



NMED Public Participation Policy 07-13

Public Involvement Plan for Solid Waste Facility Permit Application

Valencia Regional Landfill and
Recycling Facility
1600 Highway 6 NW, Los Lunas
New Mexico 87031

DocuSigned by:
Approved: Shirlene Sitton
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Shirlene Sitton
Chief, Resource Recovery Bureau

Resource Recovery Bureau
April 2026

1. Public Involvement Plan (PIP) Overview

The New Mexico Environment Department (Department) and the Resource Recovery Bureau (Bureau) developed this Public Involvement Plan (PIP) for the Solid Waste Facility Permit Application Evaluation for the Valencia Regional Landfill and Recycling Facility (VRLRF), located at 1600 Highway 6 NW, Los Lunas, New Mexico.

The Bureau encourages the public to learn about and get involved in regulatory decision-making opportunities for VRLRF. The purpose of this PIP is to provide opportunities for public participation and information that may be needed to participate in the permitting process related to this site.

This PIP integrates information about the community and identifies the resources needed by the Bureau to successfully incorporate community participation activities into the permitting process decision-making. The PIP identifies the Department staff and resources needed to accomplish these activities.

The permitting process may require public participation throughout different stages. The Bureau will meet the public participation requirements for the permitting process by following this PIP, which includes all applicable policy, regulatory, and statutory public notice and participation requirements.

In developing this PIP, community participation needs at the site 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 (refer to Element 4 of this PIP). This assessment identifies community outreach needs and provides opportunities for public access that exceed statutorily mandated requirements, underscoring the provision of adequate public access to information about the permitting process.

To the extent possible, public participation and informational activities related to the permitting process will be conducted within the timelines outlined in the table below. This timeline is tentative and subject to change; activities subject to statutory or regulatory deadlines are noted.

In the timeline for this permitting process, public comments may be submitted to the Bureau prior to the Bureau's determination that the Solid Waste Facility Permit Application ("Permit Application") is administratively complete. Upon determining that the Permit Application is administratively complete, the Department must hold a public hearing prior to a decision on the Permit Application. In accordance with Subsection B of Section 74-9-23 NMSA 1978 of the Solid Waste Act, the Department must provide notice of the mandatory public hearing on the Permit Application within 60 days of deeming an application administratively complete. Public hearings afford the public the opportunity to participate in the permitting process by providing sworn testimony and/or public comments (both written and verbal) before a hearing officer, who will then prepare a hearing report and recommendation to the Department Secretary regarding the fate of the Permit Application. The site for VRLRF is in a part of the state with a relatively large community of Spanish speakers nearby, and the Bureau will provide pertinent information in both English and Spanish in public hearing notices and related announcements. The hearing will be held in person and remotely, using internet video conferencing technology.

As deemed necessary based on knowledge of the surrounding community, arrangements may be made for interpretation services during the hearing, and requests may be made for accommodation for persons with disabilities. At any time during the permitting process, the Permit Application and relevant documents may be reviewed at the repository identified in Element 5 of this document.

More detailed information about planned Bureau outreach is available in this PIP.

Activity	Dates
Public notice of the filing of the Permit Application with the Resource Recovery Bureau (notice performed by Applicant)	February 6, 2026
Distribute PIP (website and repository)	April – May, 2026
Notice of Completeness Determination	To Be Determined (TBD)
Notice of Docketing and Appointment of Hearing Officer	TBD
Notice of Public Hearing on Permit Application (in English and Spanish) –	TBD – Posted to Department website at: https://www.env.nm.gov/public-notices/ TBD – Published in Valencia County News Bulletin TBD – Posted at Public Locations
Public Hearing Location: TBD	TBD

The Chief of the Bureau provides final approval of the PIP and amendments. This PIP is a “living” document that may be amended after considering public comments and feedback.

2. Contacts

If you have questions about the permitting process, site, or this PIP, please contact:

Daniele Berardelli
Permit Section Manager
New Mexico Environment Department Resource Recovery Bureau
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
Telephone: 505-670-2018
E-mail: daniele.berardelli@env.nm.gov

Non-English Language Speaker Assistance and Accommodations

Non-English speakers may call the Bureau contact listed in this PIP and request language assistance services, such as an interpreter, to learn more about the permitting process. Services may be arranged for translation of documents for public hearings, for interpreters during public hearings, and for obtaining services for persons with disabilities. A phone-based interpretation service may be available for languages other than English.

