



January 14, 2022

Environmental Protection Agency
US EPA - Office of Air & Radiation
4930 Old Page Road
Durham, North Carolina 27703
AirMonitoring@epa.gov

Re: Intent to Apply - **Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring for Communities Grant**
RFA#: EPA-OAR-OAQPS-22-01
CFDA#: 66.034
Application due date: February 25, 2022

Dear EPA Air Monitoring Grant Officials:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) intends to submit a grant application request for funding under the Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring for Communities grant competition (EPA-OAR-OAQPS-22-01).

Project Summary: New Mexico is the third largest oil producing state and shares borders with multiple oil and gas producing states, which results in disproportionate impacts from oil and gas sector emissions on communities in proximity to the producing regions. Emissions from the oil and gas sector are of great concern to communities, which often results in environmental and health outcome disparities stemming from the pollution and the COVID-19 pandemic. These communities, specifically in southeastern New Mexico, have long expressed public health concerns over emissions from the oil and gas sector. In response to these concerns, NMED requests to utilize the grant funding to complete ethane and methane monitoring to better understand the specific pollutants present in the region, which are also most likely responsible for public health impacts and possibly rising ozone concentrations. NMED intends to purchase and operate a continuous ethane and methane monitor in the southeastern region for a period of 3 years. This monitor is designed to address the scientific community's need for real-time emissions of these species. NMED intends to simultaneously measure methane and ethane. This valuable data set will assist NMED in developing appropriate control strategies to reduce the emissions of concern and that impact the public's health and contribute to rising ozone concentrations.

Project Timeline: Start date: October 1, 2022; End date: September 30, 2025

Key Personnel: Donna Intermont – NMED-AQB Operations Section Chief donna.intermont1@state.nm.us
Roman Szkoda – NMED-AQB Monitoring Staff Manager roman.intermont@state.nm.us
John Wells – NMED-AQB Environmental Scientist Specialist – Operational (ESSO) john.wells@state.nm.us

Budget Estimate:

Salary	\$51,230.00
Benefits	\$17,930.00
Travel	\$10,800.00
Equipment	\$115,740.00
Supplies	\$20,000.00
Indirect	\$13,460.00
Total Project Cost	\$215,700.00

Goal: Proactively and meaningfully address the public health impacts long expressed by environmental justice communities in the southeastern areas of New Mexico from the oil and gas sector. This project will provide valuable data on specific emissions in the region that contribute to ozone formation and impact public health and the environment. NMED is eager to conduct this work in collaboration with the affected communities, which will continue to promote a relationship of trust and partnership.