



# NMED Public Participation Policy 07-13

## Public Involvement Plan for Solid Waste Facility Permit Application

Greentree Transfer Station &  
Recycling Center  
26590 US Highway 70 East, Ruidoso  
Downs, New Mexico, 87346

DocuSigned by:  
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Chief, Resource Recovery Bureau

Resource Recovery Bureau  
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# 1. Public Involvement Plan (PIP) Overview

The New Mexico Environment Department (Department) and the Resource Recovery Bureau (Bureau) developed this Public Involvement Plan (PIP) for the Solid Waste Facility Permit Application Evaluation for the Greentree Transfer Station & Recycling Center (GTSRC), located at 26590 US Highway 70 East, Ruidoso Downs, Lincoln County, New Mexico.

The Bureau encourages the public to learn about and get involved in regulatory decision-making opportunities for GTSRC. The purpose of this PIP is to provide opportunities for public participation and information that may be needed to participate in the permitting process related to this site.

This PIP integrates information about the community and identifies the resources needed by the Bureau to successfully incorporate community participation activities into the permitting process decision-making. The PIP identifies the Department staff and resources needed to accomplish these activities.

The permitting process may require public participation throughout different stages. The Bureau will meet the public participation requirements for the permitting process by following this PIP, which includes all applicable policy, regulatory, and statutory public notice and participation requirements.

In developing this PIP, community participation needs at the site 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 (refer to Element 4 of this PIP). This assessment identifies community outreach needs and provides opportunities for public access that exceed statutorily mandated requirements, underscoring the provision of adequate public access to information about the permitting process.

To the extent possible, public participation and informational activities related to the permitting process will be conducted within the timelines outlined in the table below. This timeline is tentative and subject to change; activities subject to statutory or regulatory deadlines are noted.

In the timeline for this permitting process, public comments may be submitted to the Bureau prior to the Bureau's determination that the Solid Waste Facility Permit Application ("Permit Application") is administratively complete. Upon determining that the Permit Application is administratively complete, the Department must hold a public hearing prior to a decision on the Permit Application. In accordance with Subsection B of Section 74-9-23 NMSA 1978 of the Solid Waste Act, the Department must provide notice of the mandatory public hearing on the Permit Application within 60 days of deeming an application administratively complete. Public hearings afford the public the opportunity to participate in the permitting process by providing sworn testimony and/or public comments (both written and verbal) before a hearing officer, who will then prepare a hearing report and recommendation to the Department Secretary regarding the fate of the Permit Application. The site for GTSRC is in a part of the state with a relatively large community of Spanish speakers nearby, and the Bureau will provide pertinent information in both English and Spanish in public hearing notices and related announcements.

The hearing will be held in person and remotely, using internet video conferencing technology.

As deemed necessary based on knowledge of the surrounding community, arrangements may be made for interpretation services during the hearing, and requests may be made for accommodation for persons with disabilities. At any time during the permitting process, the Permit Application and relevant documents may be reviewed at the repository identified in Element 5 of this document.

More detailed information about planned Bureau outreach is available in this PIP.

| <b>Activity</b>   | <b>Dates</b>   |
|---|--|
| Public notice of the filing of the Permit Application with the Resource Recovery Bureau (notice performed by Applicant) | June 26, 2025 (Ruidoso News – Ruidoso classified B6 and Ruidosonews.com B7 section) and July 03, 2025 (B4 section)   |
| Distribute PIP (website and repository)   | September 2025   |
| Notice of Completeness Determination  | To Be Determined (TBD)   |
| Notice of Docketing and Appointment of Hearing Officer  | TBD  |
| Notice of Public Hearing on Permit Application (in English and Spanish) –   | TBD – Posted to Department website at: <a href="https://www.env.nm.gov/public-notices/">https://www.env.nm.gov/public-notices/</a><br>TBD – Published in (Daily Newspaper?)<br>TBD – Posted at Public Locations? |
| Public Hearing<br>Location: TBD   | TBD  |

The Chief of the Bureau provides final approval of the PIP and amendments. This PIP is a “living” document that may be amended after considering public comments and feedback.

## 2. Contacts

If you have questions about the permitting process, site, or this PIP, please contact:

Daniele Berardelli  
Permit Section Manager  
New Mexico Environment Department Resource Recovery Bureau  
P.O. Box 5469  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502  
Telephone: 505-670-2018  
E-mail: [daniele.berardelli@env.nm.gov](mailto:daniele.berardelli@env.nm.gov)

### ***Non-English Language Speaker Assistance and Accommodations***

Non-English speakers may contact the Bureau's listed contact in this PIP and request language assistance services, such as an interpreter, to learn more about the permitting process. Services may be arranged for translation of documents for public hearings, for interpreters during public hearings, and for obtaining services for persons with disabilities. A phone-based interpretation service may be available for languages other than English.

