State of New Mexico
ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
and the
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

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Date: December 8, 2025

To: Sen. Jeff Steinborn, Chair, Radioactive & Hazardous Materials Committee
Rep. Joanne J. Ferrary, Vice Chair, Radioactive & Hazardous Materials Committee

From: Miori Harms, Uranium Mine Reclamation Coordinator, New Mexico Environment Department, Office of Strategic Initiatives
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Through: Secretary James C. Kenney, New Mexico Environment Department
Secretary Melanie Kenderdine, Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Re: 2025 Uranium Mine and Mill Site Reclamation Annual Report

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This report fulfills the House Bill 164 (HB 164) Section 1(A)(6) (2022) requirement that the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) report on an annual basis to the Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Committee on activities related to uranium mine and mill site reclamation in the preceding year. This includes NMED activities (Section 1) and activities undertaken by 10 other state departments and agencies identified in HB 164 (see Sections 2 and 3). NMED has also included the Office of the State Engineer in this report as their role is integral in the State of New Mexico's effort to protect human health and the environment. This report briefly summarizes the contributions of the 12 state agencies towards uranium cleanup.

The term "reclamation" in NMSA 1978 § 9-7A-16 is interpreted to be equivalent to cleanup, inclusive of surface water and groundwater remediation that fall under discharge permits and abatement plans regulated by NMED.

Section 1: Activities in Uranium Reclamation Undertaken by NMED

(1) Strategic Plan

HB 164 Section 1(A)(2) directs NMED to "*develop a strategic plan for the cleanup of uranium mine and mill sites throughout the state, including reclamation goals, timelines for the completion of cleanup activities at specific sites and anticipated funding requirements. The Department of Environment shall consult with the departments enumerated in Paragraph (1)*

of this subsection in the development of the strategic plan..." Activities below represent efforts to that end.

- **a.** NMED finalized the 2024 *Uranium Reclamation Strategic Plan* in conjunction with all listed agencies of HB 164 and the Office of the State Engineer. Follow-on road maps discussed in the report have not initiated but are expected to begin in 2026.
- **b.** The 2024 *Uranium Reclamation Strategic Plan* was provided to the Committee along with the November 2024 report. The plan includes appendices:
  - **i.** Appendix A - Site Reviews for former mines that include State permits
  - **ii.** Appendix B - Site Reviews for all former mills
  - **iii.** Appendix C - Gap Analysis Report (2023)
  - **iv.** Appendix D - Skills Matching Report (performed by the Department of Workforce Solutions in 2023)
  - **v.** Appendix E – Funding Opportunities

(2) Centralized Data Repository

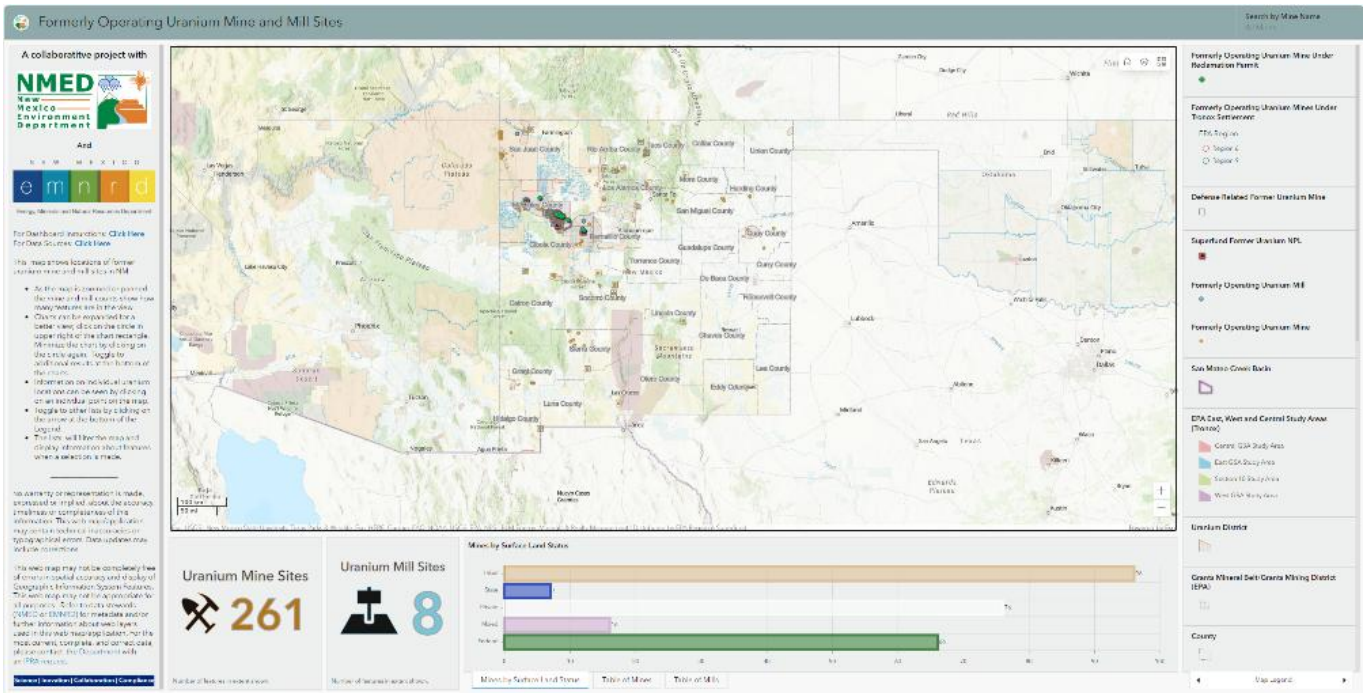
HB 164 Section 1(A)(5) charges NMED to "d*evelop, maintain, and update on a regular basis a centralized repository of uranium mine and mill sites and reclamation activities*." Activities below represent efforts to that end.

