

**MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR**James C. Kenney, *Cabinet Secretary*Jennifer J. Pruett, *Deputy Secretary***NEWS RELEASE****October 4, 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 a former RV park

FARMINGTON – The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is reviewing a Stage 1 Abatement Plan for the investigation and clean-up of contaminated groundwater at a former RV Park in Farmington.

The site is located at 5701 U.S. Highway 64 in Farmington on property owned by San Juan County. San Juan County submitted the abatement plan as required by New Mexico Ground and Surface Water Protection Regulations (20.6.2 NMAC). The Stage 1 Abatement Plan proposes actions to investigate and characterize groundwater pollution found at the site, investigate offsite sources and install additional monitoring wells to better characterize the site. No drinking water sources have been impacted by this contamination. Groundwater at the site ranges in depth from 27 to 46 feet below the surface.

Previous groundwater sampling events conducted by San Juan County revealed elevated concentrations of nitrate, total dissolved solids, chloride and sulfate. The source and extent of these contaminants have not been defined but may be partially attributed to discharges to the former RV park's septic system and leach field. The site history and previous groundwater investigations conducted by San Juan County are summarized in the Stage 1 Abatement Plan.

Once the site is fully characterized, NMED will require a Stage 2 Abatement Plan that outlines clean-up strategies to remediate groundwater contamination at the facility. While the abatement process is iterative and the site may require additional phases of characterization, NMED anticipates that San Juan County will submit a Stage 2 Abatement Plan within approximately two years of completion and approval of the Stage 1 work.

The abatement plan may be viewed 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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