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For Immediate Release

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Environment Department Extends Comment Period for Groundwater Dairy Discharge Permit for Del Oro Dairy in Anthony, N.M. in Dona Ana County

(Santa Fe, NM) –The New Mexico Environment Department will extend the period during which the public can comment on a proposed Groundwater Discharge Permit for Del Oro Dairy in Anthony until Oct. 3.

NMED held a public hearing on the permit at Del Cerro Multipurpose Center in Mesquite Sept. 19. However, some residents called the department with concerns that some Anthony residents did not have a chance to comment at the hearing.

Anyone who did not comment at the hearing may hand deliver written comments to Sally Worthington, Hearing Clerk, NMED, Harold Runnels Building-2nd floor, Room N-2150, 1190 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe. People can also mail comments to Worthington at P.O. Box 26110, Santa Fe, NM, 87502. The comments must be received by 5 p.m. Oct. 3, 2006.

If approved, the permit would allow owners of the dairy to modify and renew an existing permit that would allow for the discharge of up to 60,000 gallons per day of agricultural wastewater from the dairy. Dairy wastewater is discharged from the milking parlor through a screen solids separator to a concrete pump. The wastewater is then pumped to a synthetically lined lagoon and to another synthetically lined lagoon, where the water evaporates. If approved, the permit would be modified and not require dairy wastewater to be applied to 7 acres of land on dairy property.

NMED approved the first permit for the dairy in 1990.

For more information, call NMED Communications Director Marissa Stone at (505) 827-0314 or (505) 231-0475 or NMED Program Manager George Schuman at (505) 827-2945.

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