- **a.** NMED, in partnership with the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department's (EMNRD) Mining and Minerals Division (MMD), released the first iteration of an interactive web mapping tool to increase information access on formerly operating uranium mine and mill sites across New Mexico in January 2024. The *Formerly Operating Uranium Mine and Mill Sites dashboard* summarizes basic mine and mill site information, any relevant regulatory action under the two agencies' permitting tracks and displays information for all other sites and federal agencies where available.
- **b.** Pop-up windows for sites contain basic information as well as relevant links to site-specific resources located on NMED, Department of Energy (DOE), Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) site-specific websites.
- **c.** The information can be overlaid with land ownership information, legislative districts, mining district boundaries, and other helpful contextual layers that can be toggled on and off.
- **d.** The dashboard will continue to be updated on a regular basis after its public release to incorporate new information as it becomes available. This year over 817 new documents have been linked to various uranium mine and mill sites on the dashboard, including site-specific reports, mining district reports, EPA Environmental Justice Screen reports, and historic aerial photographs.
- **e.** Historic aerial photographs (n=53) were procured in FY24 and were georeferenced and uploaded to the dashboard for 15 sites. In FY25, 121 historic

aerial photographs were procured, georeferenced and uploaded to the dashboard for 18 sites. Obtaining this flyover imagery helps identify historic operations of abandoned uranium mines (which pre-date satellite imagery technology) and helps field staff locate environmental impacts of legacy activities.

f. A new streamlined data collection tool was developed for field staff to upload photos, radiation data, and location data in real time to the dashboard.

g. The dashboard has received over 11,000 views since it launched in January 2024.



Screenshot of the Formerly Operating Uranium Mine and Mill Sites dashboard

h. Approximately 4,000 uranium-related physical files stored at the Santa Fe office (61,500 pages), in the Mining Environmental Compliance Section, were digitized with Optical Character Recognition into PDF format. Identification of a database to host the files is in progress.

(3) Consultation and Coordination

HB 164 Section 1(A)(3) requires NMED to "*establish an effective mechanism for consultation and coordination with the federal government; Indian nations, tribes, and pueblos; communities impacted by uranium mining; and other states on uranium mine and mill reclamation activities*." Activities below represent efforts to that end performed by the Uranium Mine Reclamation Coordinators.

a. **Table 1** below shows coordination by NMED and EMNRD Uranium Mine Reclamation Coordinators with federal agencies, tribes and pueblos, and communities impacted by uranium mining and milling activities. Effective consultation and coordination are integral to all aspects of HB 164 implementation. Table 1 does not capture the entirety of NMED and EMNRD efforts but provides distinct examples demonstrating the nature of the work.

Table 1.