If any person requires non-English Language Speaker Assistance, assistance for an interpreter, or auxiliary aid (e.g., accommodations for persons who are disabled) to participate in public hearings related to the permitting process, please contact the Bureau at least fourteen (14) days prior to the hearing date:

Daniele Berardelli  
Permit Section Manager  
New Mexico Environment Department Resource Recovery Bureau  
P.O. Box 5469  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502  
Telephone: 505-670-2018  
E-mail: [daniele.berardelli@env.nm.gov](mailto:daniele.berardelli@env.nm.gov)

TDD or TTY users please access the number via the New Mexico Relay Network, 1-800-659-1779 (voice); TTY users: 1-800-659-8331.

### ***Department Websites***

New Mexico Environment Department - <https://www.env.nm.gov/>  
Resource Recovery Bureau - <https://www.env.nm.gov/solid-waste>

### 3. Regulatory Framework for Public Participation

Both federal and state laws govern the management of solid waste. The United States Congress enacted the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, an amendment to the Solid Waste Disposal Act of 1965, to ensure the safe management and disposal of municipal and industrial waste generated nationwide. Responsibility for the management of solid waste has been delegated from the federal government to the states. The State of New Mexico enacted the New Mexico Solid Waste Act in 1990 (NMSA 1978, Sections 74-9-1 through 74-9-43). The Solid Waste Act promotes several objectives, including the establishment of a comprehensive solid waste management program in New Mexico, the adoption of regulations pertaining to the management of solid waste, the issuance of permits for the construction and operation of solid waste facilities, and the protection of public health, safety, and welfare. Solid waste management regulations have been promulgated and revised on several occasions by the Environmental Improvement Board; the current regulations are contained in the New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) at 20.9.2 through 20.9.10 NMAC, 20.9.20 NMAC, and 20.9.25 NMAC. These regulations are referred to as the Solid Waste Rules (Rules). The most recent comprehensive revisions to the Solid Waste Rules were adopted in 2007.

The Bureau is responsible for oversight of the solid waste management program in New Mexico, including permitting of solid waste facilities, registration of small facilities and commercial waste haulers, enforcement, and training of certified solid waste facility operators. The Bureau reviews solid waste facility Permit Applications to assess compliance with the requirements of the Solid Waste Act and Rules.

Once the Bureau has completed its review of the Permit Application and it is deemed administratively complete, the Permit Application is moved into the hearing phase of the permitting process. As required by the Solid Waste Act, the Department holds public hearings on all Permit Applications for solid waste facilities. Deeming a Permit application “administratively complete” does not mean that the Permit Application will be approved or a Permit will be issued without conditions. Rather, it simply means that the Application has addressed all the administrative requirements required by the Solid Waste Act and the Rules. Once the Bureau makes the completeness determination, a formal public hearing date will be set, and the Department Secretary will determine whether the Permit Application should be issued, issued with conditions, or denied after considering all testimony and comments provided by the Bureau, Applicant, and any other interested parties or persons at the hearing.

The Department provides notice of public hearings in accordance with all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements. In accordance with Section 74-9-22 NMSA 1978 of the Solid Waste Act, notice is provided by the following methods: written notice is provided to adjacent property owners, nearby governmental entities (municipalities, counties, tribes, and pueblos), and persons who make requests for public notice regarding specific Permit Applications; notice is published in a local newspaper as a legal advertisement and at another place in the newspaper designed to provide effective notice; and notice is posted at multiple locations in the vicinity of the facility. In accordance with Section 14-11-10.2 NMSA 1978, the hearing notices are also posted on the Department’s website.

It is common practice to provide notice of Permit Application hearings in both English and Spanish. Spanish versions of the notice are translated from English into Spanish by a certified translator.

When appropriate, notice is provided in additional languages pertinent to the population in the vicinity of a solid waste facility. As an example, the Bureau used a Navajo-language certified court interpreter to translate public service announcements from English into the Navajo-language and record the announcements on CD for distribution to Navajo chapters and Navajo-language radio stations in the vicinity of McKinley County Transfer Station.

### ***Facility Background***

GTSRC is an existing solid waste facility that is currently operating under solid waste permit number SWM-041427 issued by the Bureau on June 07, 2006. GTSRC is owned and operated by the Greentree Solid Waste Authority (GSWA) on property within the City of Ruidoso Downs, Lincoln County, New Mexico. GTSRC meets the definition of a “transfer station” under the New Mexico Solid Waste Rules. The Permit Renewal Application was received by the Bureau on June 30, 2025.

