



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

Version 02.17.23

Date: April 21, 2023

Applicant: US Army

Facility Name: White Sands Missile Range

Air Quality Permit Application Number: P085-R4

Location: Approximately 9 miles east of Organ, NM in Dona Ana County

Latitude: 32.381011

Longitude: -106.480266

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 20.2.70 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 20.2.70 NMAC require that the application must be ruled complete or incomplete no more than 60 days after receipt. The AQB will publish a public notice for this application in a newspaper of general circulation in the area closest to the location of the facility, when the draft permit is issued for comment. 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 Las Cruces Office:

Las Cruces
2301 Entrada Del Sol

SCIENCE | INNOVATION | COLLABORATION | COMPLIANCE

Las Cruces, NM 88001
Phone (575)-288-2050
Fax (575)-526-6162

- 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 “affected programs” as defined at 20.2.70 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 eighteen (18) months 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):

Joseph Kimbrell
New Mexico Environment Department
Air Quality Bureau
525 Camino de los Marquez, Suite 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87505
505.629.2718
Joseph.Kimbrell@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 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:	1,367	Per capita income of community (2016-2020):	\$22,789
People of Color Population, %:	50	US Per Capita Income*:	\$37,638
Total number of households:	308	Total Number (and Percent) of Linguistically Isolated Households:	0 (0%)

*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	64	Speak Only English	84
Black	19	Non-English at Home	16
American Indian	0	Speak English "very well"	14
Asian	5	Speak English "well"	1
Pacific Islander	0	Speak English "not well"	1
Some Other Race	1	Speak English "not at all"	0
Two or More Races	12	Speak English "less than very well"	3

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

*N/A = Not Applicable because there are no linguistically isolated households"

In addition, the following community or stakeholder groups have been identified: none.

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. The Las Cruces NMED field office will serve as access areas 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 of states, local air pollution control programs, and Indian tribes and pueblos, that are within 50 miles of the source.

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 NM/Las Cruces Sun News newspaper.

Las Cruces, NM/Las Cruces Sun News: English: <http://www.lcsun-news.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.

The Mescalero Apache Tribe is 9.6 miles of the facility.

Thora Padilla

Mescalero Apache Tribe - Resource Management and Protection

PO Box 250

Mescalero, NM 88340

Thora@MescaleroDrmp.org

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, Elizabeth (Mary) Layton at r6airpermits@epa.gov & layton.mary@epa.gov

State of Texas, AIRPERM@tceq.texas.gov

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 thirty (30) days shall be provided for public and affected program comment on the draft permit.

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 32.381121, -106.480179

Ring (buffer): 4-miles radius

Description: WSMR-P085-R4

Summary of ACS Estimates		2016 - 2020	
Population		1,367	
Population Density (per sq. mile)		31	
People of Color Population		689	
% People of Color Population		50%	
Households		308	
Housing Units		495	
Housing Units Built Before 1950		43	
Per Capita Income		22,789	
Land Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)		44.11	
% Land Area		100%	
Water Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)		0.14	
% Water Area		0%	

	2016 - 2020 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population by Race			
Total	1,367	100%	269
Population Reporting One Race	1,206	88%	660
White	876	64%	331
Black	255	19%	250
American Indian	3	0%	7
Asian	64	5%	47
Pacific Islander	0	0%	13
Some Other Race	8	1%	12
Population Reporting Two or More Races	161	12%	152
Total Hispanic Population	238	17%	137
Total Non-Hispanic Population	1,129		
White Alone	677	50%	295
Black Alone	255	19%	250
American Indian Alone	3	0%	7
Non-Hispanic Asian Alone	64	5%	47
Pacific Islander Alone	0	0%	13
Other Race Alone	0	0%	13
Two or More Races Alone	130	10%	147
Population by Sex			
Male	788	58%	194
Female	578	42%	169
Population by Age			
Age 0-4	265	19%	134
Age 0-17	446	33%	157
Age 18+	921	67%	212
Age 65+	25	2%	25

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 32.381121, -106.480179

Ring (buffer): 4-miles radius

Description: WSMR-P085-R4

	2016 - 2020 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population 25+ by Educational Attainment			
Total	534	100%	146
Less than 9th Grade	0	0%	13
9th - 12th Grade, No Diploma	14	3%	21
High School Graduate	56	10%	45
Some College, No Degree	199	37%	102
Associate Degree	113	21%	71
Bachelor's Degree or more	153	29%	64
Population Age 5+ Years by Ability to Speak English			
Total	1,102	100%	199
Speak only English	924	84%	209
Non-English at Home ¹⁺²⁺³⁺⁴	178	16%	116
¹ Speak English "very well"	150	14%	113
² Speak English "well"	16	1%	21
³ Speak English "not well"	12	1%	21
⁴ Speak English "not at all"	0	0%	13
³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than well"	12	1%	21
²⁺³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than very well"	28	3%	27
Linguistically Isolated Households*			
Total	0	0%	13
Speak Spanish	0	0%	13
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	308	100%	94
< \$15,000	17	6%	24
\$15,000 - \$25,000	13	4%	21
\$25,000 - \$50,000	47	15%	33
\$50,000 - \$75,000	100	32%	61
\$75,000 +	132	43%	88
Occupied Housing Units by Tenure			
Total	308	100%	94
Owner Occupied	10	3%	17
Renter Occupied	298	97%	91
Employed Population Age 16+ Years			
Total	935	100%	202
In Labor Force	718	77%	182
Civilian Unemployed in Labor Force	0	0%	13
Not In Labor Force	217	23%	115

