



NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
GROUND WATER QUALITY BUREAU
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN
(PIP)



Facility Name: Acme Hometown Cleaners (Former)

Facility Location: 901 East 10th Street
Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310

County: Otero

Responsible Party: Sandy Ochoa
Retha Ochoa

Agency: Ground Water Quality Bureau
Remediation Oversight Section

GWQB Action: Abatement

Bureau Contact: Paul Chamberlain
505-670-2571
Paul.chamberlain@state.nm.us

Main bureau telephone number:
(505) 827-2900

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 30, 2022

REVISION DATE: N/A

Karen Menetrey, Program Manager
Remediation Oversight Section
Ground Water Quality Bureau

Element 1 – Public Involvement Plan (PIP) Overview

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED or Department), Ground Water Quality Bureau (Bureau) has developed a Public Involvement Plan (PIP) for the former Acme Hometown Cleaners site, located at 901 East 10th Street, Alamogordo, New Mexico (Site). The Site was formerly a dry cleaning and laundromat facility, and the building has been vacant since 2016. The Site has entered the abatement process via the submission of a Stage 1 Abatement Plan in accordance with Subsections 4000 through 4115 of the Ground and Surface Water Protection regulations, 20.6.2 New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC).

The purpose of this PIP is to plan for providing public participation opportunities and information that may be needed for the community to participate in the abatement process for this facility. This PIP identifies information about the community and resources needed by the Bureau to incorporate community participation activities into the decision-making process. This PIP is developed in accordance with the Department's *Public Participation Policy* (Policy 07-13 or Policy), and incorporates the requirements of the Policy, as well as applicable regulatory and statutory public participation requirements.

This PIP implements the “elements” set forth in the Policy. Those elements include:

1. An overview of the Public Involvement Plan for the community affected by the activity.
2. Bureau contact names and contact information, specifically for Limited English Proficiency (LEP) language assistance services (e.g., translation, interpreters) or for disability accommodations.
3. A summary of the regulatory public participation framework associated with abatement actions.
4. A description of community/stakeholder groups based on results of a preliminary environmental justice (EJ) screening.
5. Details about planned public outreach activities.

In developing this PIP, community participation needs were assessed to ensure appropriate public outreach. This was accomplished by identifying whether there is a combination of environmental and demographic factors that may impact public participation (e.g., low-income community, minority community, LEP individuals, linguistically isolated households).

Public involvement associated with the abatement process occurs at different stages and in different forms. Public involvement activities required by statute or regulation are mandatory and subject to statutory or regulatory deadlines. Mandatory public involvement activities and associated time requirements relevant to this PIP are noted in the *Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities* at the end of this PIP.

The Bureau plans to conduct the public involvement activities related to the abatement process outlined in the *Table of Public Involvement Activities* below. The activity timeline and dates are tentative and subject to change.

Table of Public Involvement Activities

Activity	Date
News Release	November 2022 ^a
Placement of a hardcopy of the PIP in the local NMED office: District III – Alamogordo Field Office 811 East First St., Suite D Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310 575-437-7115	November 2022
Public Meeting	Not Applicable ^c
Public Hearing	Not Applicable ^c

^a In accordance with 20.6.2.4108.A NMAC, a new release will be issued within 30 days of filing the Stage 1 Abatement Plan.

^b In accordance with 20.6.2.4108.F NMAC, notice will occur at least 30 days prior to the meeting or hearing. This requirement only applies to Stage 2 Abatement Plans.

^c In accordance with 20.6.24108.F NMAC, a public meeting or hearing may be held if the Secretary of the Department determines there is significant public interest. This requirement only applies to Stage 2 Abatement Plans.

All notices for upcoming meetings or hearings will include a statement that any person who requires assistance, an interpreter, or an auxiliary aid to participate in the process may contact a specifically identified Department person to request those services. Requested interpretation services during the meeting and accommodations or services for persons with disabilities will be arranged to the extent possible.

This PIP is a “living” document that may be amended for numerous reasons, including the consideration of public comments and feedback.

Element 2 – Bureau Contact Information

PIP Specific Contacts

The Bureau contact for this site is:

Paul Chamberlain, Geoscientist
NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau
Harold Runnels Building
1190 S. Saint Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87502
Ros.general@env.nm.gov
Paul.chamberlain@env.nm.gov

Non-English Language Speaker Assistance

All public notices will contain a statement that non-English speakers may call the Bureau contact listed above and request language assistance in order to learn more about this facility or the abatement process. Arrangements may be made for document translation or interpretation related to the abatement process as necessary and as resources allow.