Coordination	NMED Coordinator comments/actions	EMNRD Coordinator comments/actions
Coordination with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)	• Incorporated Defense-Related Uranium Mines program work on federal lands (outside of the San Mateo Creek Basin) into the *Formerly Operating Uranium Mine and Mill Sites* dashboard. Assisting with coordination of site access to sites. • OSI field visit to Section 25 DRUM site November 13, 2024.	• Worked with the Department of Energy's Defense-Related Uranium Mines (DRUM) program to acquire data on Abandoned Uranium Mine Sites in NM. Obtained Verification and Validation (V&V) reports for all sites outside of the San Mateo Creek Basin. • Coordinating with DRUM program and Intera to attend V&V inspections for the purpose of finalizing the Uranium Coordinator Programs Site Assessments and Evaluations. • Awaiting future V&V reports on state and private lands (Fall 2024 and Summer 2025). • Participate in the relevant stakeholder consultation to define DOE jurisdiction within Tronox Mines
Coordination with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	• EPA - Region 6: Monthly status meetings regarding specific site reclamation statuses. • EPA - Region 9: Annual attendance at Office of Land and Emergency Management's stakeholders meeting.	• EPA - Region 6: Continued field visits and meetings regarding Tronox Superfund and waste repository work in the Ambrosia Lake area. Technical review and support for various Removal Site Evaluation and risk assessments. • Technical support in defining end land use and relevant risk based clean up criteria. • Coordinate site inspections with relevant contractors. • EPA - Region 9: Continued field visits and meetings regarding Quivira, Section 32/33 cleanup and the Red Rocks Landfill repository option. Stakeholder consultations and participation in community meetings. Review of alternative clean up technology.
Coordination with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)	• Attended virtual meetings on Homestake Mill site with co-regulating agencies (NRC, EPA, NMED) regarding a dual-domain study and a review of a groundwater model for the site.	• Homestake monthly progress updates • Still waiting for the NRC's jurisdictional determination on comingled waste on Rio Algom Mining LLC (RAML) property in Ambrosia Lake area.

Coordination with communities	• Field visits to the Moe No. 4, Red Bluff No. 1, and Schmidt Decline mine sites. • Attending EPA-led community meeting on the Homestake mill site status update for impacted groundwater and communities downgradient of the site. • Visited UNM laboratory classroom with industry consultants for career presentations.	• Jackpile community meeting in Laguna and Mine symposium conducted by UNM Metals Research Group. • Field visits to the Moe No. 4, Red Bluff No. 1, and Schmidt Decline mine sites.
Coordination with tribal communities	• Attended DOE's semiannual (virtual) presentation on the Bluewater Mill site updates to the Pueblo of Acoma. • Coordinated with NMED Tribal Liaison for additional matters.	• Navajo Nation EPA: Continued field visits and meetings regarding Quivira, Section 32/33 cleanup and the Red Rocks Landfill repository option.

(4) Workforce Development

HB 164 Section 1(A)(4) requires NMED to "*work with the Economic Development Department, Workforce Solutions Department and industry to establish uranium mine and mill reclamation as a target economic development industry in New Mexico, including the creation, coordination and promotion of a worker training and business development programs for reclamation activities.*" Activities below represent efforts to that end.

a. Coordination with the Economic Development Department

i. Economic Development Department listed Uranium Mine and Mill Reclamation as part of the "Sustainable & Green Energy" target industry in May 2023. They revised this in 2024 to designate Uranium Mine and Mill Reclamation as its own target industry.

ii. NMED representatives, including the Uranium Mine Reclamation Coordinator, were added to the Sustainable Economy Advisory Council (SEAC) and Task Force (SET Force) that were created in 2021 with the passage of Senate Bill 112, which called for "*a strategic plan to transition the state economy away from reliance on natural resource extraction.*" SEAC's stated role is to "*advise the sustainable economy task force on developing and achieving the goals of the strategic plan," as delineated in SB112.*NMED participated in monthly SET Force Meetings and in June 2024 presented on the job training pilot program: Careers Remediating Environmental Waste (CREW), to be hosted by San Juan College to support the development of a uranium mine reclamation workforce. (See next section for more detail).

