

**MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR**

James C. Kenney, Cabinet Secretary

Jennifer J. Pruet, Deputy Secretary

NEWS RELEASE*For Immediate Release***Feb. 10, 2020***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.*

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Environment Department reviewing plan to investigate groundwater contamination at a former explosives manufacturer

HOBBS — The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is reviewing a Stage 1 Abatement Plan (Plan) to investigate and define the extent of contaminated groundwater at a former explosives manufacturer in Hobbs. NMED provides this notice pursuant to Subsection 4108 (A) of the New Mexico Ground and Surface Water Protection Regulations (20.6.2 NMAC).

Historic discharges from the former Ladshaw Explosives, Inc., facility in the Hobbs Industrial Air Park contributed to elevated nitrate concentrations in groundwater above the state groundwater standard of 10 milligrams per liter.

One of the four identified Responsible Parties submitted a Stage 1 Abatement Plan, which was required by NMED, on Jan. 10, 2020.

The Plan summarizes conditions at the site, including site history and previously conducted groundwater investigations. The Stage 1 Abatement Plan proposes steps to fully identify the source and extent of the groundwater contamination.

Once the Responsible Party completes the site characterization and a Final Site Characterization Report is approved by NMED, NMED will require a Stage 2 Abatement Plan that outlines strategies to clean up the groundwater contamination.

View the abatement plan at: <https://www.env.nm.gov/gwqb/public-notice/>. 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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