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Immediate Release

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NMED Receives Plan to Investigate Groundwater Contamination at the San Juan Spring Company and Souther Enterprises Facilities in Farmington

(Santa Fe, NM) – The New Mexico Environment Department’s Ground Water Quality Bureau has received a Stage 1 Abatement Plan proposal to investigate groundwater contamination at the San Juan Spring Co. in Farmington.

The company is at 409 East Broadway Street and at Souther Enterprises located at 1516 West Main Street in Farmington, New Mexico.

The San Juan Spring Co. facility includes the maintenance, machining and chrome metal plating operations for refurbishing large shock absorbers for trucks. The Souther Enterprises facility includes a machine shop, welding shop and heavy machinery parts storage yard. Initial findings at the two facilities indicate that soil and groundwater has been impacted by chromium, other heavy metals and petroleum hydrocarbons. Groundwater at the two sites occurs at a depth of approximately 10 to 12 feet below ground surface.

The Stage 1 Abatement Plan proposal includes a description of the past site investigation activities conducted and proposes to further assess contaminant impacts through the installation of soil borings and groundwater monitoring wells and the collection of soil and groundwater samples. The proposal also includes the removal of a chrome wastewater underground storage tank (UST) and a used hydraulic oil UST and the excavation and removal of petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated soils.

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. Public comment will be sought by NMED within 90 days of receiving the cleanup proposal.

For more information please contact Marissa Stone, NMED Communications Director, at (505) 827-0314.

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