25
24537 Canal Rd
Circleville, Ohio 43113

J. Read Smith, Co-Chair
25x’25
11751 Lancaster Rd
St. John, Washington 99171

Dear Mr. Richards and Mr. Smith:

I am pleased to endorse the 25x’25 initiative, which aims to secure 25% of total energy consumed in the United States from America’s farms, forests and ranches by the year 2025. The 25x’25 goal is consistent with my vision for a more secure and environmentally sound energy future for New Mexico and the nation.

Ambitious goals like this one can only be achieved through collaboration among a range of stakeholders. That is why I am glad to see that the 25x’25 effort is supported by bipartisan endorsements and organizations from diverse economic sectors.

We cannot wait to address energy solutions. In New Mexico, we already are moving toward a vision compatible with 25x’25. Our Renewable Portfolio Standard calls for 10% of electricity generated in the state to come from renewable sources such as wind, solar and biomass by 2011. I recently announced my intention to increase the RPS to 25% by 2020. We also are working to reduce our state transportation fleet’s reliance on foreign oil by requiring more flex-fuel vehicle purchases. In addition, I recently announced my intention to require that all diesel sold in New Mexico in 2012 be 5% biodiesel, rising to 20% by 2020. Taking steps like these across the country will help us achieve goals like 25x’25.

We can always aim higher, and so we must continue to look for new ways to reduce our reliance on foreign oil and to increase production of domestic energy resources in an environmentally responsible manner. The 25x’25 initiative is a step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Bill Richardson
Governor of New Mexico

BR/sc
Co:  Ernie Shea, 25x’25 Project Director
     Michael Bowman