b. Coordination with the Department of Workforce Solutions

i. NMED engaged Department of Workforce Solutions to administer federal funds for a pilot job training program hosted by San Juan College in Farmington, New Mexico. The three parties entered into a Memorandum of Understanding effective March 2024. The first pilot program will be weeks-long courses designed to help participants gain an understanding of the field and prepare them with skills to succeed in an environmental cleanup career. The participants will receive micro-credentials upon successful completion of each course.
ii. Funding for the program may be provided through Energy Transition Act funds for individuals impacted by the closing of the San Juan Generating Station in Farmington. Higher Education Department (HED) grant funding may also be available for individuals who do not qualify under any other funding.
iii. Funding for the program may also come from federal sources (Workforce, Innovation, and Opportunity Act) administered by the Department of Workforce Solutions and their sub-recipients and partners.
iv. Department of Workforce Solutions also conducted a Skills Matching Report (Appendix D of the Uranium Reclamation Strategic Plan) to determine if there is an existing New Mexico workforce with the skills needed to engage in an environmental cleanup career. They may update the data approximately every two years.
v. Department of Workforce Solutions agreed to support recruitment efforts for uranium positions at NMED.

c. Coordination with Industry

NMED solicited a Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for neglected uranium mine cleanup. A total of six contractors won the competitive bid process to address mines in the Grants Mining District. EA Engineering, Science and Technology (a public benefit company), INTERA Inc., and ENTACT LLC will be breaking ground this fiscal year on the Schmitt Decline, Moe No. 4, Roundy Manol Strip, Roundy Shaft, and Red Bluff No. 1 mines. Tetra Tech, Parsons Transportation Group, and Engineering/Remediation Resources Group-Los Alamos Technical Associates–Joint Venture are preparing sites for cleanup by FY27 if not sooner. The contracts are all 4 years, which is an approximate timeline to conduct cleanup.

d. Other Workforce Development Activities by NMED

i. Hired one high school-level intern
ii. Hired two undergraduate-level interns
iii. Engaged in conversations with other higher education institutions capable of hosting job training programs (Central New Mexico- Albuquerque)

iv. Provided a letter of support for GEM Environmental in their application to begin a new EPA-funded Brownfields Job Training Program in Albuquerque
v. Joined Santa Fe Community College's EPA Environmental Job Training Partners Group to help SFCC graduates find jobs in industry

(5) NMED and EMNRD's Reclamation Activities

a. **Table 2** below shows activities related to formerly operating mines under State permit performed by Mining Environmental Compliance Section of NMED and by the Mining and Minerals Division of EMNRD. For detailed site reviews: *www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/*.

Table 2.

Site Name	NMED (Mining Environmental Compliance Section) comments/actions	EMNRD (Mining and Minerals Division) comments/actions
Church Rock Mine	See Table 3, Church Rock Mine and Mill. *www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/home/church-rock-mine-site-review/*	
JJ No. 1 Mine	NMED reviewed quarterly water level monitoring and semi-annual water quality sampling conducted across five groundwater monitoring wells as part of ongoing monitoring. NMED approved the Stage 2 Abatement Plan in October 2023. NMED has finished reviewing the Stage 2 Abatement Report and reclamation activities under MMD and issued a letter on June 26, 2025 recommending the Permittee submit a formal, written petition to NMED ahead of submittal to the WQCC seeking approval of Alternate Abatement Standards (AASs). *www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/home/jj-no-1-mine-site-review/*	Final erosion control structure approved and implementation to begin in October 2024. These control measures will be monitored for one year in conjunction with two more vegetation surveys. Field inspection of cover-soil resistance to erosion and extent of re-vegetation was completed earlier in 2025. The site is anticipated to be eligible for release from the Mining Act in 2026.
Mount Taylor Mine	Rio Grande Resources Corporation (RGR) submitted a renewal and modification application for DP-61 on May 14, 2020. A draft discharge permit has been completed in 2024 but additional information from RGR was requested. NMED is performing a technical review of the application, and once NMED deems the application technically complete, NMED will update the draft discharge permit and submit it to the public for review, comment, and the opportunity for a hearing. Office of the State Engineer (OSE) has been closely involved with NMED's closure plan for the shafts and legacy dewatering wells. NMED approved in August 2025 a Site Investigation Plan that will allow	MMD is currently processing an application from RGR to revise the permit with an updated Closure/Closeout Plan, including the expansion of the South Waste Rock Pile/Disposal Cell and the closure designs for the two main production shafts. MMD is processing the application under Revision 22-1. A second round of Agency comments have been submitted to RGR and the Agencies are awaiting response. OSE may be preparing an MOU to address their jurisdiction in relation to shaft closure. Discharge Pipeline Removal workplan approved. Radiological investigation of pipeline sections was completed, Contaminated soils were removed, and a

