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PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN (PIP)

Air Quality Bureau Air Permit Application

Version 08.14.25

Date: February 12, 2026

Applicant: Acoma, LLC.

Facility Name: East Microgrid

Air Quality Permit Application Number: 10732

Location: The facility is 3.6 miles south of Santa Teresa, in Doña Ana County, New Mexico

Latitude: 31.8183

Longitude: -106.6792

1. Overview of Air Quality Bureau's plan of action for addressing the community's needs and concerns for processing Air Quality Permit Applications:

The New Mexico Environment Department (Department), Air Quality Bureau (aqb) developed this Public Involvement Plan (PIP) for the processing of air quality permit applications in accordance with the requirements at 20.2.72 NMAC for this facility. This air quality regulation does require public participation outreach throughout different stages of the permitting process. The aqb will meet the public participation requirements by following this PIP, which includes all applicable policy, regulatory and statutory public participation requirements.

In developing this PIP, community participation needs for this permitting action were assessed to ensure appropriate promotion of public outreach by identifying whether there is a combination of environmental and demographic factors (i.e., low-income community, minority community, limited English proficiency individuals, Linguistically Isolated Households, etc.) that may impact public participation. This assessment identifies community outreach needs and provides for public access opportunities above and beyond statutorily mandated requirements, and underscores the provision of adequate public access to information about this permit application.

As much as possible, public participation and informational activities related to this permit application will be held within the regulatory timelines outlined below.

- a. aqb regulations at 20.2.72 NMAC require that the application must be ruled complete or incomplete no more than 30 days after receipt, and that a public notice for this application must be published in a newspaper of general circulation where the facility is located. See section 4.c below for more information.
- b. The public notice contains a paragraph in Spanish directing Spanish speaking interested parties to call the aqb at (505) 629-3395 to speak to Spanish speaking staff for additional information regarding this permitting action.
- c. The aqb will provide a copy of the Completion Letter w/Legal Notice, and just attachment B of the completion letter template that has links for someone to view the application and PIP on our Bureau website Public Notice page as well as the hard copy of the application and public notice in English/Spanish to the NMED field office at:

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Las Cruces

2301 Entrada Del Sol
Las Cruces, NM 88001
Phone (575)-288-2050
Fax (575)-526-6162

- d. AQB regulations require that the public notice be sent to interested parties maintained on a mailing list. See Section 4.b below for more information.
- e. AQB regulations require that the public notice be sent to the “appropriate agency” as defined at 20.2.72 NMAC. See Section 4.e below for more information.
- f. In accordance with the evaluation of the site location and associated demographics, the Department has provided additional means for disseminating information, including translation of multiple documents to Spanish, including but not limited to the permit application and public notice, and posting of the public notice in a state-circulating newspaper, a local newspaper, and at various physical locations. In accordance with the evaluation of the site location and associated demographics, no additional means for disseminating information are planned at this time, but the Department continues to evaluate information during the review process to consider other means for disseminating information to the public.
- g. Public notice shall be followed by a 30-day public comment period that starts on the day that the notice is published in the newspaper. See Section 4.g below for details.
- h. AQB regulations require that the permit must be issued, issued subject to conditions, or denied within ninety (90) days the department deems the application administratively complete.

2. Contact list of AQB staff with phone numbers and email addresses:**a. AQB contact for questions about this application or PIP (included in public notices and outreach materials):**

Abra Ziegler
New Mexico Environment Department
Air Quality Bureau
525 Camino de los Marquez, Suite 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87505
505-699-7132
Abra.Ziegler@env.nm.gov

Electronic copies will be available at the following link, which will be included in public notices and outreach materials as appropriate: <https://www.env.nm.gov/public-notices/>. On that webpage, click on Dona Ana County and select Acoma, LLC East Microgrid.

b. Non-English Language Speaker Assistance and Accommodations

If the Department receives public comments in response to the public notice, the AQB may hold public meetings, open houses, stakeholder meetings, and/or a formal hearing depending on the interest in the application. Language assistance services may be arranged for translation of documents for meetings, for translators during meetings and for obtaining services for persons with disabilities. A phone-based interpretation service may be available for languages other than English.

