



PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN (PIP)
Air Quality Bureau Air Permit Application

Version 02.17.23

Date: June 5, 2023, revised 7/31/2023
Applicant: Intrepid Potash New Mexico LLC
Facility Name: Bennett Sand Mine
Air Quality Permit Application Number: 9883M1
Location: Approximately 1.5 miles southwest of Jal, Lea County, New Mexico
Latitude: 32.069275 Longitude: -103.220168

1. Overview of Air Quality Bureau's plan of action for addressing the community's needs and concerns for processing Air Quality Permit Applications:

The New Mexico Environment Department (Department), Air Quality Bureau (AQB) developed this Public Involvement Plan (PIP) for the processing of air quality permit applications in accordance with the requirements at 20.2.72 NMAC for this facility. This air quality regulation does require public participation outreach throughout different stages of the permitting process. The AQB will meet the public participation requirements by following this PIP, which includes all applicable policy, regulatory and statutory public participation requirements.

In developing this PIP, community participation needs for this permitting action were assessed to ensure appropriate promotion of public outreach by identifying whether there is a combination of environmental and demographic factors (i.e., low income community, minority community, limited English proficiency individuals, Linguistically Isolated Households, etc.) that may impact public participation. This assessment identifies community outreach needs and provides for public access opportunities above and beyond statutorily mandated requirements, and underscores the provision of adequate public access to information about this permit application.

As much as possible, public participation and informational activities related to this permit application will be held within the regulatory timelines outlined below.

- a. AQB regulations at 20.2.72 NMAC require that the application must be ruled complete or incomplete no more than 30 days after receipt, and that a public notice for this application must be published in a newspaper of general circulation where the facility is located. See section 4.c below for more information.

The public notice contains a paragraph in Spanish directing Spanish speaking interested parties to call the AQB at (505) 629-3395 to speak to Spanish speaking staff for additional information regarding this permitting action.

- b. The AQB will provide a copy of the Completion Letter w/Legal Notice, and just attachment B of the completion letter template that has links for someone to view the application and PIP on our Bureau website PN page to the NMED field office at :

Hobbs
2120 N. Alto

SCIENCE | INNOVATION | COLLABORATION | COMPLIANCE

Hobbs, NM 88240
Phone (575) 397-6910
Fax (575) 397-6916

- c. AQB regulations require that the public notice be sent to interested parties maintained on a mailing list. See Section 4.b below for more information.
- d. AQB regulations require that the public notice be sent to the “appropriate agency” as defined at 20.2.72 NMAC See Section 4.e below for more information.
- e. In accordance with the evaluation of the site location and associated demographics, no additional means for disseminating information are planned at this time.
- f. Public notice shall be followed by a 30-day public comment period that starts on the day that the notice is published in the newspaper. See Section 4.g below for details.
- g. AQB regulations require that the permit must be issued, issued subject to conditions, or denied within ninety (90) days after the department deems the application administratively complete.

2. Contact list of AQB staff with phone numbers and email addresses:

a. AQB contact for questions about this application or PIP (included in public notices and outreach materials):

Rhonda Romero
New Mexico Environment Department
Air Quality Bureau
525 Camino de los Marquez, Suite 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87505
505-629-3934
Rhonda.Romero@env.nm.gov

Electronic copies will be available at the following link, which will be included in public notices and outreach materials as appropriate: <https://www.env.nm.gov/public-notices/>.

b. Non-English Language Speaker Assistance and Accommodations

The AQB may hold public meetings, open houses, stakeholder meetings, and/or a formal hearing depending on the interest in the application. Language assistance services may be arranged for translation of documents for meetings, for translators during meetings and for obtaining services for persons with disabilities. A phone-based interpretation service may be available for languages other than English.

3. Description of the community/stakeholder groups:

To provide for adequate public participation opportunities and meaningful involvement of persons regarding this permit application and to address potential or existing environmental justice areas, the affected communities must first be identified, informed about proposed environmental actions affecting the community, and invited to share their comments and concerns. The EJSCREEN tool developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) helps identify communities that are low income and minority populations that may benefit from a variety of approaches for notification and outreach communication.