Site Name	NMED (Mining Environmental Compliance Section) comments/actions	EMNRD (Mining and Minerals Division) comments/actions
	for the installation of additional groundwater monitoring wells and soil borings to help address data gaps in the current site conceptual model. www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/mt-taylor-mine-site-review/	final status survey was completed to confirm clean up meets standards. MMD further provided approval for late season revegetation of pipeline sections with an appropriate seed-mix.
Rio Algom Mining LLC (RAML) Mines	Section 17, 22, 24, 30, 30W, 33, and 35 mines are under Discharge Permits 67, 71, 264, and 362 and are under groundwater monitoring programs. The tailings impoundments and adjacent areas are under DP-169 which also has a groundwater monitoring program. RAML is under Stage 1 groundwater abatement with NMED. NRC is determining their jurisdiction of areas comingled uranium mining and processing. In 2020, NMED and MMD worked with RAML to develop an interim Closure Plan. This plan updated the Financial Assurance and established general practices to be implemented at final closure once the jurisdictional determination from NRC is complete. NMED Discharge Permits will also be updated at that time. Currently NMED is working with RAML to update the Sampling and Analysis Plan for groundwater monitoring under all DPs www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/home/rio-algom-mines-site-review/	The Old Stope Leach Permit, MMD Permit No. MK009RE overlaps with NMED groundwater discharge permits and abatement, the EPA 6 Tronox settlement, and potential litigation in the San Mateo Creek Basin. MMD holds interim joint Financial Assurance with NMED in the amount of $89,918,000 based off an interim Closure/Closeout Plan. As Tronox work moves forward on these sites, those areas will be taken out of the Mining Act permit through modifications and revisions. NMED and MMD are participating in discussions regarding the Tronox settlement and NRC jurisdiction. In 2025, a stakeholder meeting was held with EPA, NRC, DOE, NMED and MMD to further address jurisdictional issues.
St. Anthony Mine	United Nuclear Corporation (UNC) submitted a Stage 2 Abatement Modification and revised Closure/Closeout Plan in 2022. The plan is under review by NMED. MECS staff are in comment exchanges with permittee. Approval of Closure Plan will not be final until MMD determines that the Closeout Plan is technically complete. www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/home/st-anthony-mine-site-review/	The Mining Act permit application including the Closure/Closeout Plan was submitted to MMD in October 2022. Permit tracking No. MK006RE. MMD submitted the first round of comments to the operator in May 2023. UNC responded in August 2023. MMD submitted the second round of comments in March 2024. UNC responded to the second round of Agency comments July 2024. Agencies are still in review of UNC's response to the second round of comments pending additional submittals regarding this round. Financial Assurance for the site is being held in the amount of $71,892,417. Field inspection to the site earlier in 2025 confirmed adequate amount of soil materials within the mining complex, to ensure a positive reclamation material balance. Various recommendations about soil and erosion management, slope stability, among

Site Name	NMED (Mining Environmental Compliance Section) comments/actions	EMNRD (Mining and Minerals Division) comments/actions
		others were provided to UNC's consultant [Stantec Ltd and Intera]. A revised version of the Closure/Closeout Plan was produced by GE/UNC. The plan is up to 90% complete and was submitted for Agency review in October 2025.
Section 12 Mine	NMED serves as a consulting agency to EMNRD on the Section 12 Mine but does not regulate the site. In 2024 NMED participated in calls with MMD and the Responsible Party. *www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/section-12-mine-site-review/*	The Section 12 Mine is currently under reclamation through a Director's Order with MMD which was signed in January 2020. Due to loss in assets in the trust, the 2021 Approved drawings had to be modified. The latest versions of the Reclamation Plan and the Construction Drawings were submitted August 2024. Currently the agencies are in review of these documents.
Section 27 Mine	MMD and NMED sent a joint letter in October 2022 requesting the supplemental Closeout Plan that follows current uranium cleanup guidance and NMED requested a Stage 2 Abatement Plan Proposal. UNC responded to the joint letter in December 2022. The surface reclamation requests by MMD were agreed upon. The NMED Abatement Plan Proposal will require more discussion. UNC submitted a Supplemental Characterization Workplan in October 2023. A revised workplan was submitted in May 2024 and approved by NMED and MMD. UNC is currently conducting the supplemental characterization work. *www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/home/section-27-mine-site-review/* *In October 2025, UNC initiated surficial and subsurface radiological investigations at three mines adjacent to Section 27 Mine.*	

b. **Table 3** below shows activities related to formerly operating mills under State permit performed by Mining Environmental Compliance Section of NMED and by the Mining and Minerals Division of EMNRD.