GSWA is seeking a permit to continue to accept municipal solid waste, construction and demolition debris, recyclable materials, green waste, scrap tires, and household hazardous waste. The facility operates five days a week, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., receiving approximately 9,000 tons of material annually. The transfer station may operate outside scheduled operating hours to accommodate site preparation, inclement weather conditions, special projects, construction, internal operation/projects, maintenance, monitoring, and other special circumstances.

## 4. Affected Communities and Stakeholders

To provide for adequate public participation opportunities and meaningful involvement of persons in the permitting process, 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed the Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool (Version 2.3, Archived) (EJScreen), which helps identify low-income and minority communities that may benefit from various approaches for notification and outreach communication. This information is used to help encourage the community's involvement in the public process for environmental activities or actions. In this case, the activity is the consideration of permit issuance for a solid waste facility.

An EJScreen Multisite Report (Report) was generated using EJScreen for the area within a 4-mile radius of the proposed Greentree Transfer Station & Recycling Center. The following information was obtained from the Report with State/US averages in parentheses:

- Total population: 20,269<sup>1,2</sup>(2,117,522 / 331,449,281)<sup>2</sup>
- Number of households: 9376<sup>2</sup>(856,580 / 131,332,360)<sup>2</sup>
- Median Income: \$51,643<sup>2</sup> (\$62,268 / \$77,719)<sup>2</sup>
- Percent low income: 66% (39% / 30%)
- Percent unemployed: 2% (6% / 6%)
- Percent with less than high school education: 15% (14% / 11%)
- Percent of people of color population: 58% (62% / 40%)
  - Percent Hispanic: 46%
  - Percent Black or African American (non-Hispanic, single race): 1%
  - Percent Asian (non-Hispanic, single race): 1%
  - Percent American Indian and Alaska Native (non-Hispanic, single race): 8%
  - Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic, single race): 0%
  - Other race (non-Hispanic, single race): 0%
  - Two or more races (non-Hispanic): 3%

<sup>1</sup>Total population of the County

<sup>2</sup>U.S. Census Bureau ([Census Bureau Data](#))

Information from the Report (see Attachment 1) was used to conduct an assessment of the need for services targeted to individuals of limited English proficiency (LEP). The percentage of linguistically isolated households, i.e., all members age 14 years and over speak a non-English language and also speak English less than “very well” (have difficulty with English), is reported as 5%. The linguistically isolated population in New Mexico is 6%; the linguistically isolated population in the United States is 5%.

It is important for the Bureau to consider the linguistic and communication needs of the affected community when providing notice of public hearings on solid waste facility permit applications. Based on the Report and the LEP assessment (see Attachment 2), the Bureau will provide information in Spanish and English when providing public announcements, such as for the notice of the public hearing on the Permit Application.

## 5. Detailed Public Participation and Outreach Activities for Solid Waste Facility Permit Application, Greentree Transfer Station & Recycling Center

The Bureau welcomes questions or comments on solid waste facility permit applications at any time during the permitting process. The Bureau evaluates all public comments, places the comments in the administrative record for the permitting action, and incorporates public input into the Bureau's comments on Permit Applications as appropriate.

Decisions regarding issuance, issuance with conditions, or denial of solid waste facility Permit Applications are not made by the Bureau. Rather, such decisions are made by the Department Secretary following a public hearing. The public is encouraged to participate in public hearings as formal parties providing technical testimony, through written or verbal public comments, or as observers. Any person who intends to provide a technical written statement or oral testimony shall file a Statement of Intent to Present Technical Testimony on or before the deadline in the Notice of Hearing, but in no event later than fourteen (14) days prior to the hearing, in accordance with Subsection B of Section 20.1.4.300 NMAC. All testimony and comments provided at a public hearing are evaluated by a Hearing Officer, who prepares a written report and recommendation regarding Permit Application approval, approval with conditions, or denial for the Secretary's consideration.

The plans for facilitating public participation in the permitting action for Greentree Transfer Station & Recycling Center are detailed below.

