

## **Environment Department**

## MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR

James C. Kenney, Cabinet Secretary Jennifer J. Pruett, Deputy Secretary

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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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.

## Public meetings on proposed hemp rule begin Tuesday

Meetings scheduled for Santa Fe, Albuquerque and Las Cruces

Public meetings to provide information and receive input on the New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED) proposed hemp rule will begin Tuesday.

An emergency rule regulating the extraction, manufacturing and transportation of hemp and hemp-containing products in New Mexico went into effect in August to protect public health and safety until a final hemp rule was adopted. The proposed final rule contains minor changes from the emergency rule.

NMED will provide a brief overview of the proposed final rule and answer questions at these meetings, as well as receive public input. Public input may also be submitted to hemp.program@state.nm.us.

The meetings are scheduled for:

2-4 p.m. Oct. 29	Harold Runnels Building, O.A. Larrazolo Auditorium 1190 St. Francis Dr. Santa Fe, NM 87505
2-4 p.m. Oct. 30	African American Pavilion 300 San Pedro Dr. NE Albuquerque, NM 87108
2-4 p.m. Nov. 5	New Mexico State University, Gerald Thomas Hall Room 194 Las Cruces, NM 88003 *Parking available in Lot 3 on NMSU Campus

The meetings may also be attended via webcast. Email hemp.program@state.nm.us to reserve a webcast space. No registration is required to attend the meetings in person. Spanish interpretation services will be provided at each meeting.

The proposed final rule is available <u>here</u>. Additional information about NMED's Hemp Program is available at <a href="https://www.env.nm.gov/hempprogram/">https://www.env.nm.gov/hempprogram/</a>.

A hearing before the NMED Secretary to approve the final hemp rule will begin at 9 a.m. Dec. 2 at the Harold Runnels Building in Santa Fe.

The Hemp Manufacturing Act was passed by the state legislature earlier this year and charges NMED with establishing regulations covering the transport, processing and manufacturing of hemp and hemp-containing products.

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Kristine Yurdin, Non-Discrimination Coordinator | NMED | 1190 St. Francis Dr., Suite N4050 | P.O. Box 5469 | Santa Fe, NM 87502 (505) 827-2855 or  $\underline{nd.coordinator@state.nm.us}$ 

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