If any person requires non-English Language Speaker Assistance, assistance for an interpreter, or auxiliary aid (e.g., accommodations for persons who are disabled) to participate in public hearings related to the permitting process, please contact the Bureau at least fourteen (14) days prior to the hearing date:

Daniele Berardelli
Permit Section Manager
New Mexico Environment Department Resource Recovery Bureau
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
Telephone: 505-670-2018
E-mail: daniele.berardelli@env.nm.gov

TDD or TTY users please access the number via the New Mexico Relay Network, 1-800-659-1779 (voice); TTY users: 1-800-659-8331.

Department Websites

New Mexico Environment Department - <https://www.env.nm.gov/>
Resource Recovery Bureau - <https://www.env.nm.gov/solid-waste>

3. Regulatory Framework for Public Participation

Both federal and state laws govern the management of solid waste. The United States Congress enacted the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, an amendment to the Solid Waste Disposal Act of 1965, to ensure the safe management and disposal of municipal and industrial waste generated nationwide. Responsibility for the management of solid waste has been delegated from the federal government to the states. The State of New Mexico enacted the New Mexico Solid Waste Act in 1990 (NMSA 1978, Sections 74-9-1 through 74-9-43). The Solid Waste Act promotes several objectives, including the establishment of a comprehensive solid waste management program in New Mexico, the adoption of regulations pertaining to the management of solid waste, the issuance of permits for the construction and operation of solid waste facilities, and the protection of public health, safety, and welfare. Solid waste management regulations have been promulgated and revised on several occasions by the Environmental Improvement Board; the current regulations are contained in the New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) at 20.9.2 through 20.9.10 NMAC, 20.9.20 NMAC, and 20.9.25 NMAC. These regulations are referred to as the Solid Waste Rules (Rules). The most recent comprehensive revisions to the Solid Waste Rules were adopted in 2007.

The Bureau is responsible for oversight of the solid waste management program in New Mexico, including permitting of solid waste facilities, registration of small facilities and commercial waste haulers, enforcement, and training of certified solid waste facility operators. The Bureau reviews solid waste facility Permit Applications to assess compliance with the requirements of the Solid Waste Act and Rules. As part of the Permit Application process, Applicants are required to submit Vulnerable Area Assessments (VAA) for initial Permit Applications for landfills or transformation facilities, or for modifications of existing landfill permits that result in vertical or lateral expansion of the facility. VAAs examine the area within a four-mile radius of the geographic center of a facility and consider the economic status of households, population, and the number of regulated facilities. If the area surrounding a facility is deemed a “vulnerable area”, then additional community involvement actions must be taken in accordance with 20.9.3.8.D NMAC. Additional actions include a public meeting regarding the solid waste facility permitting action and preparation of a Community Impact Assessment if the Department Secretary determines that there is significant community opposition to the proposed facility or existing facility expansion.

Once the Bureau has completed its review of the Permit Application and it is deemed administratively complete, the Permit Application is moved into the hearing phase of the permitting process. As required by the Solid Waste Act, the Department holds public hearings on all Permit Applications for solid waste facilities. Deeming a Permit Application “administratively complete” does not mean that the Permit Application will be approved or a Permit will be issued without conditions. Rather, it simply means that the Applicant has addressed all the administrative requirements required by the Solid Waste Act and the Rules. Once the Division makes the completeness determination, a formal public hearing date will be set, and the Department Secretary will determine whether the Permit Application should be issued, issued with conditions, or denied after considering all testimony and comments provided by the Bureau, Applicant, and any other interested parties or persons at the hearing.

The Department provides notice of public hearings in accordance with all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements. In accordance with the Solid Waste Act (NMSA 1978, Section 74-9-22), notice is provided by the following methods: written notice is provided to adjacent property owners,

nearby governmental entities (municipalities, counties, tribes, and pueblos), and persons who make requests for public notice regarding specific Permit Applications; notice is published in a local newspaper as a legal advertisement and at another place in the newspaper designed to provide effective notice; and notice is posted at multiple locations in the vicinity of the facility. In accordance with the Publication of Notice Act (NMSA 1978, Section 14-11-10.2), the hearing notices are also posted on the Department's website.

