



**BILL RICHARDSON**  
GOVERNOR

**State of New Mexico**  
**ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**Office of the Secretary**  
**Harold Runnels Building**  
**1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110**  
**Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110**  
**Telephone (505) 827-2855**



**RON CURRY**  
SECRETARY

**CINDY PADILLA**  
DEPUTY SECRETARY

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Contact: Marissa Stone, NMED Communications Director  
Telephone: (505) 827-0314 or (505) 231-0475

## **Environment Department Receives Plan to Investigate Groundwater Contamination at Truck Stop in Raton**

(Santa Fe, NM) – The New Mexico Environment Department received a Stage 1 Abatement Plan proposal to investigate groundwater contamination from a petroleum leak at Hooter Brown Truck Stop in Raton.

The facility, at 931 Clayton Road, is a truck fueling service station owned by Wilson Corp.

NMED's Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau began an investigation of a petroleum hydrocarbon release from a leaking underground storage tank at the site in the early 1990s. Groundwater sampling from that time showed groundwater at the site was also polluted with chlorinated solvents.

Groundwater results from August 2006 show pollution from chlorinated solvents trichloroethane, trichloroethylene, dichloroethane and dichloroethylene is above New Mexico groundwater standards. Groundwater at the station is at a depth of approximately 25 feet below the ground in a semi-confined aquifer composed of weathered shale.

The Stage 1 Abatement Plan proposal includes a description of past site investigation activities conducted under PSTB regulations and the installation of additional monitoring wells with collection of soil and groundwater samples. Past activities have partially determined the magnitude and extent of contamination through the installation of monitoring wells and the sampling of groundwater.

New Mexico water quality regulations require responsible parties to remediate groundwater pollution. After the Stage 1 plan has been completed, a Stage 2 cleanup proposal will be submitted to NMED. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the Stage 2 plan and request a hearing. NMED will seek public comment within 90 days of receiving the cleanup plan.

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

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