New Mexico Environment Department

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Ground Water Quality Bureau

San Juan Generating Station Assessment Progress Update - February 2025

Overview

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)'s Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB) is actively overseeing site evaluation and remediation plan development to address environmental impacts at the San Juan Generating Station under HB 142 (2023).
The plan includes:

- **Groundwater Protection:** Monitoring, assessing, and enforcing cleanup of groundwater contamination.
- **Groundwater Contamination Risks and Cleanup:** Remediation efforts targeting pollutants like heavy metals and other contaminants that could move into regional aquifers.

Remediation Plan Development Steps

🚶 1. Site Inspection, Completed Fall 2024

- Inspect the status of the site and identify additional potential contaminant sources.

🔎 2. Data Assessment

- Review historical records and existing groundwater data to understand groundwater quality.
- Identify gaps in contamination monitoring and develop a monitoring well sampling plan.
- Cost estimates for additional groundwater monitoring wells.

💧 3. Installation of Groundwater Monitoring Wells

- Install wells in key locations on-site and down gradient off-site to assess contamination levels and impacts from site activities.

🧪 4. Water Sampling and Testing

- Test for heavy metals and other pollutants.
- Monitor water quality changes over time and compare to historical water quality data.

🔬 5. Evaluate Cleanup Efforts

- Assess the efficacy of existing contamination control methods (e.g., Shumway Arroyo Trench).
- Identify additional actions needed to reduce contamination spread.
- Develop a remediation plan to cleanup contamination.

📄 6. Reporting and Next Steps

- Share progress and findings with the **New Mexico State Legislature by July 1, 2025.**
- Ensure long-term groundwater protection and regulatory compliance.