The public notice provides contact information to request additional information in English and Spanish.

3. Description of the community/stakeholder groups:

To provide for adequate public participation opportunities and meaningful involvement of persons regarding this permit application and to address potential or existing environmental justice areas, 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 and minority populations that may benefit from a variety of approaches for notification and outreach communication.

Using the default 10-mile radius from the facility, the results of the EJScreen V2.3 ACS Summary Report¹ (attached) are listed in the two tables below. [[Archive EJ Screen | Population Demographics and Characteristics in NM](#)]

Population and Income Data			
Total Population ² :	150,047	Per capita income of community (2019-2023) ⁴ :	\$36,669
People of Color Population, % ² :	83	U.S. Per Capita Income ⁴ :	\$43,289
Total number of households ³ :	54,858	Total Percent ³ of Limited English-Speaking Households:	20%

¹The EJScreen tool was removed from the EPA website in February 2025. The data in this report is from an archived version hosted by Public Environmental Data Partners. Some data points are missing.

²Found in the EJScreen Community Report from EJScreen Version 2.3 (archived version)

³ U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey ([ACS](#)) 2019-2023 5-year estimates for Limited English-Speaking Households

⁴U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey ([ACS](#)) 2019-2023 5-year estimates for Per Capita Income

Population by Race or Ethnicity, %		Language in Limited English-Speaking Households as Indicated in Table Above - 20%	
White	17	Speak Spanish	97
Black	1	Speak Other Indo-European Languages	1
American Indian	0	Speak Asian Pacific Island Languages	1
Asian	2	Speak Other Languages	0
Pacific Islander	0		
Some Other Race	0		
Two or More Races	1		
Hispanic (any race)	78		

In addition, the following community or stakeholder groups have been identified: Environmental Law Center.

History of public involvement in air permitting: none, this is a new facility.

Current public involvement in air permitting: high profile facility, high public interest, comments have been received during the public notice open period ending 3/2/2026. Once the comment period closes, AQB will evaluate and address all comments.

It is important for the AQB to incorporate the linguistic and communication needs of this community when conducting public outreach and participation activities. To help accomplish this, the AQB will provide information in Spanish and in English, in public comment notices, public meeting notices (if applicable), and other announcements (radio broadcasts, brochures, signs, postcards, etc.) and strive to make public participation efforts as inclusive as possible within AQB budget and time limitations. Informational flyers shall be posted at the local post office, community center and public library that also describe public information repositories. The Las Cruces NMED field office will serve as access areas for the AQB to leave hard copies of important documents and information about how to comment on this permit application.

4. Detailed actions and outreach activities the AQB Permitting Section will take to reach the affected public:

a. Overview

Based on the demographics report discussed in the PIP, the history of public involvement at the facility and the facility background, basic information about public involvement opportunities will be made available in both English and Spanish. This information will include how to request materials in Spanish or to speak with AQB staff through an interpreter. Further details about public participation for this activity are outlined below.

The AQB maintains information regarding this air quality permit application at the following locations:

- i. **On the Air Quality Bureau website, see Section 2.a above.**
- ii. **At the District Office listed in Section 1.b above.**
- iii. **At the main office location:**
New Mexico Environment Department
Air Quality Bureau
525 Camino de los Marquez, Suite 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87505

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

AQB regulations require notification to persons who have expressed interest in applications. The AQB maintains a mailing list that includes individuals interested in permit applications from particular facilities or geographic areas. Notifications may be sent through physical mail and/or an email.

This list also includes addresses within fifty miles from the facility to the boundary of other states, Bernalillo County, or a Class I area.

c. Notices in the State Newspaper and Local Newspapers

The public notice for this permit application will be published in English in the Legal Section of the Albuquerque Journal and Las Cruces Sun News.

