

Albuquerque Journal

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NEW MEXICO WATER QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER PETITION FOR ALTERNATIVE ABATEMENT STANDARDS FOR THE FORMER ST. ANTHONY MINE IN CIBOLA COUNTY, NM, WQCC 16-05(A) The New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) will hold a public hearing on May 9, 2017 at the New Mexico State Capitol building in Santa Fe to consider a Petition filed by United Nuclear Corporation for alternative abatement standards under Subsection 20.6.2.4103(F) for the former St. Anthony Mine located on the Cebolleta Land Grant, Cibola County, New Mexico. The affected property area is approximately 1,072 acres located approximately three miles east-southeast of Moquino and approximately 13 miles north of Laguna Pueblo. The St. Anthony Mine is located within Township 11 North, Range 4 and 5 West. The latitude and longitude of the four corners of the affected property area are: the northwest corner, 35.17 degrees north and -107.32 degrees west; the northeast corner 35.17 degrees north and -107.29 degrees west; the southeast corner, 35.15 degrees north and -107.29 degrees west; and the southwest corner, 35.15 degrees north and -107.32 degrees west. The Petition proposes alternative abatement standards for sulfate, fluoride, boron, uranium, radium, chloride, and total dissolved solids in the affected water-bearing zone of the Jackpile sandstone groundwater. The Petition includes proposed administrative controls to ensure that the affected area of Jackpile sandstone groundwater is not used as a potable water supply going forward. As one of the proposed administrative controls, the Petition contemplates that the New Mexico Environment Department will petition the New Mexico State Engineer to issue an Order under Subsection 19.27.5.13(A), prohibiting construction of wells in the affected property area in the water-bearing zone of the Jackpile sandstone groundwater. The New Mexico Environment Department has recommended that the Commission approve the Petition. The public hearing will begin immediately following the Commission's regular business meeting, which starts at 9 a.m. The Petition and the Department's recommendation may be obtained electronically or reviewed in person by contacting: Pam Castaneda, Administrator 1190 S. St. Francis Drive PO Box 5469 Santa Fe, NM 87502 Tel (505) 827-2425, Fax (505) 827-2836, E-mail: pam.castaneda@state.nm.us The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Section 74-6-4 of the Water Quality Act, the WQCC Adjudicatory Procedures at 20.1.3 NMAC, the Water Quality Regulations at 20.6.2 NMAC, and any Procedural Order or Scheduling Order issued by the WQCC or Hearing Officer. These documents, including a map of the affected property area, are available at <https://www.env.nm.gov/water-quality-control-commission/wqcc/>, or by contacting the WQCC Administrator. Technical Testimony: In order to present technical testimony at the hearing, a person must file a notice of intent to present technical testimony in WQCC No. 16-05(A) with the WQCC Administrator no later than April 28, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. The notice shall comply with the requirements of 20.1.3.18 NMAC. Participation by the General Public: Any member of the general public may present non-technical testimony at the hearing. No prior notification is required. A member of the general public may submit a written non-technical statement to the WQCC Administrator at any time prior

to the close of the hearing. Assistance: If any person requires assistance, an interpreter or auxiliary aid to participate in this process, please contact Pam Castaneda, WQCC Administrator at least 14 days prior to the hearing date at P.O. Box 5469, 1190 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87502, telephone (505) 827-2425 or email pam.castaneda@state.nm.us. (TDD or TTY) users please access the number via the New Mexico Relay Network, 1-800-659-1779 (voice); TTY users: 1-800-659-8331). Journal: April 7, 2017