It is common practice to provide notice of Permit Application hearings in both English and Spanish. Spanish versions of the notice are translated from English into Spanish by a certified translator. When appropriate, notice is provided in additional languages pertinent to the population in the vicinity of a solid waste facility. As an example, the Bureau used a Navajo-language certified court interpreter to translate public service announcements from English into the Navajo-language and record the announcements on CD for distribution to Navajo chapters and Navajo-language radio stations in the vicinity of McKinley County Transfer Station.

Facility Background

The VRLRF is an existing solid waste facility originally permitted in 2006 and is currently operating under solid waste permit numbers SWM-013229 & SWM-013230 (SP), issued by NMED on November 20, 2006. VRLRF is operated by Waste Management of New Mexico, Inc. (WMNM) within the remote region of Valencia County, New Mexico. VRLRF meets the definition of a "...publicly owned re-permitted existing landfill" under the New Mexico Solid Waste Rules. The Permit Renewal Application was received by the Bureau on November 13, 2025.

The applicant WMNM is seeking a permit for VRLRF to continue to accept municipal solid waste (residential and commercial), construction/demolition, industrial, and special waste. The facility operates five days a week, Monday through Friday, from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm and from 7:30 am to 1:00 pm on Saturdays, receiving approximately 150-200 tons of material per day. The landfill may operate outside scheduled operating hours to accommodate site preparation, inclement weather conditions, special projects, construction, internal operation/projects, maintenance, monitoring, and other special circumstances.

4. Affected Communities and Stakeholders

To provide for adequate public participation opportunities and meaningful involvement of persons in the permitting process, 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed the Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool (Version 2.3, Archived) (EJScreen), which helps identify low-income and minority communities that may benefit from various approaches for notification and outreach communication. This information is used to help encourage the community's involvement in the public process for environmental activities or actions. In this case, the activity is the consideration of permit issuance for a solid waste facility.

An EJScreen Multisite Report (Report) was generated using EJScreen for the area within a 4-mile radius of the Valencia Regional Landfill and Recycling Facility. The following information was obtained from the Report with State/US averages in parentheses:

- Total population: 76,205^{1,2}(2,117,522 / 331,449,281)²
- Number of households: 31,742^{1,2}(856,580 / 131,332,360)²
- Median Income: \$71,216^{1,2} (\$67,816 / \$81,604)²
- Percent low income: 64% (39% / 30%)
- Percent unemployed: 0% (6% / 6%)
- Percent with less than high school education: 28% (14% / 11%)
- Percent of people of color population: 61% (62% / 40%)
 - Percent Hispanic: 55%
 - Percent Black or African American (non-Hispanic, single race): 0%
 - Percent Asian (non-Hispanic, single race): 0%
 - Percent American Indian and Alaska Native (non-Hispanic, single race): 5%
 - Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic, single race): 0%
 - Other race (non-Hispanic, single race): 0%
 - Two or more races (non-Hispanic): 0%

¹Total population of the County

²U.S. Census Bureau ([Census Bureau Data](#))

Information from the Report (see Attachment 1) was used to conduct an assessment of the need for services targeted to individuals of limited English proficiency (LEP). The percentage of linguistically isolated households, i.e., all members age 14 years and over speak a non-English language and also speak English less than “very well” (have difficulty with English), is reported as 1. The linguistically isolated population in New Mexico is 6%; the linguistically isolated population in the United States is 5%.

It is important for the Bureau to consider the linguistic and communication needs of the affected community when providing notice of public hearings on solid waste facility permit applications. Based on the Report and the LEP assessment (see Attachment 2), the Bureau will provide information in Spanish and English when providing public announcements, such as for the notice of the public hearing on the Permit Application.

5. Detailed Public Participation and Outreach Activities for Solid Waste Facility Permit Application, Valencia Regional Landfill and Recycling Facility

The Bureau welcomes questions or comments on solid waste facility permit applications at any time during the permitting process. The Bureau evaluates all public comments, places the comments in the administrative record for the permitting action, and incorporates public input into the Bureau's comments on Permit Applications as appropriate.

Decisions regarding issuance, issuance with conditions, or denial of solid waste facility Permit Applications are not made by the Bureau. Rather, such decisions are made by the Department Secretary following a public hearing. The public is encouraged to participate in public hearings as formal parties providing technical testimony, through written or verbal public comments, or as observers. Any person who intends to provide a technical written statement or oral testimony shall file a Statement of Intent to Present Technical Testimony on or before the deadline in the Notice of Hearing, but in no event later than fourteen days prior to the hearing, in accordance with 20.1.4.300(B) NMAC. All testimony and comments provided at a public hearing are evaluated by a Hearing Officer, who prepares a written report and recommendation regarding Permit Application approval, approval with conditions, or denial for the Secretary's consideration.

