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**Former Dry Cleaning Company Proposes Further Investigation of  
Contaminated Ground Water in Belen**

(Santa Fe, NM) – A former Belen dry cleaning operation has submitted Stage 1 of its ground water contamination abatement plan to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). The plan will allow for the further investigation of soil and ground water contamination caused by dry cleaning fluids at its property located at 230 East Reinken.

Past releases of dry cleaning fluids at this facility, formerly operated by TLC Cleaners, have contaminated ground water in excess of the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission standards. Previous investigation activities at this site have included the sampling and testing of water from adjacent domestic supply wells, permanent monitoring wells and ground water from numerous temporary monitoring wells.

The Stage 1 abatement plan submitted to NMED includes installing additional monitoring wells to further characterize the ground water contamination extent and concentration.

The public will have an opportunity to comment on the next stage, Stage 2, of the abatement plan, which will include a proposal for cleaning up the contamination. A public notice seeking public comment and announcing the availability of the Stage 2 abatement plan proposal will be published within 30 days of the plan's receipt by the Environment Department. Public comment will be sought by NMED for 90 days after the cleanup plan's receipt. The public notice can be sent directly to interested persons who request to be on a facility mailing list.

For additional information or to get on the list, please contact Bart Faris, an NMED environmental scientist, at (505) 841-9466 or Jon Goldstein, NMED Communications Director at (505) 827-0314.

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