

**SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR**Ryan Flynn, *Cabinet Secretary*Butch Tongate, *Deputy Secretary***NEWS RELEASE****May 27, 2016**

Contact: Allison Scott Majure, Communications Director
New Mexico Environment Department
505.231.8800 | Allison.majure@state.nm.us

The Environment Department's mission is to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations.

**Environment Department to Review Proposed Investigation
to Characterize Groundwater and Vapor Contamination at Dry Cleaner**

Santa Fe – In April 2016, per state Water Quality Act rules enforced by the New Mexico Environment Department, dry cleaner One Hour Martinizing transmitted their Stage 1 Abatement Plan Proposal describing their plan to investigate and characterize soil-gas, indoor air, and groundwater pollution at their site at 1091 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The Environment Department's Ground Water Quality Bureau required the dry cleaner to submit the abatement plan in order to address pollution associated with their operations at 1091 St. Francis, as well as the facility's previous use of tetrachloroethylene (also referred to as PCE). Concentrations of PCE detected in groundwater samples collected in monitoring wells at the facility have exceeded the New Mexico groundwater quality standard of 20 parts per billion and historical subsurface soil-gas samples have exceeded NMED's guidelines for vapor intrusion for PCE.

The Stage 1 Abatement Plan proposal is an investigation consisting of: collection of samples of groundwater from the monitor wells to assess current groundwater concentrations, collection of indoor air samples in the building, sub-slab samples collected beneath the building, preliminary screening of utility trenches and the exterior of the building for PCE vapors, and assessing current soil-gas concentrations in vapor probes located in the on-site monitor wells. The investigation will further define the extent of soil and groundwater pollution at a site where groundwater contamination has been identified. The New Mexico Environment Department requires responsible parties to remediate groundwater pollution.

A Stage 1 Abatement Plan is followed by a proposed Stage 2 Abatement Plan that outlines clean-up strategies developed as a result of the characterization work accomplished in the Stage 1 investigation.

A copy of the proposed Stage 1 Abatement Plan proposal is available at: <https://www.env.nm.gov/gwb/NMED-GWQB-PublicNotice.htm> or by contacting Justin Ball, Ground Water Quality Bureau Project Manager, NMED District 1 Office, 121 Tijeras Avenue, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87102-3400, (505) 222-9522; Justin.ball@state.nm.us.

###