Using the default 4-mile radius from the facility, the results of the EJScreen ACS Summary Report (attached) are listed in the table below. [<https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/>]

Population and Income Data			
Total Population:	1730	Per capita income of community (2016-2020):	\$27,918
People of Color Population, %:	56%	US Per Capita Income*:	\$37,638
Total number of households:	671	Total Number (and Percent) of Linguistically Isolated Households:	119 (17.73%)

*US Per Capita Income 2017-2021; <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US/INC910219>

Population by Race, %		Population by Ability to Speak English, %	
White	97	Speak Only English	54
Black	2	Non-English at Home	46
American Indian	1	Speak English "very well"	28
Asian	0	Speak English "well"	6
Pacific Islander	0	Speak English "not well"	9
Some Other Race	0	Speak English "not at all"	3
Two or More Races	0	Speak English "less than very well"	18

Linguistically Isolated Household Details, %		List other Languages (if applicable)
Speak Spanish	94	N/A
Speak Other Indo-European Languages	0	
Speak Asian Pacific Island Languages	6	
Speak Other Languages	0	

In addition, the following community or stakeholder groups have been identified:

Mayor Stephen Aldridge
Mayor of Jal, New Mexico
Box 340 Jal, NM 88252

History of public involvement in air permitting during the last 10 years: none.

It is important for the AQB to incorporate the linguistic and communication needs of this community when conducting public outreach and participation activities. To help accomplish this, the AQB will provide information in English, in public comment notices, public meeting notices (if applicable), and other announcements (radio broadcasts, brochures, signs, postcards, etc.) and strive to make public participation efforts as inclusive as possible within AQB budget and time limitations. Under normal circumstances the Hobbs NMED Field Office would serve as an access area for the AQB to leave hard copies of important documents and information about how to comment on this permit application.

4. Detailed actions and outreach activities the AQB Permitting Section will take to reach the affected public:

a. Overview

Based on the demographics report discussed in the PIP, the history of public involvement at the facility and the facility background, basic information about public involvement opportunities will be

in English. This information will include how to request materials in Spanish or to speak with AQB staff through an interpreter. Further details about public participation for this activity are outlined below.

The AQB maintains information regarding this air quality permit application at the following locations:

- i. **On the Air Quality Bureau website, see Section 2.a above.**
- ii. **At the District Office listed in Section 1.b above.**
- iii. **At the main office location:**

New Mexico Environment Department
Air Quality Bureau
525 Camino de los Marquez, Suite 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87505

b. Postal Mailing or E-Mailing of Notices to Persons on the Facility-Specific Mailing List

AQB regulations require notification to persons who have expressed interest in applications. The AQB maintains a mailing list that includes individuals interested in permit applications from particular facilities or geographic areas. Notifications may be sent through physical mail and/or an email.

The list also includes addresses within fifty kilometers of the boundary of other states, Bernalillo County, or a Class I area.

c. Notices in the State Newspaper and Local Newspapers

The public notice for this permit application will be published in English in the Legal Section of the Hobbs News Sun newspaper.

Website for this publication is: Hobbs News Sun: <http://www.hobbsnews.com/>

d. Mailing to the Governor or President of Indian Tribes, Pueblos or Nations

AQB regulations and the evaluation of the facility location and associated demographics, require notification to Tribes, Pueblos or Nations about this permit application for facilities located within a specified distance.

There are no Tribes, Pueblos, or Nations within 10 miles of this facility.

e. Affected Local, State, or Federal Government Agencies, and Active Land Grants

AQB regulations require identifying and notifying local, state or federal government agencies about this permit application.

The following affected Local, State, or Federal Government Agencies will be notified by email:

US EPA Region VI at r6airpermits@epa.gov, Elizabeth (Mary) Layton at layton.mary@epa.gov, Erica LeDoux at LeDoux.Erica@epa.gov and State of Texas.

There are no Tribal Lands, Colonias, or Land Grants within 4 miles of the facility.

f. Public Meeting Notices, Public Comment Notices, and Other Notices

AQB may hold public meetings, open houses, stakeholder meetings, and/or a formal hearing depending on the interest in the application. Based on historical information and the results of the

initial screening, there is no public meeting planned at this time for this permit application. If it is determined that a public meeting will be required, notice will be provided to the community as follows:

- 1) Via a newspaper of general circulation in the area closest to the location of the facility.
- 2) Locations commonly frequented by the general public, such as a nearby post office, public library, or city hall.
- 3) All persons and organizations that have expressed interest and are on a list maintained by AQB.
- 4) Via a public service announcement to at least one radio or television station which serves the municipality or county in which the source is or is proposed to be located.
- 5) The notices will be translated for non-English speaking participants, if required.
- 6) The notices will include information for requesting accommodations for those with disabilities as listed in item 2b above.

AQB will locate an appropriate venue based on the availability to the community to access the meeting, and the specific needs of the affected community (e.g. size of community, community locations, impacts, etc.).

AQB may reschedule the meeting due to inclement weather. If rescheduled, AQB will provide as much advance notice as possible and reschedule for an appropriate time and date.