The plans for facilitating public participation in the permitting action for the Valencia Regional Landfill and Recycling Facility are detailed below.

Public Notice Requirements per Applicable Laws

The Solid Waste Act (NMSA 1978, Section 74-9-22) and the Solid Waste Rules (20.9.3.8.G NMAC) address notice to be provided by the Applicant to the public regarding the submittal of a solid waste facility Permit Application. This notice is provided at the start of the permitting process and informs the public that the Bureau's review of the Permit Application has begun. It is common practice for Applicants to provide notice of the submittal of a Permit Application in English and Spanish. The Applicant provided notice in the following manner:

1. Notice was provided by certified mail to the owners of record, as shown by the most recent property tax schedule, and tax-exempt entities of record, of all properties:
 - a. within 100 feet of the property on which the facility is located or proposed to be located if the facility is or will be in a Class A or Class H County or a municipality with a population of more than 2,500 persons.
2. Notice was provided by certified mail to all municipalities and counties in which the facility is or will be located and to the governing body of any county, municipality, Indian tribe or pueblo when the boundary of the territory of the county, municipality, Indian tribe or pueblo is within 10 miles of the property on which the facility is proposed to be constructed, operated or closed.
3. Notice was provided to all parties and interested participants of record for a permit modification or renewal.
4. Notice was published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the facility is proposed to be constructed, operated or closed; this notice appeared in either the classified or legal advertisements section of the newspaper and at one other place in the

newspaper calculated to give the general public the most effective notice; notice was also provided to residents of each community that is or will be affected significantly by the existing or proposed solid waste facility at least once in one or more other media in a manner that effectively reaches a substantial number of members of each community, and where printed shall be printed in both English and Spanish.

5. Notice was posted in at least eight publicly accessible and conspicuous places, including the proposed or existing entrance to the property on which the facility is or is proposed to be located.

Note: The notice performed by the Applicant occurs before the Bureau receives a Permit Application and before the Bureau has an opportunity to determine if additional services are necessary to communicate with individuals of limited English proficiency (LEP).

After the determination that the Permit Application is administratively complete, the Department provides notice of public hearing. The Solid Waste Act (NMSA 1978, Section 74-9-23(B)) addresses notice for solid waste facility Permit Application hearings. NMSA 1978, Section 74-9-23(B) requires the performance of notice for a permit application hearing in the same manner as required in NMSA 1978, Section 74-9-22. Section 74-9-22 identifies the following actions for the performance of notice:

1. Notice provided by certified mail to the owners of record, as shown on the most recent property tax schedule, of all properties:
 - a. Within 100 feet of the property on which the facility is located (or proposed to be located) if the facility is (or will be) in a Class A or H county or a municipality with a population of more than 2,500 persons.
2. Notice must be provided by certified mail to all municipalities and counties in which the facility is (or will be) located and to the governing body of any county, municipality, Indian tribe, or pueblo when the boundary of the territory of the county, municipality, Indian tribe, or pueblo is within a 10-mile radius of the property on which the facility is (or is proposed to be) constructed, operated or closed.
3. Notice must be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in each county in which the property on which the facility is (or is proposed to be) constructed, operated or closed is located. This notice must appear in either the classified or legal advertisements section of the newspaper and at one other place in the newspaper calculated to give the general public the most effective notice and, when appropriate, must be printed in both English and Spanish.
4. Notice must be posted in at least four publicly accessible and conspicuous places, including the proposed or existing facility entrance on the property on which the facility is (or is proposed to be) located.

NMSA 1978, Section 74-9-23(B) requires additional actions associated with notice of hearing:

1. Notice must be provided to any person who makes a written request to the NMED for notice regarding a specific application.
2. Notice must be made within 60 days of the determination that an application is complete.

The Notice of Publication Act (NMSA 1978, Section 14-11-2) further requires that legal notices be published in daily, tri-weekly, semi-weekly, or weekly newspapers of general circulation that can be obtained by single copy in the county in which the notice is required to be published. Such newspapers, if published daily, must have been published in the county continuously and without interruption during the six-month period prior to the publication of notice; if published tri-weekly, semi-weekly, or weekly, the newspapers must have been published in the county continuously and without interruption for 26 consecutive weeks prior to the publication of notice. NMSA 1978, Section 14-11-10.2 requires state agencies to post their notices on agency websites.