Table 3.

Site Name	NMED (Mining Environmental Compliance Section) comments/actions	EMNRD (Mining and Minerals Division) comments/actions
Ambrosia Lake West Mill	Under Nuclear Regulatory Commission and NMED regulatory action, Rio Algom Mining LLC (RAML) conducts radon monitoring and groundwater monitoring at the site. *www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/home/ambrosia-lake-west-mill-site-review/*	EMNRD does not regulate Ambrosia Lake West mill sites but can provide technical assistance to NMED upon request.
Ambrosia Lake (Phillips) Mill	DOE Legacy Management is the primary regulator and manager of the site and monitors disposal cell performance in	EMNRD does not regulate Ambrosia Lake (Phillips) mill sites but can provide technical assistance to NMED upon request.

Site Name	NMED (Mining Environmental Compliance Section) comments/actions	EMNRD (Mining and Minerals Division) comments/actions
	accordance with NMED regulations and processes, and NRC general license provisions. www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/ambrosia-lake-disposal-site-review/	
Bluewater Mill	NMED provides technical support to DOE Legacy Management on site monitoring and repair activities. www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/home/bluewater-mill-site-review/	EMNRD does not regulate the Bluewater mill site but can provide technical assistance to NMED upon request.
Church Rock Mine and Mill	The NRC made a final licensing decision in February 2023 to permit placing the mine waste within the mill tailings disposal area. NMED will be participating in Consent Decree negotiations with EMNRD, EPA, NRC, UNC-GE, and Navajo Nation EPA on the design and implementation of disposing uranium mine waste on the tailings impoundment. www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/home/church-rock-mill-site-review/	Technical review of soil radiological investigation data and corresponding removal site evaluation (RSE). Ongoing clean up technology screening.
Homestake Mill	NMED assisted EPA in updating background radiation levels surrounding the site in a June 2023 study. NMED began working with EPA on a 2024 technical dual-domain study on the back-diffusion of groundwater constituents. Fieldwork for Phase I was completed, and the EPA Phase I report was received August 12, 2024. It has been reviewed and NMED is working with EPA on edits. Phase II field work was recently completed in September 2025. Phase III was canceled and a comprehensive report with the combined Phase I and II results will be delivered by the end of 2025. NMED conducted site inspections, attended meetings with local communities, NGOs, NRC and EPA. NMED also conducted water sampling under a cooperative agreement with DOE for downgradient communities of the Bluewater and Homestake mills. In early 2025 DOE, NMED, EPA, and NRC participated in an audit of Homestake's Groundwater Flow and Contaminant Transport Model. NMED also has recently reviewed a Monitored Natural Attenuation workplan and Plume Stability report submitted to EPA by Homestake in mid-2025. NMED has finished the review and will submit comments to EPA on the Plume Stability report in the coming weeks. NMED will also be focusing on renewing	EMNRD does not regulate mill sites but can provide technical assistance to NMED upon request.

Site Name	NMED (Mining Environmental Compliance Section) comments/actions	EMNRD (Mining and Minerals Division) comments/actions
	Discharge Permit 200 (DP-200) for the Homestake site in 2026. www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/home/homestake-mill-site-review/	
L-Bar Mill	NMED provided technical assistance to DOE Legacy Management, the primary regulator and manager of the site. www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/home/l-bar-mill-site-review/	EMNRD does not regulate L- Bar Mill Site but can provide technical assistance to NMED upon request.

Section 2: Activities in Uranium Reclamation Undertaken by EMNRD/MMD

Pursuant NMSA 1978 § 9-5A-11, EMNRD's Uranium Mine Reclamation Coordinator performed the following activities:

(1) Strategic Plan
Worked closely with NMED in finalizing the 2024 *Uranium Reclamation Strategic Plan*.

(2) Centralized Data Repository and Dashboard
- **a.** Worked with NMED Uranium Mine Reclamation Coordinator and IT personnel to maintain the current version of the data repository and associated dashboard of *Formerly Operating Uranium Mine and Mill Sites*.
- **b.** Worked to grow the data repository, site inventory, site reclamation statuses, and associated dashboard of *Formerly Operating Uranium Mine and Mill Sites*.

(3) Consultation and Coordination
See Table 1. Table content represents coordination or consultation performed by the Uranium Mine Reclamation Coordinator and does not present all work performed by the Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) section of EMNRD which permits and enforces all reclamation work for sites with an identified Responsible Party.