### ***Public Notice Requirements per Applicable Laws***

Section 74-9-22 NMSA 1978 of the Solid Waste Act and Subsection G of Section 20.9.3.8 NMAC of the Solid Waste Rules address notice to be provided by the Applicant to the public regarding the submittal of a solid waste facility Permit Application. This notice is provided at the start of the permitting process and informs the public that the Bureau's review of the Permit Application has begun. It is common practice for Applicants to provide notice of the submittal of a Permit Application in English and Spanish. The Applicant provided notice in the following manner:

1. Notice was provided by certified mail to the owners of record, as shown by the most recent property tax schedule, and tax-exempt entities of record, of all properties:
  - a. within 100 feet of the property on which the facility is located or proposed to be located if the facility is or will be in a Class A or Class H County or a municipality with a population of more than 2,500 persons.
2. Notice was provided by certified mail to all municipalities and counties in which the facility is or will be located and to the governing body of any county, municipality, Indian tribe or pueblo when the boundary of the territory of the county, municipality, Indian tribe or pueblo is within 10 miles of the property on which the facility is proposed to be constructed, operated or closed.
3. Notice was provided to all parties and interested participants of record for a permit modification or renewal.
4. Notice was published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the facility is proposed to be constructed, operated, or closed; this notice appeared in either the



classified or legal advertisements section of the newspaper and at one other place in the newspaper calculated to give the general public the most effective notice; notice was also provided to residents of each community that is or will be affected significantly by the existing or proposed solid waste facility; and was published at least once in one or more other media in a manner that effectively reaches a substantial number of members of each community, and, where printed, was printed in both English and Spanish.

5. Notice was posted in at least eight publicly accessible and conspicuous places, including the proposed or existing entrance to the property on which the facility is or is proposed to be located.

Note: The notice performed by the Applicant occurs before the Bureau receives a Permit Application and before the Bureau has an opportunity to determine if additional services are necessary to communicate with individuals of limited English proficiency (LEP).

After the determination that the Permit Application is administratively complete, the Department provides notice of a public hearing. Subsection B of Section 74-9-23 NMSA 1978 of the Solid Waste Act addresses notice for solid waste facility Permit Application hearings. Subsection B of Section 74-9-23 NMSA 1978 requires the performance of notice for a permit application hearing in the same manner as required in Section 74-9-22 NMSA 1978. Section 74-9-22 NMSA 1978 identifies the following actions for the performance of notice:

1. Notice provided by certified mail to the owners of record, as shown on the most recent property tax schedule, of all properties:
  - a. Within 100 feet of the property on which the facility is located (or proposed to be located) if the facility is (or will be) in a Class A or H county or a municipality with a population of more than 2,500 persons.
2. Notice must be provided by certified mail to all municipalities and counties in which the facility is (or will be) located and to the governing body of any county, municipality, Indian tribe, or pueblo when the boundary of the territory of the county, municipality, Indian tribe, or pueblo is within a 10-mile radius of the property on which the facility is (or is proposed to be) constructed, operated or closed.
3. Notice must be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in each county in which the property on which the facility is (or is proposed to be) constructed, operated or closed is located. This notice must appear in either the classified or legal advertisements section of the newspaper and at one other place in the newspaper calculated to give the general public the most effective notice and, when appropriate, must be printed in both English and Spanish.
4. Notice must be posted in at least four publicly accessible and conspicuous places, including the proposed or existing facility entrance on the property on which the facility is (or is proposed to be) located.

Subsection B of Section 74-9-23 NMSA 1978 requires additional actions associated with notice of hearing:

1. Notice must be provided to any person who makes a written request to the NMED for notice regarding a specific application.
2. Notice must be made within 60 days of the determination that an application is complete.

Section 14-11-2 NMSA 1978 further requires that legal notices be published in daily, tri-weekly, semi-weekly, or weekly newspapers of general circulation that can be obtained by single copy in the county in which the notice is required to be published. Such newspapers, if published daily, must have been published in the county continuously and without interruption during the six-month period prior to the publication of notice; if published tri-weekly, semi-weekly, or weekly, the newspapers must have been published in the county continuously and without interruption for 26 consecutive weeks prior to the publication of notice. Section 14-11-10.2 NMSA 1978 requires state agencies to post their notices on agency websites.

Hearing notices will be provided in both English and Spanish. Spanish-language notices are translated from English into Spanish by a certified translator. Notice will be provided at least 30 days prior to a hearing.

### ***Proposed Public Participation & Outreach Activities for Greentree Transfer Station & Recycling Center***

The Applicant completed the required public notice for the Permit Application in August 2025. The Department will perform the following public participation and outreach activities during the review phase of the permitting process for the GTSRC Permit Renewal Application:

**Information Repository:** An electronic copy of the Permit Application is posted for public review through the Department website at: [Permitting and Registration \(nm.gov\)](https://www.nm.gov/Permitting-and-Registration). Scroll to the bottom of the page and look for the “Public Involvement Plans” heading and select the application link for the Greentree Transfer Station & Recycling Center.