Individuals with Disabilities Assistance

All public notices will contain a statement that individuals with disabilities may call the Bureau contact listed above and request assistance needed to participate in activities associated with the abatement process.

The following information will be provided in public notices so that individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have difficulty speaking on the phone can contact the Bureau and ask questions about the activity or proceeding: Telephone conversation assistance is available through Relay New Mexico at no charge for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have difficulty speaking on the phone, by calling 1-800-659-1779 (English); 1-800-327-1857 (Spanish); TTY users: 1-800-659-8331.

Websites

Outreach materials and notices will include links to the following website, where the Bureau's public notices, and PIP information are posted:

- www.env.nm.gov/public-notices/
- www.env.nm.gov/news-releases/

Element 3 – Regulatory Framework for Public Participation Related to the Abatement Process

The public participation regulatory framework associated with the abatement process is identified in the *Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities* at the end of this PIP. The Table identifies activities subject to statutory or regulatory deadlines, the associated regulatory requirements, and the associated dates or time periods.

Element 4 – Description of Community/Stakeholder Groups Based on the EJSCREEN

EJSCREEN Summary

To provide for adequate public participation opportunities and meaningful involvement of persons in the abatement process, the affected communities must first be identified, informed

about proposed environmental actions affecting the community, and invited to share their comments and concerns. The EJSCREEN tool developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) helps identify communities that are low income, have minority populations, and have limited English proficiency that may benefit from a variety of approaches for notification and outreach communication. This information is used to help plan for the community's involvement in the public process for environmental activities or actions. In addition to the EJSCREEN results, the Bureau may consider additional information such as the U.S. Census Bureau website or NMED's EJ Mapping Tool.

The Bureau considers the affected community to be those persons living within a 4-mile radius of the Site. The results of the EJSCREEN American Community Survey (ACS) Summary Report (attached to this PIP) are summarized in the table below.

EJSCREEN Results for the Affected Community

Total population	33,111
Total number of households	13,514
Percent People of Color Population	44%
Percentage Hispanic population	35%
Percentage of the population by race	Population reporting one race: White: 84% Black: 4% American Indian: 1% Asian: 2% Pacific Islander: 0% Some Other Race: 5%
Total number of persons greater than the age of five who speak English "less than very well"	1,821
Percentage of persons greater than the age of five who speak English "less than very well"	6%
Total number of linguistically isolated households	503
Percentage of linguistically isolated households (Total number of linguistically isolated households ÷ total number of households) X 100	1.5%
Languages by percentage in linguistically isolated households	Spanish: 74%
Percent linguistically isolated population, New Mexico*:	5.4%
Per capita income	\$24,044
Per capita income, USA**	\$29,979

* U.S. Census Bureau. 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1602. Limited English-Speaking Households. https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/15_5YR/S1602/0400000US35 (date of access: 7/26/2018).

** U.S. Census Bureau. 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table S0201. Selected Population Profile in the United States. https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/15_1YR/S0201/0100000US (date of access: 7/26/2018).

Based on the EJSCREEN results regarding language proficiencies, the Bureau plans to conduct public outreach in accordance with the *Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities* at the end of this PIP.

Element 5 – Detailed Actions and Outreach Activities with the Affected Public

Public involvement activities required by statute or regulation for the abatement process are listed in the *Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities* at the end of this document.

Public Participation – Outreach Activities

In accordance with 20.6.2.4108 NMAC, the following outreach activities associated with the abatement process will be conducted for the Site:

- NMED will
 - For Stage 1 Abatement Plan activities
 - Place this PIP on the NMED website and in a nearby NMED field office; and
 - Post the news release on NMED website.
 - For Stage 2 Abatement Plan activities
 - The responsible party bears all responsibility to provide public notice outreach in accordance with Sections B and C of 20.6.2.4108 NMAC.
- The Responsible Party will
 - For Stage 1 Abatement Plan activities
 - NMED bears all responsibility to provide public notice outreach in accordance with Section A of 20.6.2.4108 NMAC.
 - For Stage 2 Abatement Plan activities
 - The Responsible Party bears all responsibility to provide public notice outreach in accordance with Section B of 20.6.2.4108 NMAC;
 - The Responsible Party will send notices by postal mailing and email;
 - The Responsible Party will publish newspaper notices; and
 - The Responsible Party will issue a public notice in English to a bilingual radio station serving the area where the abatement will occur.

