

**NEWS RELEASE***For Immediate Release***June 16, 2021**

*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 Stage 1 Abatement Plan to investigate contamination at Española dry cleaner**

**ESPAÑOLA** — The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is reviewing a Stage 1 Abatement Plan (Plan) that addresses chlorinated solvent contamination submitted by D&D Mountain Air Cleaners (D&D), located at 309 South Paseo de Oñate in Española. Chlorinated solvents are toxic chemicals historically used at dry cleaning facilities that can endanger human health and the environment in both liquid and vapor form.

Responsible parties – in this case, D&D Mountain Air Cleaners – are required to submit a Stage 1 Abatement Plan, which details an investigation that will define site conditions and provide the data necessary to select an effective clean-up option. D&D submitted the Plan on May 17, 2021 as required by NMED after groundwater quality data from the North Railroad Avenue Plume Superfund site led to the discovery of a separate groundwater contamination plume nearby that originates from D&D. Because the contamination is from a different source than the North Railroad Avenue Plume and does not overlap with that plume, this contamination is not part of the Superfund Site. NMED is committed to ensuring timely and complete clean-up of the newly discovered plume.

The Plan proposes to evaluate the extent of groundwater contamination as well as soil vapor concentrations and indoor air quality within the business to determine if there is a threat to the health of occupants. Based on current data and information available to NMED, groundwater contamination at this site does not impact any public drinking water systems. In addition, EPA conducted vapor intrusion sampling at buildings in the footprint of the plume and found no affected buildings.

By July 16, 2021, NMED will either approve the Plan or require D&D to address deficiencies and resubmit the Plan. Once D&D initiates and completes all work in the approved Plan to characterize the plume, NMED will require D&D to submit a Stage 2 Abatement Plan that includes a clean-up strategy. The Plan is available [here](#).

More information on this plume and the nearby Superfund Site is available [here](#).

For more information, contact Paul Chamberlain of the State Clean-up Program at 505-670-2571 or [paul.chamberlain@state.nm.us](mailto:paul.chamberlain@state.nm.us), or Justin Ball at 505-670-1428, [justin.ball@state.nm.us](mailto:justin.ball@state.nm.us). NMED is providing this notice of receipt of the Stage 1 Abatement Plan pursuant to 20.6.2.4108 (A) NMAC of the New Mexico Ground and Surface Water Protection Regulations (20.6.2 NMAC).

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