



PUBLIC NOTICE

UPCOMING URANIUM MINE RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES

SCHMITT DECLINE MINE, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

September 2025

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) hereby provides notice of reclamation activities in relation to proposed assessment and cleanup of the Schmitt Decline Mine located in McKinley County, New Mexico.

Purpose: Assessment, cleanup and disposal of waste rock with elevated radiological readings

Proposed Activities: Sampling and assessment of the site will be conducted to provide data to support the development of cleanup, reclamation, and disposal alternatives. Data collected will be provided in a Stage 2 Uranium Mine Site Assessment Report.

What:

Multiple surveys and sampling activities will be conducted concurrently on and around the site.

How:

1. Radiological survey - Use field instruments to assess the presence of radiological concentrations on the site that are above background radiological concentrations.
2. Aerial photography – Drone flights to document current site conditions and conditions following reclamation.
3. Underground Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) survey – Drone flights within the mine adit that will provide video and assess underground conditions.
4. Endangered Species Site survey – Documentation of any endangered species present at and in the vicinity of the mine.
5. Historic and Archeological survey – Documentation of any archaeological sites present within areas that may be disturbed during reclamation activities at and in the vicinity of the mine.
6. Waste Rock pile sampling and analysis – Collection of soil samples for laboratory analysis.
7. Groundwater sampling and analysis – Collect a groundwater sample at an adjacent well near the site for laboratory analysis.

Why:

Data from the assessment will be used to decide the best way to clean up the mine site.



When:

September 15, 2025, through mid-October

Questions:

If you are a non-English speaker, do not speak English well, or if you have a disability, you may contact the NMED Project Manager, Jorge A. Munoz-Negron, jorge.munoz-negron@env.nm.gov or 505-690-5897, to request assistance, an interpreter, or an auxiliary aid in order to learn more about this project or to participate in activities associated with it. TDD or TTY users, please access phone numbers using the New Mexico Relay Network, 1-800-659-1779 (voice); 1-800-659-8331 (TTY users); Spanish: 1-800-327-1857.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

NMED does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age or sex in the administration of its programs or activities, as required by applicable laws and regulations. NMED is responsible for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning non-discrimination requirements implemented by 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972. If you have any questions about this notice or any of NMED's non-discrimination programs, policies or procedures, you may contact: Kate Cardenas, Non-Discrimination Coordinator, New Mexico Environment Department, 1190 St. Francis Dr., Suite N4050, P.O. Box 5469, Santa Fe, NM 87502, (505) 827-2855 nd.coordinator@env.nm.gov.

If you believe that you have been discriminated against with respect to a NMED program or activity, you may contact the Non-Discrimination Coordinator identified above or visit our website at <https://www.env.nm.gov/non-employee-discrimination-complaint-page/> to learn how and where to file a complaint of discrimination.