Newspapers utilized in the notification process include:

- Statewide circulation (English and Spanish): Albuquerque Journal
- Local circulation (English): Alamogordo Daily News

Radio stations utilized in the public involvement process include:

- To be determined once the Site enters Stage 2 of the abatement process

Local, state, and federal government agencies, tribal entities, land grant officials and colonias will be notified about the abatement process. A list of the agencies and officials notified can be provided upon request.

Indian Tribes, Pueblos and Nations will be notified about the abatement action through the contacts maintained by the Indian Affairs Department at the following URLs:

<https://www.iad.state.nm.us/pueblo-tribes-and-nations/pueblos/>
<https://www.iad.state.nm.us/pueblo-tribes-and-nations/navajo/>
<https://www.iad.state.nm.us/pueblo-tribes-and-nations/apaches/>

Timelines and methods for submitting public comments are specified in the *Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities*. Abatement plan documents will be available from the Bureau's contact identified in Element 2 of this PIP.

Postal Mailing or E-Mailing of Notices to Persons on the Facility-Specific Mailing List

The Bureau solicits the names and contact information of interested parties with all public notices. The Bureau maintains those names on a Facility-Specific Mailing List and provides the individuals with information about regulatory activities for the facility. Individuals, organizations, and other interested parties are added to the mailing list as requested. All public notices will contain a statement directing interested individuals to contact the Bureau contact for this site if they want to be added to the facility specific mailing list.

Other means of outreach such as fliers announcing public comment periods and/or public meetings or hearings may be posted in locations throughout the community (e.g., local businesses, schools, libraries) and on the Department's website, at the Bureau's discretion after consideration of public interest and input.

PIP Contingency Plan

During a public health emergency or other unforeseen event outside the control of the Department, the Department will make every effort to ensure the public remains involved in and informed of the decision making and abatement processes. The purpose of this PIP Contingency Plan is in part to address circumstances when public spaces are closed because of potential human exposure risks. The Department will attempt to identify and utilize alternate methods of document delivery to the public and public viewing when conventional methods and locations are unavailable. When it is unsafe to utilize the physical PIP and document repositories, the

Department will consider utilizing electronic delivery methods deemed appropriate for the abatement action. While operating under the PIP Contingency Plan, the PN-2 will include a statement specifying that the PIP Contingency Plan is in effect and that, “instead of placing a copy of the PIP for this abatement action in a public location, NMED will make the PIP available to the community by sending the PIP by email or US mail to any community member requesting a copy. An individual may request a copy of the PIP utilizing the Bureau contact information in this public notice. When making such a request, please specify how you would like the document delivered. If you request a copy of a PIP, you will receive a revised PIP should the PIP be updated in the future.” During the times of potential human exposure risks and the resultant implementation of this PIP Contingency Plan, public meetings and hearings will only be held when or through means by which the Department can ensure the public’s health and safety and this PIP can be fully adhered to.

Attachments

- A copy of the EJSCREEN ACS Summary Report, and a map showing the area evaluated

Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities

[illegible]

Location: User-specified point center at 32.899909, -105.951250

Ring (buffer): 4-miles radius

Description: Buffer

Summary of ACS Estimates		2015 - 2019	
Population		33,111	
Population Density (per sq. mile)		390	
People of Color Population		14,460	
% People of Color Population		44%	
Households		13,514	
Housing Units		15,848	
Housing Units Built Before 1950		779	
Per Capita Income		24,044	
Land Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)		84.88	
% Land Area		100%	
Water Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)		0.12	
% Water Area		0%	
		2015 - 2019 ACS Estimates	Percent MOE (±)
Population by Race			
Total		33,111	100% 668
Population Reporting One Race		31,539	95% 1,494
White		27,684	84% 623
Black		1,308	4% 147
American Indian		440	1% 222
Asian		547	2% 205
Pacific Islander		0	0% 12
Some Other Race		1,560	5% 285
Population Reporting Two or More Races		1,571	5% 235
Total Hispanic Population		11,484	35% 425
Total Non-Hispanic Population		21,626	
White Alone		18,651	56% 565
Black Alone		1,168	4% 147
American Indian Alone		253	1% 121
Non-Hispanic Asian Alone		547	2% 205
Pacific Islander Alone		0	0% 12
Other Race Alone		31	0% 18
Two or More Races Alone		976	3% 206
Population by Sex			
Male		16,150	49% 496
Female		16,960	51% 344
Population by Age			
Age 0-4		2,164	7% 159
Age 0-17		7,422	22% 260
Age 18+		25,689	78% 442
Age 65+		5,885	18% 215

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.

