

**MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR**James C. Kenney, *Cabinet Secretary*Jennifer J. Pruet, *Deputy Secretary***NEWS RELEASE****Aug. 7, 2019**

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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 reviewing Stage 1 Abatement Plan to investigate groundwater contamination at bulk fuel facility

ALBUQUERQUE – The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is reviewing a Stage 1 Abatement Plan for the investigation and clean-up of contaminated groundwater at a Phillips 66 Company bulk fuel facility in Albuquerque.

The Stage 1 Abatement Plan was submitted per the New Mexico Ground and Surface Water Protection Regulations (20.6.2 NMAC) and proposes actions to investigate and characterize groundwater pollution found at the facility, located at 6356 Desert Rd. in Albuquerque. Depth to groundwater in the area of the facility ranges from 78 to 100 feet below the surface.

Groundwater collected from onsite monitoring wells contain 1,2-dichloroethane (EDC), ethylene dibromide (EDB), total xylenes and benzene, all in excess of the groundwater standards specified in Section 3103 of 20.6.2 NMAC. These chemicals are typical contaminants associated with fuel releases. Groundwater pollution at the site is attributed to past fuel releases from the facility's infrastructure. Two distinct plumes of groundwater contamination have been documented at the site, both of which are less than an acre in size. No drinking water sources have been impacted.

Previous investigations and responses to fuel spills and leaks at the facility are summarized in the Stage 1 Abatement Plan along with all corrective actions that have been completed to date. NMED's Ground Water Quality Bureau will review the Stage 1 Abatement Plan for completeness and, if approved, a Stage 2 Abatement Plan that outlines clean-up strategies to remediate groundwater contamination at the facility will be required.

The Stage 1 Abatement Plan is at: <https://www.env.nm.gov/gwb/NMED-GWQB-PublicNotice.htm>. For more information, contact Paul Chamberlain, State Cleanup Program Project Manager, at (505) 827-9669 or paul.chamberlain@state.nm.us.

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