Hearing notices will be provided in both English and Spanish. Spanish-language notices are translated from English into Spanish by a certified translator. Notice will be provided at least 30 days prior to a hearing.

Proposed Public Participation & Outreach Activities for Valencia Regional Landfill and Recycling Facility

The Applicant completed the required public notice for the Permit Application in February 2026. The Department will perform the following public participation and outreach activities during the review phase of the permitting process for the VRLRF Permit Renewal Application:

Information Repository: An electronic copy of the Permit Application is posted for public review through the Department website at: [Permitting and Registration \(nm.gov\)](https://www.nm.gov/Permitting-and-Registration). Scroll to the bottom of the page and look for the “Public Involvement Plans” heading and select the application link for the Valencia Regional Landfill and Recycling Facility.

The following public participation and outreach activities will be performed during the hearing phase (i.e., after the Permit Renewal Application is deemed administratively complete) of the permitting process for the VRLRF:

1. Mailing of Hearing Notice:

- a. The Department will provide notice by certified mail to property owners of record within 100 feet of the facility. As required by Subsection C of Section 20.9.3.17 NMAC, the Applicant will obtain property ownership information from the Lincoln County Assessor and will submit this information to the Bureau.
- b. The Department will provide notice by certified mail to the municipality and county in which the facility is located, and to all municipalities, counties, tribes, and pueblos located within 10 miles of the facility. The following governmental entities will be notified:
 - City of Albuquerque
 - Bernalillo County
 - Village of Los Lunas
 - Village of Bosque Farms
 - Pueblo of Laguna
 - Valencia County
 - City of Belen
 - New Mexico State Land Office

- Bureau of Land Management
 - Socorro County
 - Pueblo of Isleta
- c. The Department will provide notice by first-class mail or e-mail to potentially interested land grants.
 - d. The Department will provide notice by first-class mail or e-mail to other potentially interested persons (e.g., federal or state government agencies, persons who attended the most recent hearing regarding an application for a solid waste facility based on available Bureau records, etc.).
 - e. The Department will provide notice by first-class mail or e-mail to all persons who inform the Bureau that they have an interest in the pending Permit Application for the facility. Persons who inform the Bureau of their interest in a Permit Application will be added to an “interested persons mailing list” for the public hearing.
 - f. Mailed notices will be provided in English and Spanish.
2. **Publication of Hearing Notice:** The notice will be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the facility is proposed to be located. The Albuquerque Journal will be used for notice publication. The notice will be published in the classified or legal advertisements section of the newspaper and as a display advertisement at another location in the newspaper. The notice will be published in English and Spanish.
 3. **Physical Posting of Hearing Notice in Vicinity of Facility:** The Department will post hearing notices at a minimum of four (4) publicly accessible and conspicuous places, including the facility entrance. Provided permission is obtained for notice posting, the Department will post notice at libraries, community centers, senior centers, government offices, and/or post offices. Physically posted notices will be provided in English and Spanish.
 4. **Electronic Posting of Hearing Notice:** The hearing notice will be posted on the Department website at: [Permitting and Registration \(nm.gov\)](http://Permitting and Registration (nm.gov)). Electronically posted notices will be provided in English and Spanish.

In accordance with the Solid Waste Act requirement, all required notice actions associated with the public hearing will be performed within 60 days of the date the Permit Application is deemed administratively complete. Further, the Department will provide notice of the Permit Application hearing at least 30 days prior to the hearing.

Hearing Location and Scheduling

The public hearing for VRLRF will be held in-person and remotely using an internet video conferencing platform on a date, time, and place to be determined once the Permit Application is deemed administratively complete. In the event the Hearing Officer determines that a hearing will require more than one day to complete, the hearing will continue on subsequent days, and the hearing start times on the initial day and subsequent days may be adjusted accordingly.

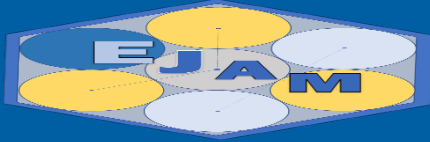
Contingency Plan for Unexpected Events

Should unexpected events prevent the public hearing from being held as scheduled after issuance of the hearing notice, the Department will use a variety of methods to inform the public of the postponement of the hearing. The Department may notify the public by postal mailings, e-mails, PSAs, and website postings.

