

Environment Department

SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR Ryan Flynn, Cabinet Secretary Butch Tongate, Deputy Secretary

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release February 12, 2016 Contact: Allison Scott Majure, Communications Director 505.231.8800 | allison.majure@state.nm.us

Gold King Mine Spill's Long-Term Impact Review Team's Citizen Advisory Committee Meets in Farmington on Monday, Feb. 22

Santa Fe – The Gold King Mine Spill's Long-Term Impact Review Team's Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting will be held in Farmington, New Mexico at San Juan College at 5:30 p.m. in the Cultural Center, Room 77200. New Mexico Environment Department Bureau Chief Stephanie Stringer of the Drinking Water Bureau will present on continuing activities and safeguards to ensure clean, safe drinking water in San Juan County in light of heavy metal residues which remain throughout the watershed resulting from the August 5, 2015 toxic spill. The meeting opens with an opportunity for public comment at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

The Long-Term Impact Review Team's CAC is a group of 10 citizens from the region who volunteer their time to serve as communication conduits; relaying their communities' concerns to the technical working groups who are part of New Mexico's Long-Term Impact Review Team, and relaying monitoring activities and progress back to their communities. The Long-Term Monitoring Plan for the Animas/San Juan Watershed is posted at: www.NMEDRiverWaterSafety.org.

New Mexico Governor Susana Martinez <u>created the Long-Term Impact Review Team</u> in August 2015 saying, "...I have called on state agencies to come together to work with local and federal officials to investigate and shed light on the potential impacts this waste spill could have on our families in the coming days, months and years. And make no mistake about it: we will keep the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency honest when they say they intend to hold themselves accountable at an even higher standard than a private business." New Mexico's Departments of Environment, Agriculture, Health, Game & Fish, Homeland Security, and the Office of the State Engineer are collaborating with top academics and specialists from throughout New Mexico to track, catalog, and analyze the Gold King Mine Spill's effects on health, water, wildlife, agriculture, and sediment.

For more information please visit the New Mexico Environment Department's website at: www.NMEDRiverWaterSafety.org or send email to: NMENV-Outreach@state.nm.us

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GRAPHIC CUTLINE: New Mexico's Departments of Environment, Agriculture, Health, Game & Fish, Homeland Security, and the Office of the State Engineer are collaborating with top academics and specialists from throughout New Mexico to track, catalog, and analyze the Gold King Mine Spill's regional effects on health, water, wildlife, agriculture, and sediment.

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For your Twitter Feed:

Gold King Mine Spill-Citizens' Advisory. C'tee meets-Farmington, San Juan Coll. 2/22/16, 5:30pm, Cult. Ctr, Rm-77200. <u>http://bit.ly/108k1VL</u>

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For your Facebook Feed:

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