The following public participation and outreach activities will be performed during the hearing phase (i.e., after the Permit Renewal Application is deemed administratively complete) of the permitting process for the GTSRC:

#### **1. Mailing of Hearing Notice:**

- a. The Department will provide notice by certified mail to property owners of record within 100 feet of the facility. As required by Subsection C of Section 20.9.3.17 NMAC, the Applicant will obtain property ownership information from the Lincoln County Assessor and will submit this information to the Bureau.
- b. The Department will provide notice by certified mail to the municipality and county in which the facility is located, and to all municipalities, counties, tribes, and pueblos located within 10 miles of the facility. The following governmental entities will be notified:
  - City of Ruidoso Downs
  - Village of Ruidoso
  - County of Lincoln
  - County of Otero
  - Mescalero Apache Tribe
  - Village of Capitan
  - Village of Corona
  - Town of Carrizozo

- c. The Department will provide notice by first-class mail or e-mail to potentially interested land grants.
  - d. The Department will provide notice by first-class mail or e-mail to other potentially interested persons (e.g., federal or state government agencies, persons who attended the most recent hearing regarding an application for a solid waste facility based on available Bureau records, etc.).
  - e. The Department will provide notice by first-class mail or e-mail to all persons who inform the Bureau that they have an interest in the pending Permit Application for the facility. Persons who inform the Bureau of their interest in a Permit Application will be added to an “interested persons mailing list” for the public hearing.
  - f. Mailed notices will be provided in English and Spanish.
2. **Publication of Hearing Notice:** The notice will be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the facility is proposed to be located. The Albuquerque Journal will be used for notice publication. The notice will be published in the classified or legal advertisements section of the newspaper and as a display advertisement at another location in the newspaper. The notice will be published in English and Spanish.
  3. **Physical Posting of Hearing Notice in Vicinity of Facility:** The Department will post hearing notices at a minimum of four (4) publicly accessible and conspicuous places, including the facility entrance. Provided permission is obtained for notice posting, the Department will post notice at libraries, community centers, senior centers, government offices, and/or post offices. Physically posted notices will be provided in English and Spanish.
  4. **Electronic Posting of Hearing Notice:** The hearing notice will be posted on the Department website at: [Permitting and Registration \(nm.gov\)](https://www.nm.gov/permitting). Electronically posted notices will be provided in English and Spanish.

In accordance with the Solid Waste Act requirement, all required notice actions associated with the public hearing will be performed within 60 days of the date the Permit Application is deemed administratively complete. Further, the Department will provide notice of the Permit Application hearing at least 30 days prior to the hearing.

### ***Hearing Location and Scheduling***

The public hearing for GTSRC will be held in-person and remotely using an internet video conferencing platform on a date, time, and place to be determined once the Permit Application is deemed administratively complete. In the event the Hearing Officer determines that a hearing will require more than one day to complete, the hearing will continue on subsequent days, and the hearing start times on the initial day and subsequent days may be adjusted accordingly.

### ***Contingency Plan for Unexpected Events***

Should unexpected events prevent the public hearing from being held as scheduled after issuance of the hearing notice, the Department will use a variety of methods to inform the public of the postponement of the hearing. The Department may notify the public by postal mailings, e-mails, PSAs, and website postings.

***Attachment 1: Preliminary Screening  
(EJScreen Multisite Report)***

**EJScreen Multisite Report**

This report summarizes environmental and socioeconomic information for user-defined areas and combines that data into environmental justice and supplemental indexes.