(4) MOA - NMED and the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources, Mining and Minerals Division, entered into a Memorandum of Agreement establishing cooperative procedures to accomplish safeguarding, remedial design and remedial action oversight of abandoned uranium mines (AUMs). This comes in the form of coordination on landowner access agreements, technical issues and environmental compliance.

(5) EMNRD-Permitted Mine Sites in Reclamation
See Table 2 (mines) and Table 3 (mills).

The **New Mexico Abandoned Mine Land Program** (NM AML), part of the Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) Mining and Minerals Division (MMD), provides technical direction, cultural resources management, NEPA guidance, and input on NMED's uranium reclamation effort. The NM AML Program has been safeguarding and reclaiming abandoned mines in New Mexico for over 40 years and are applying their experience to the

abandoned uranium mine effort. Their technical team consists of professional engineers, archaeologists, geologists, water resource professionals, and biologists who provide direct input on abandoned uranium project direction, direct NMED contractors, review project technical deliverables, and provide support for field activities, including sampling and construction.

Section 3: Activities in Uranium Reclamation Undertaken by Coordinating Agencies

The **New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs** (NMDCA) and the State Historic Preservation Officer reviews state and federal undertakings that have the potential to affect historic properties in compliance with state cultural property statutes and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. In 2025, NMDCA participated in multi-agency conversations. No applicable projects were submitted for review.

The **New Mexico Department of Game and Fish** (NMDGF) provides technical guidance for reclamation projects focusing on recommendations for ways to avoid or minimize potential impacts to wildlife during reclamation activities and on how to improve and enhance wildlife habitat within the reclamation site. In 2025, the NMDGF consulted with NMED and EMNRD on the St. Anthony and JJ No. 1 mine permits. NMDGF also attended site visits with EMNRD.

The **New Mexico Department of Health** (NMDOH) coordinates with NMED to conduct well water sampling events for general analyte testing and refers uranium or radioactive elemental testing requests to NMED. In 2025, there were nine water fairs around the state. NMDOH also reviewed the Annual Report.

The **New Mexico Department of Transportation** (DOT) supports the Uranium Reclamation Program by assisting with transportation issues such as conducting weight analysis for potential restrictions based on structure limits where applicable, posting signage as necessary to indicate potential restrictions and provide public awareness, and reviewing site specific documents and other technical support as requested. In 2025, DOT did not have any applicable projects to review as no permits for uranium reclamation involving highway transportation were submitted to the State.

The **New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions** (DWS) supports the Uranium Reclamation Program by applying its existing programs to partner agency efforts, including, but not limited to, NMED and EMNRD. DWS promotes uranium reclamation careers for unemployed and underemployed workers to aid in relevant training program availability and workforce readiness. Additionally, DWS coordinates with agencies to fund job training and recruitment programs to aid industries, higher education institutions, and local governments in supporting uranium cleanup opportunities. In 2025, DWS met with NMED, employers, and San Juan College created a job-training program. A Memorandum of Understanding between NMED, DWS, and San Juan College was signed in spring 2024 to set up a weeks-long job training program called Careers Remediating Environmental Waste (CREW). However, no registrants applied.

The **New Mexico Indian Affairs Department** (IAD) supports the Uranium Reclamation Program by assisting with consultation, collaboration and communication as per the State Tribal Collaborations Act. In 2024 IAD contributed to review of the draft Strategic Plan and the draft Annual Report. In 2025 the IAD Tribal Environmental Program Coordinator will work to ensure expanded outreach, engagement and collaboration with the Nations, Tribes, Pueblos, Indigenous peoples and stakeholders.

The **Office of Natural Resources Trustee** (ONRT) supports the Uranium Reclamation Program by collaborating on the analysis and sharing of data used to measure impacts of uranium mills and mines on New Mexico's natural resources. In addition, ONRT collaborates with State, Tribal, and Federal entities on natural resource restoration activities when funds are available. In 2024 and 2025 ONRT collaborated with State, Tribal, and Federal entities on uranium-related natural resource damage assessments. ONRT also participated in a multi-agency effort to identify a pilot uranium mine cleanup project. In FY25 ONRT staff organized site visits to uranium mill and mine sites in the Grants Mining District.