***Attachment 1: Preliminary Screening
(EJScreen Multisite Report)***

EJSCREEN Community Report

This report summarizes environmental and residential population information for user-defined areas, and combines that data into indexes.



Summary of Analysis

Residents within 4 miles of this specified point
 (Site 1, ejam_uniq_id 1) centered at 34.721777, -107.042721
 Area in Square Miles: 50.27
 Population: 5

Environmental and Residential Population Indicators

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA	RATIO TO US AVG	RATIO TO STATE AVG
POLLUTION AND SOURCES							
Particulate Matter (PM 2.5 in ug/m3)	5.36	6.11	30	8.45	2	0.6	0.9
Ozone (ppb)	64.7	65.3	37	61.8	69	1.0	1.0
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2)	2.3	8.1	5	7.8	3	0.3	0.3
Diesel Particulate Matter (ug/m3)	0.051	0.187	26	0.191	8	0.3	0.3
Toxic Releases to Air	11	29	52	4,600	9	0.0	0.4
Traffic Proximity and Volume (daily traffic count/distance to road)	81,000	730,000	35	1,700,000	15	0.0	0.1
Lead Paint Indicator (% pre-1960s housing)	0.00%	0.19	0	0.3	0	0.0	0.0
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.00	0.34	0	0.39	0	0.0	0.0
RMP Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.04	0.20	53	0.57	28	0.1	0.2
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.0	1.2	0	3.5	0	0.0	0.0
Underground Storage Tanks (UST) indicator	0.0	2.8	32	3.6	27	0.0	0.0

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA	RATIO TO US AVG	RATIO TO STATE AVG
Wastewater Discharge Indicator (toxicity-weighted concentration/distance)	370	990,000	67	700,000	66	0.0	0.0
Drinking Water Non-Compliance	100.0	5.58	99	2.2	99	58.0	23.0
RESIDENTIAL POPULATION INDICATORS							
Demographic Index USA	2.45	2.16	68	1.34	87	1.8	1.2
Supplemental Demographic Index USA	2.68	1.62	85	1.64	92	1.6	1.5
% Low Income	64%	39%	84	30%	91	2.1	1.6
% in limited English-speaking Households	1%	6%	45	5%	59	0.2	0.2
% Unemployed	0%	6%	0	6%	0	0.0	0.0
% with Less Than High School Education	28%	14%	85	11%	90	2.5	2.1
% under Age 5	4%	5%	44	5%	38	0.6	0.7
% over Age 64	15%	20%	41	18%	45	0.8	0.8
% People of Color	61%	62%	45	40%	72	1.5	1.0

EJ Indexes

The summary and supplemental EJ indexes are a combination of environmental and residential population information. For each of the environmental indicators, there is an EJ Index and a Supplemental EJ Index. The indexes for a selected area are compared to those for all other locations in the state or nation.

SELECTED VARIABLES	PERCENTILE IN STATE	PERCENTILE IN USA
EJ INDEXES		
Particulate Matter Summary Index	44	8
Ozone Summary Index	52	90
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) Summary Index	9	12
Diesel Particulate Matter Summary Index	37	27
Toxic Releases to Air Summary Index	70	27

SELECTED VARIABLES	PERCENTILE IN STATE	PERCENTILE IN USA	
Traffic Proximity and Volume Summary Index	50	42	
Lead Paint Summary Index	0	0	
Superfund Proximity Summary Index	0	0	
RMP Proximity Summary Index	72	62	
Hazardous Waste Proximity Summary Index	0	0	
Underground Storage Tanks Summary Index	47	62	
Wastewater Discharge Summary Index	82	88	
Drinking Water Non-Compliance Summary Index	93	97	
Supplemental EJ Indexes			
Particulate Matter Supplemental Summary Index	51	4	
Ozone Supplemental Summary Index	65	93	
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) Supplemental Summary Index	8	5	
Diesel Particulate Matter Supplemental Summary Index	44	15	
Toxic Releases to Air Supplemental Summary Index	78	18	
Traffic Proximity and Volume Supplemental Summary Index	60	30	
Lead Paint Supplemental Summary Index	0	0	
Superfund Proximity Supplemental Summary Index	0	0	
RMP Proximity Supplemental Summary Index	80	54	
Hazardous Waste Proximity Supplemental Summary Index	0	0	
Underground Storage Tanks Supplemental Summary Index	54	53	
Wastewater Discharge Supplemental Summary Index	89	91	
Drinking Water Non-Compliance Supplemental Summary Index	97	99	
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	VALUE	RATIO TO US AVG	RATIO TO STATE AVG
Breakdown by Population Group			
% Hispanic or Latino	55%	3.1	1.2
% Black or African American (non-Hispanic, single race)	0%	0	0
% Asian (non-Hispanic, single race)	0%	0	0