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 32.381121, -106.480179

Ring (buffer): 4-miles radius

Description: WSMR-P085-R4

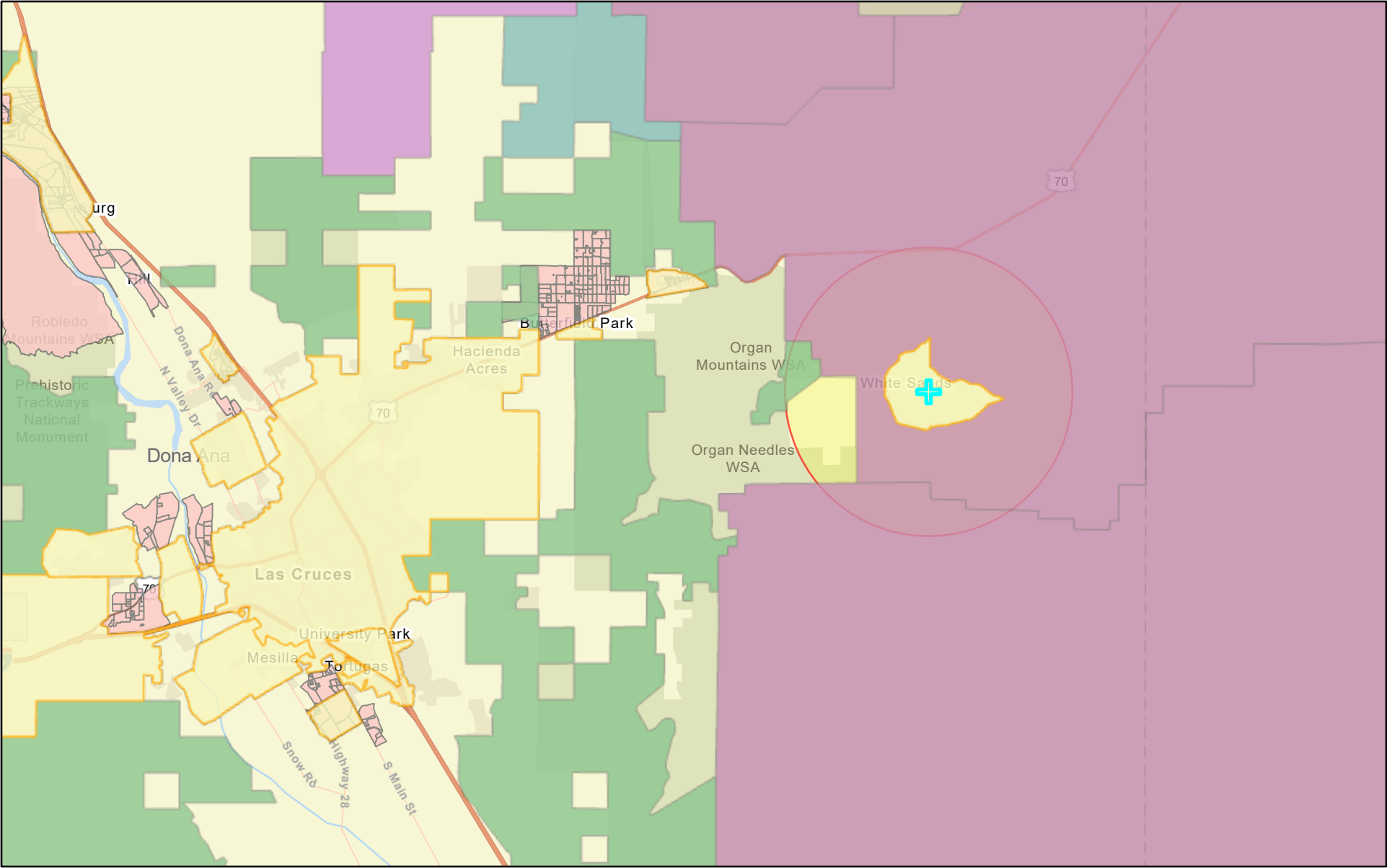
	2016 - 2020 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population by Language Spoken at Home*			
Total (persons age 5 and above)	N/A	N/A	N/A
English	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spanish	N/A	N/A	N/A
French, Haitian, or Cajun	N/A	N/A	N/A
German or other West Germanic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Russian, Polish, or Other Slavic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Indo-European	N/A	N/A	N/A
Korean	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vietnamese	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tagalog (including Filipino)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Asian and Pacific Island	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arabic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other and Unspecified	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Non-English	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

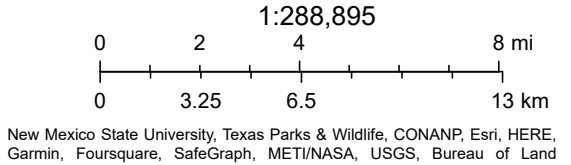
N/A means not available. **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2016 - 2020.

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

WSMR-P085-R4



4/21/2023



White Sands Missile Range, Title V P085R5