The **Office of the State Engineer** (OSE) supports the Uranium Reclamation Program by implementing institutional controls on well drilling where appropriate, issuing well permits associated with uranium reclamation, restoration, and remediation in cooperation with NMED's efforts to protect human health and the environment, and regulating the issuance of well drilling permits. Additionally, OSE approves all well drilling and plugging plans within the state of New Mexico. OSE remains involved in the closure of two large shafts at the Mt. Taylor Mine. In 2025 OSE participated in a multi-agency effort to identify a pilot uranium mine cleanup project.

The **State Land Office** (SLO) supports the Uranium Reclamation Program by coordinating on compliance issues at former uranium mines on State Trust Lands. SLO remains involved in discussions with EPA Region 6, NMED, and EMNRD regarding uranium contamination on state trust lands (Section 2 and 36) in the Ambrosia Lake subdistrict. In 2025 SLO provided all site access agreements (Right of Entry, Right to Traverse) necessary to begin assessment and cleanup of three mines: Moe No. 4, Red Bluff No. 1, and Schmitt Decline mines.

Section 4: Spending in Preceding Fiscal Year

NMED

In fiscal year 2025 (FY25; July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025), four appropriations supported the planning, administration, and oversight of uranium reclamation and cleanup.

- Senate Bill 1 (2022 SS), Section 6 (G)(4) - for planning, administration, and oversight of uranium mine remediation and cleanup.
    - Budget: $50,000
    - Expended: $50,000 (100%)
    - Recurring appropriation, transitioned to General Fund in FY24.

- Senate Bill 1 (2022 SS), Section 15 (I)(2) - for planning, administration, and oversight of uranium mine remediation and cleanup.
    - Budget: $360,000
    - Expended: $360,000 (100%). $131,000 (36%) was utilized in place. $229,000 (64%) was transferred for uranium-related purposes to the Mining Environmental Compliance Section.
    - Recurring appropriation, transitioned to General Fund in FY24.

A total of 100%, or $410,000, of the available funds were used in FY25 to support uranium mine reclamation efforts, including expenditures for personnel, contracts, vehicles, equipment, travel, training, and outreach. Remaining unspent funds were due to inability to hire support positions, contract delays, underspending of encumbered funds, and inability to process procurements.

EMNRD

In FY25, one appropriation supported the planning, administration, and oversight of uranium reclamation and cleanup.

- Senate Bill 1 (2022 SS), Section 14 (C)(6) - for planning, administration, and oversight of uranium mine remediation and cleanup
    - Budget: $180,000
    - Expended: $163,644 (91%)
    - Recurring appropriation, transitioned to General Fund in FY24.

A total of 91% of the funding available was used in FY25 to support uranium mine reclamation efforts, including expenditures for personnel, equipment, a vehicle, travel, and training. Contractor-related spending began in FY24 and is expected to continue through FY28 through four-year professional service contracts executed in FY24.

Section 5: Uranium Mine Reclamation Revolving Fund

HB 164 (2022) created the Uranium Mine Reclamation Revolving Fund. No money has been appropriated for this fund, and the balance remains at zero.

In the future, deposits to the fund may be used for cleanup activities including site assessments, safeguarding, surface reclamation, revegetation, and groundwater remediation, where appropriate. Pursuant to HB 164, deposits can be from “appropriations, gifts, grants, donations and money received by the department of environment or the energy, minerals and natural resources department from the federal government or other state agencies and other sources for conducting uranium mine and mill reclamation activities.”

Section 6: Special FY26 Fund for Neglected Contaminated Site Cleanup

- House Bill 2 (2025 Regular) Section 5, Special Appropriations, (203) for the investigation and remediation of neglected contaminated sites for expenditure in FY2026 allowed for a $20M appropriation over one fiscal year, expiring June 30, 2026. Approximately $12M is projected to go toward neglected uranium mine cleanups.
- A multi-agency effort identified multiple pre-prioritization sites for neglected uranium mine cleanup projects. The New Mexico SLO, NMED, EMNRD, NMDCA, DFA, and GSD coordinated efforts to ensure the cleanups began in July 2025. All other listed agencies will be informed and consulted as needed or during recurring biannual uranium reclamation meetings.
- Multiple pilot sites identified included the Moe No. 4, Schmitt Decline, and Red Bluff No. 1 mines (including adjacent sites: Roundy Manol Strip and Roundy Shaft). Additional sites have been identified for FY27 cleanup, as detailed in the FY26 Q1 report.
- Cleanup will be dependent on available funding, primarily tied to one-time funding in FY26. Recurring for contractors in future years is limited to a total of $127,000 annually.