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State of New Mexico
County of Otero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – July 11, 2012

Contact: Paul Quairoli, Emergency Services Director
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Burn Ban Lifted in Otero County

Effective 10:00 AM July 11, 2012, Otero County has determined that due to increased moisture within Otero County, the present fire danger has decreased, and rescinds its Burn Ban within unincorporated areas of Otero County enacted in June, 2012.

With the lifting of the Burn Ban, Otero County residents may resume controlled burning, however, residents are reminded that these burns must comply with normal restrictions as designated in Otero County Ordinance 91-04 which include the following;

- Any person burning, shall prior to commencing, notify the Otero County Sheriff's Office.
- Burning shall only be allowed between sunrise and sunset.
- All fires shall be completely extinguished not later than complete darkness on any day.
- Shall only be burned in accordance with state law and regulations of the Environmental Department of the State of New Mexico, Title 20, Chapter 2, Part 60.

The Office of Emergency Services would like to remind the residents of Otero County that;

- Despite the return of rainfall, long-term drought conditions still exist, and urge everyone to be cautious with fire, especially in the mountainous regions of the County. Additionally fires that exceed 1000 cubic feet of material are discouraged and fires this size or greater require a permit from the New Mexico Environmental Department Air Quality Bureau
- Burning of household waste (burn barrels) is prohibited under the New Mexico Environmental Department's Air Quality Bureau, title 20.2.60.110.
- Fires must be attended at all times.
- A water source, or means of extinguishment be available at the area being burned.

To report a controlled burn contact the Otero County Sheriff's Office at 437-2210, 1-800-8SHERIFF (1-800-874-3743), or, in the case of an emergency, dial 911.

Additional information, including copies of Ordinance 91-04, and NMED 20.2.60 can also be obtained at www.co.otero.nm.us or the Otero County Office of Emergency Services, 1101 New York Ave, Alamogordo, NM 88310.