



**PUBLIC NOTICE
GRIGGS-WALNUT GROUND WATER PLUME
SUPERFUND SITE
U.S. EPA Region 6 Completes
Second Five-Year Review of Site Remedy
August 2021**



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 (EPA) and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) have completed the second five-year review of the remedy for the Griggs-Walnut Ground Water Plume Superfund Site, located in Las Cruces, Doña Ana County, New Mexico. The review is required by law under the authority of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act to assure that human health and the environment are being protected by the remedial actions taken at the Site.

Due to the presence of tetrachloroethylene (a chemical commonly referred to as PCE) detected in municipal water supply wells, the EPA included the Site on the National Priorities List in June 2001. The Site remedy consists of enhanced groundwater extraction (pumping) with treatment of the collected groundwater to remove the PCE. Construction of the remedy was completed in 2012 and groundwater treatment has been ongoing since May 2012. The remedy utilizes the production capacity of existing municipal supply wells and infrastructure to deliver treated groundwater into the public water supply.

Summary of Five-Year Review Findings

The second five-year review findings indicate that remedial actions taken at the Site are protective of human health and the environment in the short term. There is no known exposure to contaminated groundwater. Permitting of new wells over the contaminant plume is restricted.

For the remedy to be protective in the long-term, the report specifies actions that need to be taken, including site-wide groundwater monitoring of the newly modified groundwater monitoring network to determine the current state of containment and remediation of the PCE plume. The report also recommends assessment and, if needed, adjustment of extraction well pumping rates for optimized performance.

Finally, if exterior soil gas samples continue to exceed the Vapor Intrusion Screening Level for soil gas concentrations, additional sub-slab soil vapor and indoor air monitoring will be performed contingent upon property owner access agreement. A detailed description of the review findings is provided in the second five-year review report, which is available to the public at the following information repositories:

Thomas Branigan Memorial Library
200 E. Picacho Ave.
Las Cruces, NM 88001

New Mexico Environment Department
Ground Water Quality Bureau
Harold Runnels Building
1190 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87502-6110

Information about the Site is available on the Internet at:
<http://www.donaanacounty.org/superfund> and
<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/griggs-walnut>

For more information about the Site, please contact:

Ms. Nancy Hanna, RPM
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
214.665.3179 or 1.800.533.3508 (toll-free), or
e-mail at
hanna.nancy@epa.gov

Mr. Anthony McGlown
New Mexico Environment Department
GWQB, Superfund Oversight Section
505.660.8121, or e-mail at
anthony.mcglown@state.nm.us

All media inquiries should be directed to the EPA Region 6 Press Office at 214.665.2200.