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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday September 1, 2006

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**ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMIT TO DISCUSS WAYS TO
KEEP EL PASO CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL**

Every year hundreds of residents of El Paso participate in isolated clean up efforts organized by different community groups. Their very valuable effort could bring even better results if coordinated towards a common, community-wide environmental goal. Defining that environmental goal, or plan, is just one of the purposes for the upcoming 6th Annual Environmental Summit, **“Tu Comunidad El Paso, Keep it Clean, Make us Proud.”**

The summit brings together government agencies, local companies, high school students, environmental experts, and El Paso residents, to discuss the different environmental problems in our community, to find possible solutions, and implement the solutions.

How to stop the illegal dumping of construction materials out on the desert? What final use can we give the hundreds of thousands used tires we dispose of every year in El Paso? Those are just some of the questions we hope to find answers for during the environmental summit.

Some of the participants in the summit will be Ed Archuleta, CEO for El Paso Water Utilities, who will speak about the El Paso / Ft. bliss Desalination Plant and TechH2O Water Resource Learning Center; Senator Elliot Shapleigh, who will lead the discussion in the community grass root group; Keep El Paso Beautiful staff will lead the

discussion in the Youth grass root group; and Assistant County Attorney Cristina Viesca-Santos, who will lead the training on the enforcement and prevention of Environmental Crimes, among others.

The event is free and open to the public. Registration will begin promptly at 8:00 AM. Free lunch will be provided to first 350 individuals who RSVP calling the number 834-4970 or by e-mail to Gterraza@tceq.state.tx.us.

WHAT: 6th Annual Environmental Summit “Tu Comunidad El Paso, Keep it Clean, Make us Proud”

WHEN: Friday September 8, 2006 from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**WHERE: Ysleta Independent School District Cultural Center
9600 Sims**

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For more detailed information about the event, or for scheduling an on-camera interview, please call Pamela Aguirre, TCEQ Environmental Compliance Specialist, at (915) 834-4974, or Cristina Viesca-Santos at 546-2050