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	VALUE	RATIO TO US AVG	RATIO TO STATE AVG
% American Indian and Alaska Native (non-Hispanic, single race)	5%	9	0.6
% Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic, single race)	0%	0	0
% Other race (non-Hispanic, single race)	0%	0	0
% Two or more races (non-Hispanic)	0%	0	0
% White (non-Hispanic, single race)	39%	0.7	1.1
Language Spoken at Home			
% speaking Non English languages at home	25%	NA	NA
% speaking Other Indo-European at home	1%	NA	NA
% speaking Asian and Pacific Island languages at home	0%	NA	NA
% speaking Other and Unspecified languages at home	3%	NA	NA
% speaking English at home	1	NA	NA
% speaking Spanish at home	21%	NA	NA
% speaking French at home	0	NA	NA
% speaking Russian, Polish or Other Slavic at home	0	NA	NA
% speaking Indo-European at home	0	NA	NA
% speaking Vietnamese at home	0	NA	NA
% speaking Other Asian and Pacific Island languages at home	0	NA	NA
% speaking Arabic at home	0	NA	NA
Language in Limited English Speaking Households			
% speaking Spanish (as % of limited English households)	100%	NA	NA
% speaking Other Indo-European languages (as % of limited English households)	0%	NA	NA
% speaking Asian-Pacific Island languages (as % of limited English households)	0%	NA	NA
% speaking Other languages (as % of limited English households)	0%	NA	NA
Breakdown by Sex			
% Males	45%	NA	NA
% Females	55%	NA	NA

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	VALUE	RATIO TO US AVG	RATIO TO STATE AVG
Health			
% with Disabilities	24%	1.8	1.4
% with Low Life Expectancy	23%	1.2	1.2
% with Heart Diseases	7	NA	NA
% of Adults with Asthma	12.00	NA	NA
% of Adults with Cancer (excluding skin cancer)	6.20	NA	NA
Age			
% under Age 5	4%	0.6	0.7
% under age 18	24%	NA	NA
% over Age 64	15%	0.8	0.8
Community			
Occupied Housing Units	2	NA	NA
Life Expectancy in Years	75	NA	NA
Per Capita Income	17,645	NA	NA
% Owner Occupied households	80%	NA	NA
Poverty			
% of Households below Poverty Level	26%	NA	NA
Features and Location Information			
Number of Sites Nearby (total unique)	1	NA	NA
Distance to Closest Site for Avg Person	2.7	NA	NA
Number of Sites Nearby (avg)	1.0	NA	NA
Number of Sites Nearby (max)	1	NA	NA
Distance to Closest Site	2.7	NA	NA
Count of National Priority List Superfund sites	0	NA	NA
Count of Treatment Storage Disposal Facilities (TSDF)	0	NA	NA
Number of Air Pollution Facilities	0	NA	NA
Number of Toxic Release Facilities	0	NA	NA
Number of Water Discharge Facilities	0	NA	NA
Number of Brownfields	0	NA	NA
Number of Schools	0	NA	NA
Number of Worship Places	0	NA	NA
Number of Hospitals	0	NA	NA

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	VALUE	RATIO TO US AVG	RATIO TO STATE AVG
Flag for Overlapping with Tribes	1	NA	NA
Flag for Overlapping with Impaired Waters	1	NA	NA
Flag for Overlapping with Non-Attainment Areas	0	NA	NA
Flag for Overlapping with CEJST Disadvantaged Communities	1	NA	NA
Flag for Overlapping with EPA IRA Disadvantaged Communities	1	NA	NA
Climate			
Estimated Fire Risk in 30 Years	1%	NA	NA
Estimated Flood Risk in 30 Years	0%	NA	NA
Critical Services			
Flag for Overlapping with Housing Burden Communities	0	NA	NA
Flag for Overlapping with Food Desert Areas	1	NA	NA
% Households without Broadband Internet	27%	NA	NA
% Households without Health Insurance	0%	NA	NA
Flag for Overlapping with Transportation Disadvantaged Communities	1	NA	NA
Other			
Total Population	5	NA	NA
Count of Population Age 25 up	4	NA	NA
Count of Households	2	NA	NA
Universe for % unemployed (denominator, count)	4	NA	NA
Count of Housing Units Built Pre 1960	0	NA	NA
Built housing units count (denominator for % pre 1960)	2	NA	NA
Count of Population for whom Poverty Status is Determined	5	NA	NA