In addition, it will be published in Spanish in the Legal Section of the Albuquerque Journal and Las Cruces Sun News.

Albuquerque Journal:

English: <http://www.abqjournal.com/>

Las Cruces, NM/Las Cruces Sun News:

English: <http://www.lcsun-news.com/>

d. Mailing to the Governor or President of Indian Tribes, Pueblos or Nations

AQB regulations and the evaluation of the facility location and associated demographics, require notification to Tribes, Pueblos, or Nations about this permit application for facilities located within a specified distance.

Notification to Indian Tribes, Pueblos, or Nations within 10 miles is required from the applicant for the NSR. However, in accordance with NMED Public Involvement Plan Policy, the Department provided additional notification to those within the 10-mile radius.

There are no Tribes, Pueblos, or Nations within 50 miles of this facility.

e. Affected Local, State, or Federal Government Agencies, and Active Land Grants

AQB regulations require identifying and notifying local, state or federal government agencies about this permit application.

-US EPA Region VI, Elizabeth (Mary) Layton at r6airpermits@epa.gov & layton.mary@epa.gov

-State of Texas at AIRPERM@tceq.texas.gov

-Municipality: El Paso (5.3 mi) - Dionne Mack - El Paso City Manager, 300 N Campbell St. El Paso, TX 79901

-Village of Vinton: Andrea Carrillo - Village Administrator, 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton, TX 79821
acarrillo@vintontx.us

There are no Tribal Lands, Colonias, or Land Grants within 4 miles of the facility. However, AQB identified and notified the following communities within a 10-mile radius:

Colonias:

-Sunland Park (8.1 mi) - Mario Juarez - Infante - Sunland Park City Manager, 1000 McNutt Rd. Sunland Park, NM 88063

Land Grants: There are no active land grants within the 10-mile radius

f. Public Meeting Notices, Public Comment Notices, and Other Notices

AQB may hold public meetings, open houses, stakeholder meetings, and/or a formal hearing depending on the interest in the application. Based on historical information and the results of the initial screening, there is no public meeting planned at this time for this permit application. If it is determined that a public meeting will be required, notice will be provided to the community as follows:

- 1) Via a newspaper of general circulation in the area closest to the location of the facility.
- 2) Locations commonly frequented by the general public, such as a nearby post office, public library, or city hall.
- 3) All persons and organizations that have expressed interest and are on a list maintained by AQB.
- 4) The notices will be translated for non-English speaking participants, if required.
- 5) The notices will include information for requesting accommodations for those with disabilities as listed in item 2b above.

AQB will locate an appropriate venue based on the availability to the community to access the meeting, and the specific needs of the affected community (e.g., size of community, community locations, impacts, etc.).

AQB may reschedule the meeting due to inclement weather. If rescheduled, AQB will provide as much advance notice as possible and reschedule for an appropriate time and date.

Meetings will be scheduled to make them as accessible and user-friendly as practical, considering work schedules, dinner hours and other community commitments. To the extent possible, the meeting will be held at a location that is local and convenient, and meet American with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. In addition, whenever practical and appropriate, interpreters for limited-English speaking communities, or assistance for hearing-impaired individuals may be available. Information in public notices for a public meeting will adhere to AQB regulations, statutes and policies.

g. Public Comment Periods

AQB regulations require that all interested persons have thirty (30) days from the date the public notice is published to express an interest in writing in the permit application. If AQB receives written public comment before the end of the thirty (30) day public comment period, the analysis of the application will be made available for review for thirty (30) days on the Air Quality Bureau Website and at the NMED District office (address listed in Section 1.b above). The public notice and the analysis of the application review periods are not concurrent.

The PIP has been reviewed and approved by the AQB Bureau Chief.

DocuSigned by:

Dana Bahar

2/20/2026

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For Cindy Hollenberg
Bureau Chief
Air Quality Bureau

Date approved

Attachments: EJSCREEN archive printout and U.S. Census Bureau data sheets