**Summary of EJ Analysis**

**4 Mile Ring Centered at 33.350061, -105.558925** (Residents within 4 miles of this specified point)

**Area in Square Miles: 50.27**

Population: 2,825

**Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators - Data**

| SELECTED VARIABLES  | VALUE | STATE AVERAGE | PERCENTILE IN STATE | USA AVERAGE | PERCENTILE IN USA |
|---|-------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| <b>Pollution and Sources</b>  |       |               |                     |             |                   |
| Particulate Matter (PM 2.5 in ug/m3)                                      | 4.83  | 6.11          | 11                  | 8.45        | 0                 |
| Ozone (ppb)   | 62.1  | 65.3          | 11                  | 61.8        | 58                |
| Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2)  | 6.0   | 8.1           | 29                  | 7.8         | 33                |
| Diesel Particulate Matter (ug/m3)   | 0.020 | 0.187         | 8                   | 0.191       | 1                 |
| Toxic Releases to Air   | 0     | 29            | 15                  | 4,600       | 0                 |
| Traffic Proximity and Volume (daily traffic count/distance to road)       | 5,900 | 730,000       | 13                  | 1,700,000   | 3                 |
| Lead Paint Indicator (% pre-1960s housing)                                | 0.14  | 0.19          | 57                  | 0.3         | 40                |
| Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)                              | 0.00  | 0.34          | 0                   | 0.39        | 0                 |
| RMP Proximity (facility count/km distance)                                | 0.00  | 0.20          | 0                   | 0.57        | 0                 |
| Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)                    | 0.0   | 1.2           | 0                   | 3.5         | 0                 |
| Underground Storage Tanks (UST) indicator                                 | 0.7   | 2.8           | 49                  | 3.6         | 47                |
| Wastewater Discharge Indicator (toxicity-weighted concentration/distance) | 0     | 990,000       | 39                  | 700,000     | 16                |
| Drinking Water Non-Compliance   | 0.0   | 5.58          | 70                  | 2.2         | 73                |
| <b>Socioeconomic Indicators</b>   |       |               |                     |             |                   |
| Demographic Index USA   | 2.47  | 2.16          | 68                  | 1.34        | 87                |
| Supplemental Demographic Index USA  | 2.12  | 1.62          | 63                  | 1.64        | 78                |
| % Low Income  | 66%   | 39%           | 86                  | 30%         | 92                |
| % in limited English-speaking Households                                  | 5%    | 6%            | 66                  | 5%          | 76                |
| % Unemployed  | 2%    | 6%            | 32                  | 6%          | 32                |
| % with Less Than High School Education                                    | 15%   | 14%           | 63                  | 11%         | 72                |
| % under Age 5   | 6%    | 5%            | 64                  | 5%          | 59                |
| % over Age 64   | 28%   | 20%           | 79                  | 18%         | 85                |
| % People of Color   | 58%   | 62%           | 41                  | 40%         | 70                |

**Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes**

The environmental justice and supplemental indexes are a combination of environmental and socioeconomic

information. For each of the environmental indicators in EJScreen, there is an EJ Index and a Supplemental EJ Index. The indices for a selected area are compared to those for all other locations in the state or nation. For more information and calculation details on the EJ and supplemental indexes, please visit the [EJScreen website](#).

## EJ INDEXES

The EJ indexes help users screen for potential EJ concerns. To do this, the EJ index combines data on low income and people of color populations with a single environmental indicator.

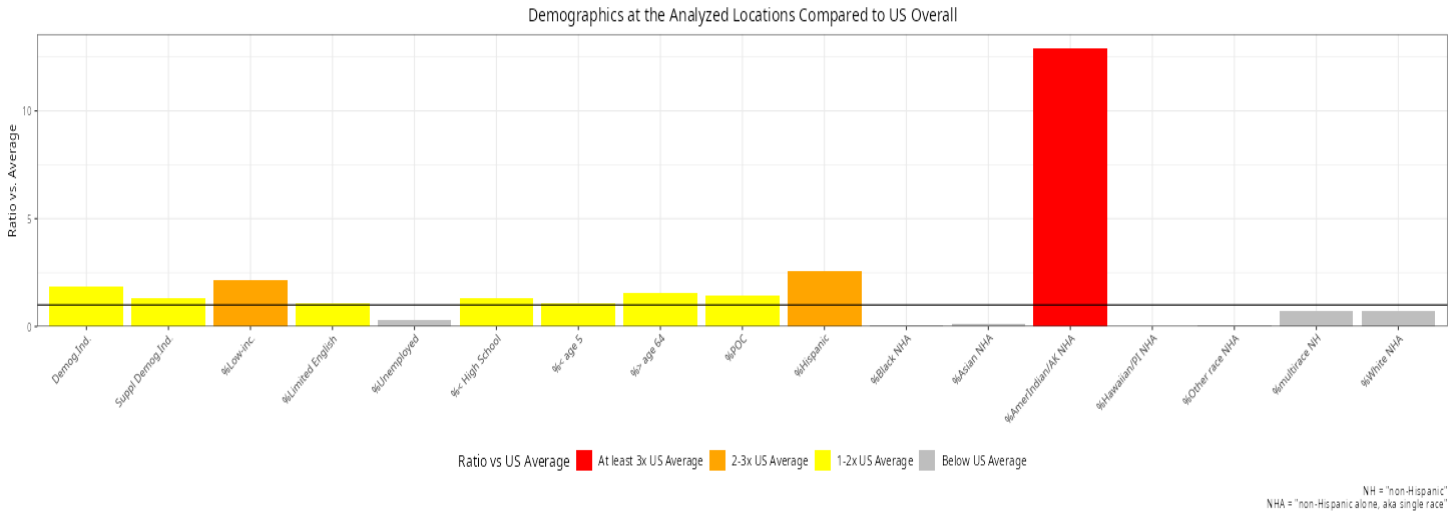
| SELECTED VARIABLES                                  | PERCENTILE IN STATE | PERCENTILE IN USA |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|
| <b>EJ Indexes</b>                                   |                     |                   |
| Particulate Matter EJ Index                         | 17                  | 2                 |
| Ozone EJ Index                                      | 17                  | 95                |
| Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) EJ Index                     | 44                  | 67                |
| Diesel Particulate Matter EJ Index                  | 15                  | 3                 |
| Toxic Releases to Air EJ Index                      | 14                  | 1                 |
| Traffic Proximity and Volume EJ Index               | 19                  | 11                |
| Lead Paint EJ Index                                 | 66                  | 74                |
| Superfund Proximity EJ Index                        | 0                   | 0                 |
| RMP Proximity EJ Index                              | 0                   | 0                 |
| Hazardous Waste Proximity EJ Index                  | 0                   | 0                 |
| Underground Storage Tanks EJ Index                  | 63                  | 78                |
| Wastewater Discharge EJ Index                       | 55                  | 44                |
| Drinking Water Non-Compliance EJ Index              | 70                  | 73                |
| <b>Supplemental EJ Indexes</b>                      |                     |                   |
| Particulate Matter Supplemental EJ Index            | 15                  | 1                 |
| Ozone Supplemental EJ Index                         | 15                  | 94                |
| Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) Supplemental EJ Index        | 40                  | 53                |
| Diesel Particulate Matter Supplemental EJ Index     | 12                  | 1                 |
| Toxic Releases to Air Supplemental EJ Index         | 13                  | 1                 |
| Traffic Proximity and Volume Supplemental EJ Index  | 17                  | 4                 |
| Lead Paint Supplemental EJ Index                    | 61                  | 56                |
| Superfund Proximity Supplemental EJ Index           | 0                   | 0                 |
| RMP Proximity Supplemental EJ Index                 | 0                   | 0                 |
| Hazardous Waste Proximity Supplemental EJ Index     | 0                   | 0                 |
| Underground Storage Tanks Supplemental EJ Index     | 60                  | 66                |
| Wastewater Discharge Supplemental EJ Index          | 54                  | 25                |
| Drinking Water Non-Compliance Supplemental EJ Index | 70                  | 73                |