Note: Diesel particulate matter index is from the EPA's Air Toxics Data Update, which is the Agency's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. This effort aims to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that the air toxics data presented here provide broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update>

Attachment 2: Limited English Proficiency Assessment

Attachment 2: Limited-English Proficiency (LEP) Assessment

Facility: Valencia Regional Landfill and Recycling Facility
Location: 1600 Highway 6 NW, Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031
Buffer: 4 miles
Date: April 15, 2026

Factor 1: The Number and Proportion of LEP Individuals Eligible to be Served or Likely to be Encountered in the Community of Concern

(See Attachment 1 EJScreen Multisite Report)

1. The percentage of limited English-speaking households in the affected community is 100%.
2. The percentage of limited English-speaking households in New Mexico is 6%.
3. Multiple, non-English languages are identified in the affected community, including (as a percent of limited English-Speaking Households):
 - Spanish language – 100%
 - Other Indo-European language – 0%
 - Asian-Pacific Island language – 0%
 - Other – 0%
4. Historical participation: The public hearing on the initial landfill permit (issued by the Bureau on November 20, 2006) was held in Belen, New Mexico, on April 24, 2006. The interested parties or participants of record were listed in the previous hearing officer's report, and the Bureau's Permit Conditions for the facility. VRLRF will provide a certified statement with the current Permit Application stating that no interested parties are known at the time of publication.

Factor 2: Frequency with which LEP Individuals Come in Contact with the Program

Frequency Assessment (“frequent” / “occasional” / “not frequent”) – not frequent

This determination is based on the performance of 34 permit application hearings from September 2011 to the present. In 2 cases, the Bureau determined that language interpretation services might be required at the hearing to serve LEP persons and provided such services. Interpretation services were used in one instance (Southwest Landfill, LLC), but the interpreter at the other hearing (Northwestern New Mexico Regional Landfill) was dismissed after one day, as hearing attendees were not using the service. Historically, interpretation services have been needed for one other facility (Camino Real Landfill).

Factor 3: Nature and Importance of the Activity or Service Provided by the Program

All solid waste facilities are required by the Solid Waste Act to obtain a permit prior to construction and operation. Permit applications are reviewed by the Bureau to assess compliance with regulatory and statutory requirements. Once the application is deemed “administratively

complete”, a mandatory hearing is held to gather testimony and comments from all interested persons and entities. The record created at the hearing is then forwarded to the Secretary of the Department for his consideration and determination regarding permit issuance.

The permitting activity is deemed by the Bureau to be “important” to the Department, the impacted community, and the State of New Mexico. The permitting activity is important to the Department because the permit establishes site-specific requirements that must be met to ensure protection of public health, welfare, and the environment. The permitting activity is important to the impacted community because poorly operated solid waste facilities have the potential to pose a public nuisance and adversely affect the quality of life of people living in the vicinity of the facility. The permitting activity is important to the State of New Mexico because the establishment of effective permits ensures that solid waste facilities will not impact the State’s limited groundwater resources, and waste disposal is conducted in a consistent manner throughout the State.

Factor 4: Resources Available to the Bureau for LEP Services and Associated Costs

In accordance with statutory requirements, public notice for permit hearings is conducted in English and Spanish, and the services of a certified translator are used for the creation of Spanish-language notices. This translation cost is included in the Bureau’s annual budget requests. As the need for additional translation/interpretation services has typically been limited, the Bureau has been able to provide these additional services within budgetary constraints.

LEP Services Plan:

Notice of the permit application hearing will be provided in English and Spanish, which is consistent with statutory requirements and past practice, and is appropriate given the demographic characteristics of the area surrounding the proposed facility. Although the program’s contact with LEP individuals has not been frequent, the proportion of LEP individuals within 4 miles of the facility is considerable. The Bureau is not planning to provide further LEP services at this time; however, if the Bureau receives requests for additional LEP services from members of the community, the Bureau will reconsider providing additional LEP services.