Meetings will be scheduled to make them as accessible and user-friendly as practical, considering work schedules, dinner hours and other community commitments. To the extent possible, the meeting will be held at a location that is local and convenient, and meet American with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. In addition, whenever practical and appropriate, translators for limited-English speaking communities, or assistance for hearing-impaired individuals may be available. Information in public notices for a public meeting will adhere to AQB regulations, statutes and policies.

g. Public Comment Periods

AQB regulations require that all interested persons have thirty (30) days from the date the public notice is published to express an interest in writing in the permit application. If AQB receives written public comment before the end of the thirty (30) day public comment period, the analysis of the application will be made available for review for thirty (30) days on the Air Quality Bureau Website and at the NMED District office (address listed in Section 1.b above).

The PIP has been reviewed and approved by the AQB Bureau Chief.

For Liz Bisbey-Kuehn
Bureau Chief
Air Quality Bureau

Date approved

Attachments: EJSCREEN Printout

Location: User-specified point center at 32.069265, -103.220158

Ring (buffer): 4-miles radius

Description: Bennett Sand Mine

Summary of ACS Estimates		2016 - 2020		
Population			1,730	
Population Density (per sq. mile)			45	
People of Color Population			963	
% People of Color Population			56%	
Households			671	
Housing Units			901	
Housing Units Built Before 1950			92	
Per Capita Income			27,918	
Land Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)			38.19	
% Land Area			100%	
Water Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)			0.00	
% Water Area			0%	
		2016 - 2020 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population by Race				
Total		1,730	100%	259
Population Reporting One Race		1,730	100%	356
White		1,680	97%	259
Black		28	2%	41
American Indian		22	1%	17
Asian		0	0%	13
Pacific Islander		0	0%	13
Some Other Race		0	0%	13
Population Reporting Two or More Races		0	0%	13
Total Hispanic Population		921	53%	162
Total Non-Hispanic Population		809		
White Alone		767	44%	198
Black Alone		20	1%	38
American Indian Alone		22	1%	17
Non-Hispanic Asian Alone		0	0%	13
Pacific Islander Alone		0	0%	13
Other Race Alone		0	0%	13
Two or More Races Alone		0	0%	13
Population by Sex				
Male		844	49%	143
Female		886	51%	157
Population by Age				
Age 0-4		71	4%	43
Age 0-17		363	21%	77
Age 18+		1,368	79%	172
Age 65+		358	21%	68

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.

N/A means not available. **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2016 - 2020

Location: User-specified point center at 32.069265, -103.220158

Ring (buffer): 4-miles radius

Description: Bennett Sand Mine

	2016 - 2020 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population 25+ by Educational Attainment			
Total	1,257	100%	208
Less than 9th Grade	224	18%	56
9th - 12th Grade, No Diploma	166	13%	90
High School Graduate	382	30%	71
Some College, No Degree	251	20%	80
Associate Degree	85	7%	59
Bachelor's Degree or more	148	12%	116
Population Age 5+ Years by Ability to Speak English			
Total	1,659	100%	245
Speak only English	893	54%	210
Non-English at Home ¹⁺²⁺³⁺⁴	765	46%	124
¹ Speak English "very well"	464	28%	97
² Speak English "well"	106	6%	55
³ Speak English "not well"	141	9%	53
⁴ Speak English "not at all"	55	3%	39
³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than well"	196	12%	60
²⁺³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than very well"	302	18%	74
Linguistically Isolated Households*			
Total	119	100%	41
Speak Spanish	119	100%	39
Speak Other Indo-European Languages	0	0%	13
Speak Asian-Pacific Island Languages	0	0%	13
Speak Other Languages	0	0%	13
Households by Household Income			
Household Income Base	671	100%	105
< \$15,000	128	19%	65
\$15,000 - \$25,000	61	9%	28
\$25,000 - \$50,000	114	17%	43
\$50,000 - \$75,000	172	26%	48
\$75,000 +	197	29%	87
Occupied Housing Units by Tenure			
Total	671	100%	105
Owner Occupied	514	77%	99
Renter Occupied	157	23%	35
Employed Population Age 16+ Years			
Total	1,402	100%	217
In Labor Force	788	56%	194
Civilian Unemployed in Labor Force	76	5%	87
Not In Labor Force	613	44%	104

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of anyrace.

N/A means not available. **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS)

*Households in which no one 14 and over speaks English "very well" or speaks English only.