N/A means not available. **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2015 - 2019

Location: User-specified point center at 32.899909, -105.951250

Ring (buffer): 4-miles radius

Description: Buffer

	2015 - 2019 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population 25+ by Educational Attainment			
Total	22,383	100%	390
Less than 9th Grade	884	4%	97
9th - 12th Grade, No Diploma	1,717	8%	175
High School Graduate	6,430	29%	225
Some College, No Degree	6,393	29%	225
Associate Degree	2,531	11%	156
Bachelor's Degree or more	4,428	20%	277
Population Age 5+ Years by Ability to Speak English			
Total	30,947	100%	647
Speak only English	25,581	83%	559
Non-English at Home ¹⁺²⁺³⁺⁴	5,366	17%	239
¹ Speak English "very well"	3,545	11%	218
² Speak English "well"	1,134	4%	134
³ Speak English "not well"	461	1%	101
⁴ Speak English "not at all"	226	1%	64
³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than well"	687	2%	119
²⁺³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than very well"	1,821	6%	172
Linguistically Isolated Households*			
Total	503	100%	75
Speak Spanish	372	74%	67
Speak Other Indo-European Languages	59	12%	32
Speak Asian-Pacific Island Languages	48	10%	31
Speak Other Languages	23	5%	43
Households by Household Income			
Household Income Base	13,514	100%	229
< \$15,000	1,825	14%	144
\$15,000 - \$25,000	1,704	13%	138
\$25,000 - \$50,000	4,091	30%	179
\$50,000 - \$75,000	2,364	17%	161
\$75,000 +	3,530	26%	215
Occupied Housing Units by Tenure			
Total	13,514	100%	229
Owner Occupied	8,095	60%	152
Renter Occupied	5,419	40%	184
Employed Population Age 16+ Years			
Total	26,580	100%	532
In Labor Force	15,682	59%	458
Civilian Unemployed in Labor Force	896	3%	150
Not In Labor Force	10,898	41%	297

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of anyrace.

N/A means not available. **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS)

*Households in which no one 14 and over speaks English "very well" or speaks English only.

EJSCREEN ACS Summary Report



Location: User-specified point center at 32.899909, -105.951250

Ring (buffer): 4-miles radius

Description: Buffer

	2015 - 2019 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population by Language Spoken at Home*			
Total (persons age 5 and above)	30,579	100%	581
English	25,379	83%	636
Spanish	3,923	13%	346
French	14	0%	17
French Creole	N/A	N/A	N/A
Italian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Portuguese	N/A	N/A	N/A
German	654	2%	212
Yiddish	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other West Germanic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Scandinavian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Greek	N/A	N/A	N/A
Russian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Polish	N/A	N/A	N/A
Serbo-Croatian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Slavic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Armenian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Persian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gujarathi	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hindi	N/A	N/A	N/A
Urdu	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Indic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Indo-European	0	0%	17
Chinese	139	0%	206
Japanese	N/A	N/A	N/A
Korean	36	0%	29
Mon-Khmer, Cambodian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hmong	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thai	N/A	N/A	N/A
Laotian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vietnamese	42	0%	59
Other Asian	175	1%	93
Tagalog	104	0%	51
Other Pacific Island	N/A	N/A	N/A
Navajo	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Native American	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hungarian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arabic	0	0%	17
Hebrew	N/A	N/A	N/A
African	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other and non-specified	110	0%	76
Total Non-English	5,200	17%	861

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.

N/A means not available. **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2015 - 2019.

*Population by Language Spoken at Home is available at the census tract summary level and up.

Acme Hometown Cleaners



5/24/2022

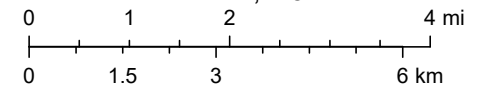


Buffer



Search Result (point)

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Esri, HERE, Garmin, Earthstar Geographics