



Public Notice No. 26-03

**NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
HAZARDOUS WASTE BUREAU
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO
APRIL 30, 2026**

NOTICE OF STATEMENT OF BASIS: PROPOSED REMEDY SELECTION AND 60-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR CORRECTIVE ACTION AT TECHNICAL AREA V GROUNDWATER AREA OF CONCERN AT THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY/ NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS OF SANDIA, LLC.

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) proposes to select a remedy for corrective action for the Technical Area V Groundwater (TAVG) Area of Concern (AOC) at the Sandia National Laboratory (SNL). The United States Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/NNSA) and National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC (NTESS) conducted a Corrective Measures Evaluation (CME) to evaluate remedial alternatives for cleanup of contaminated groundwater and submitted their assessment in a revised CME Report to NMED on May 8, 2024. NMED is proposing this action under the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act, NMSA 1978 §§ 74-4-1 through 74-4-17, and under the terms of the SNL Compliance Order on Consent (Consent Order), dated April 29, 2004. The TAVG AOC has been under investigation since the 1990s. Based on the information collected, NMED intends, pending public input, to select a remedy for corrective action at the TAVG AOC.

PUBLIC REVIEW OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

The Administrative Record for this proposed remedy selection consists of a Fact Sheet/Statement of Basis (FS/SOB), a Public Notice, the April 29, 2004 Compliance Order on Consent (Consent Order), the Current Conceptual Model and Corrective Measures Evaluation (CCM/CME) Report, and associated investigation reports, monitoring reports, work plans, correspondence, and other referenced supporting documents. The complete Administrative Record may be reviewed at the following location during the public comment period with prior appointment:

NMED – Hazardous Waste Bureau
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6313
(505) 476-6000
Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Contact: Naomi Gonzalez

A copy of the Public Notice and the proposed remedy are available electronically on the NMED website at: <https://www.env.nm.gov/hazardous-waste/sandia-national-laboratories/> under the link "Technical Area V (TA-V)" or may be reviewed at the location listed above during the public comment period. Any person seeking additional information regarding this notice, the CME, or the proposed remedy may also contact:

Neelam Dhawan, Permits Program Manager
NMED - Hazardous Waste Bureau
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6313
E-mail: neelam.dhawan@env.nm.gov
Telephone: (505) 476-6000

To obtain a copy of the Administrative Record or a portion thereof, in addition to further information, please contact Ms. Naomi Gonzalez at (505) 476-6000, or at the address given above. NMED will provide copies, or portions thereof, of the Administrative Record at a charge to the requestor.

NMED issues this public notice on **April 30, 2026**, to announce the beginning of a 60-day comment period that will end at **5:00 p.m. MDT, June 30, 2026**. Any person who wishes to comment on the proposed remedy selection should submit written or electronic mail (e-mail) comment(s) with the commenter's name and address to the address below. Only comments and/or requests received **on or before 5:00 p.m. MDT, June 30, 2026**, will be considered.

Neelam Dhawan, Permits Program Manager
NMED - Hazardous Waste Bureau
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6313
Ref: SNL TAVG Remedy Selection
E-mail: neelam.dhawan@env.nm.gov
Telephone: (505) 476-6000

A link to submit comments online may be found when you visit the facility website: <https://www.env.nm.gov/hazardous-waste/sandia-national-laboratories/#SNLTAV> Written comments must be based on the information available for review and include, to the extent practicable, all referenced factual materials. Documents in the Administrative Record need not be resubmitted, if expressly referenced by the commenter. Requests for a public hearing shall provide: (1) a clear and concise factual statement of the nature and scope of the interest of the person requesting the hearing; (2) the name and address of all persons whom the requester represents; (3) a statement of any objections to the selected remedy; and (4) a statement of the issues which the commenter proposes to raise for consideration at the hearing. NMED will provide a minimum of 30-day notice of a public hearing, if scheduled.

NEXT STEPS

NMED must ensure that the selected remedies are consistent with the Hazardous Waste Act (HWA), the Hazardous Waste Management Regulations (HWMR), and the Consent Order. All written comments submitted on this matter will become part of the administrative record. NMED will consider all written comments in formulating a final decision, and it may select a different remedy based on public comments. NMED will respond in writing to all written public comments received during the public comment period. This response will specify which provisions, if any, have been changed in the final decision and the reasons for the changes; and briefly describe and respond to all public comments received during the public comment period. All persons presenting written comments or who request notification in writing will be notified of the decision by mail. These responses will also be posted on the NMED website.

After consideration of all the written public comments received, NMED will select the appropriate remedy for the site based on information in the administrative record. In all cases, the Respondents will be provided by certified mail a written notice in accordance with the Consent Order. NMED will make the notice available to the public.

CONTACT PERSON FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

To learn more about RCRA Hazardous Waste Permit and the permitting process, or to be placed on a facility-specific mailing list, please reach out to the Bureau Contact provided above. NMED maintains a Public Involvement Plan (PIP) for permitted facilities to provide for public participation opportunities and information that may be needed for the community to participate in permitting actions. The SNL PIP may be viewed online at <https://www.env.nm.gov/hazardous-waste/sandia-national-laboratories/> or at NMED offices where the administrative record is accessible. NMED also maintains facility-specific mailing lists for persons wishing to receive associated notices for a permit action.

ARRANGEMENT FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Any person with a disability requiring assistance or auxiliary aid to participate in this process should contact the Bureau Contact listed above no less than 10 days prior to the end of the public comment period.

Telephone conversation assistance is available through New Mexico Relay Network at no charge for persons 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); TeleType (TTY) users: 1-800- 659-8331.

LANGUAGE SERVICES

Any non-English speaker may call the Bureau contact listed above and request language assistance in order to learn more about this class 3 permit modification request. Arrangements may be made for document translation or interpretation related to this permit modification as necessary and as resources allow.

Real-time translation is now available on the NMED website, including on the HWB SNL webpage. NMED's new Weglot translation tool has been implemented and uses artificial intelligence translation services to achieve high-quality machine translation in real-time for the entire NMED website. Please notice a small drop-down box at the top of webpages on the right-hand side. This drop-down can currently be used to display the website in Spanish, Vietnamese, and English.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

NMED does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age or sex in the administration of its programs or activities, as required by applicable laws and regulations. NMED is responsible for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning non-discrimination requirements implemented by 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972. If you have any questions about this notice or any of NMED's non-discrimination programs, policies or procedures, or if you believe that you have been discriminated against with respect to a NMED program or activity, you may contact:

Kate Cardenas, Non-Discrimination Coordinator
New Mexico Environment Department
1190 St. Francis Dr., Suite N4050
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM 87502
Phone: (505) 827-2855
Email: nd.coordinator@env.nm.gov

You may also visit our website at <https://www.env.nm.gov/non-employee-discriminationcomplaint-page/> to learn how and where to file a complaint of discrimination.