| ADDITIONAL INFORMATION   | VALUE  |
|--|--------|
| Breakdown by Race/Ethnicity  |        |
| % Hispanic or Latino   | 46%    |
| % Black or African American (non-Hispanic, single race)                        | 1%     |
| % Asian (non-Hispanic, single race)  | 1%     |
| % American Indian and Alaska Native (non-Hispanic, single race)                | 8%     |
| % Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic, single race)       | 0%     |
| % Other race (non-Hispanic, single race)                                       | 0%     |
| % Two or more races (non-Hispanic)   | 3%     |
| % White (non-Hispanic, single race)  | 42%    |
| Language Spoken at Home  |        |
| % of population speaking Other Indo-European at home                           | 0%     |
| % of population speaking Asian and Pacific Island languages at home            | 1%     |
| % of population speaking Other and Unspecified languages at home               | 3%     |
| % of population speaking Spanish at home                                       | 17%    |
| % of population speaking non-English languages at home                         | 21%    |
| Language in Limited English-Speaking Households                                |        |
| % Speaking Spanish (as % of limited English households)                        | 99%    |
| % Speaking Other Indo-European languages (as % of limited English households)  | 0%     |
| % Speaking Asian-Pacific Island languages (as % of limited English households) | 1%     |
| % Speaking Other languages (as % of limited English households)                | 0%     |
| Breakdown by Gender  |        |
| % Males  | 41%    |
| % Females  | 59%    |
| Health   |        |
| % with Disabilities  | 23%    |
| %Low life expectancy   | 15%    |
| Community  |        |
| Occupied Housing Units   | 1,124  |
| Life Expectancy in Years   | 82     |
| Per Capita Income  | 17,016 |
| % Owner-occupied households  | 67%    |
| Poverty  |        |
| % of Households below Poverty Level  | 32%    |

| SELECTED VARIABLES   | VALUE |
|----------------------|-------|
| Breakdown by Race    |       |
| % Hispanic or Latino | 46%   |

| SELECTED VARIABLES   | VALUE |
|--|-------|
| % Black or African American (non-Hispanic, single race)                  | 1%    |
| % Asian (non-Hispanic, single race)                                      | 1%    |
| % American Indian and Alaska Native (non-Hispanic, single race)          | 8%    |
| % Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic, single race) | 0%    |
| % Other race (non-Hispanic, single race)                                 | 0%    |
| % Two or more races (non-Hispanic)                                       | 3%    |
| % White (non-Hispanic, single race)                                      | 42%   |
| Breakdown by Gender  |       |
| % Male   | 41%   |
| % Female   | 59%   |
| Limited English Speaking Breakdown                                       |       |
| %Spanish lang (as %of limited English hhlds)                             | 99%   |
| %Other Indo-European lang (as %of limited English hhlds)                 | 0%    |
| %Asian-Pacific Island lang (as %of limited English hhlds)                | 1%    |
| %Other lang (as %of limited English hhlds)                               | 0%    |