Location: User-specified point center at 32.069265, -103.220158

Ring (buffer): 4-miles radius

Description: Bennett Sand Mine

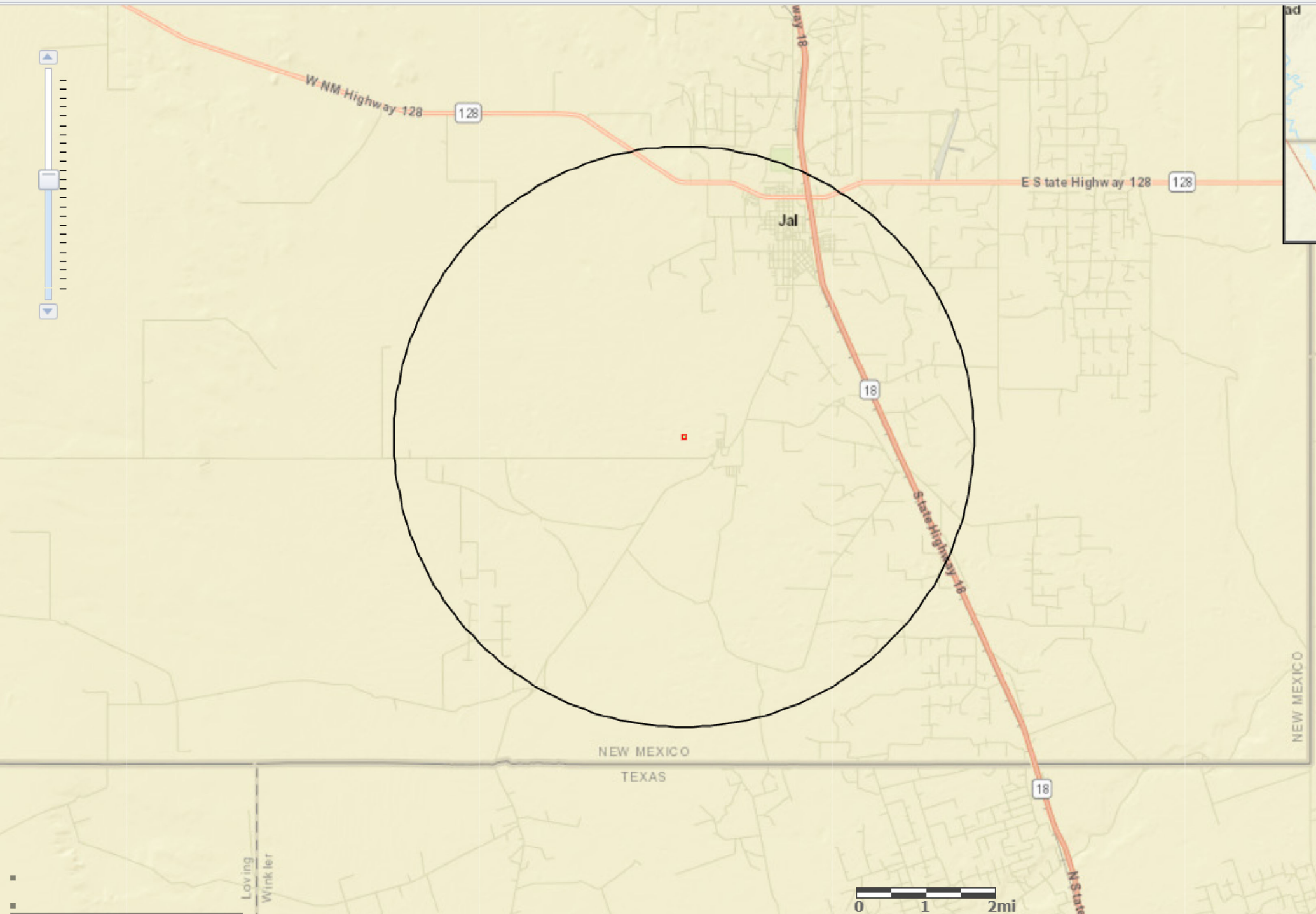
	2016 - 2020 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population by Language Spoken at Home*			
Total (persons age 5 and above)	1,203	100%	338
English	665	55%	290
Spanish	526	44%	204
French, Haitian, or Cajun	0	0%	13
German or other West Germanic	12	1%	29
Russian, Polish, or Other Slavic	0	0%	13
Other Indo-European	0	0%	13
Korean	0	0%	13
Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese)	0	0%	13
Vietnamese	0	0%	13
Tagalog (including Filipino)	0	0%	13
Other Asian and Pacific Island	0	0%	13
Arabic	0	0%	13
Other and Unspecified	0	0%	13
Total Non-English	538	45%	445

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.

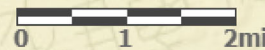
N/A means not available. **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2016 - 2020.

*Population by Language Spoken at Home is available at the census tract summary level and up.

1:144,448



Lon: -103.16814°, Lat: 32.11783°





Legend Basemap Query

▼ National Hydrography Dataset

COVID Wastewater

COVID-19 OSHA Data

▼ Watershed Boundary Dataset

▼ Aquifer Sensitivity

▼ National Land Cover Database

▼ USGS Stream Gages

▼ Legislative Boundaries

▼ Places

▼ Colonias

Colonias

Colonias

▼ Tribal Lands

Tribal Lands

Tribal Lands

Reservation

Trust

▼ Mount Taylor

▼ Land Grants

Land Grants