Note: Diesel particulate matter index is from the EPA's Air Toxics Data Update, which is the Agency's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. This effort aims to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that the air toxics data presented here provide broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update>





## ***Attachment 2: Limited English Proficiency Assessment***

## **Attachment 2: Limited-English Proficiency (LEP) Assessment**

Facility: Greentree Transfer Station & Recycling Center  
Location: 26590 US Highway 70 East, Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico 87346  
Buffer: 4 miles  
Date: August 2, 2025

### **Factor 1: The Number and Proportion of LEP Individuals Eligible to be Served or Likely to be Encountered in the Community of Concern**

(See Attachment 1 EJScreen Multisite Report)

1. The percentage of limited English-speaking households in the affected community is 5%.
2. The percentage of limited English-speaking households in New Mexico is 6%.
3. Multiple, non-English languages are identified in the affected community, including (as a percent of limited English-Speaking Households):
  - Spanish language – 99%
  - Other Indo-European language – 0%
  - Asian-Pacific Island language – 1%
  - Other – 0%
4. Historical participation: The public hearing on the initial transfer station permit (issued by the Bureau on June 7, 2006) was held in the City Hall of Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico, on March 24, 2006. No parties or interested participants of record were listed in the previous hearing officer's report, nor the Bureau's Permit Conditions for the facility. GSWA has provided a certified statement with the current Permit Application stating that no interested parties are known at the time of publication.

### **Factor 2: Frequency with which LEP Individuals Come in Contact with the Program**

Frequency Assessment (“frequent” / “occasional” / “not frequent”) – not frequent

This determination is based on the performance of 34 permit application hearings from September 2011 to the present. In 2 cases, the Bureau determined that language interpretation services might be required at the hearing to serve LEP persons and provided such services. Interpretation services were used in one instance (Southwest Landfill, LLC), but the interpreter at the other hearing (Northwestern New Mexico Regional Landfill) was dismissed after one day, as hearing attendees were not using the service. Historically, interpretation services have been needed for one other facility (Camino Real Landfill).

### **Factor 3: Nature and Importance of the Activity or Service Provided by the Program**

All solid waste facilities are required by the Solid Waste Act to obtain a permit prior to construction and operation. Permit applications are reviewed by the Bureau to assess compliance with regulatory and statutory requirements. Once the application is deemed “administratively

complete”, a mandatory hearing is held to gather testimony and comments from all interested persons and entities. The record created at the hearing is then forwarded to the Secretary of the Department for his consideration and determination regarding permit issuance.

The permitting activity is deemed by the Bureau to be “important” to the Department, the impacted community, and the State of New Mexico. The permitting activity is important to the Department because the permit establishes site-specific requirements that must be met to ensure protection of public health, welfare, and the environment. The permitting activity is important to the impacted community because poorly operated solid waste facilities have the potential to pose a public nuisance and adversely affect the quality of life of people living in the vicinity of the facility. The permitting activity is important to the State of New Mexico because the establishment of effective permits ensures that solid waste facilities will not impact the State’s limited groundwater resources, and waste disposal is conducted in a consistent manner throughout the State.

#### **Factor 4: Resources Available to the Bureau for LEP Services and Associated Costs**

In accordance with statutory requirements, public notice for permit hearings is conducted in English and Spanish, and the services of a certified translator are used for the creation of Spanish-language notices. This translation cost is included in the Bureau’s annual budget requests. As the need for additional translation/interpretation services has typically been limited, the Bureau has been able to provide these additional services within budgetary constraints.

#### **LEP Services Plan:**

Notice of the permit application hearing will be provided in English and Spanish, which is consistent with statutory requirements and past practice, and is appropriate given the demographic characteristics of the area surrounding the proposed facility. Although the program’s contact with LEP individuals has not been frequent, the proportion of LEP individuals within 4 miles of the facility is considerable. The Bureau is not planning to provide further LEP services at this time; however, if the Bureau receives requests for additional LEP services from members of the community, the Bureau will reconsider providing additional LEP services.