New Mexico Environment Department



Water & Natural Resources Committee

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Neglected Contaminated Sites and Abandoned Uranium Mine Remediation Funding Update

Spend Plan Update

- $20M Special Appropriation:
  - $2M for contract support to identify potential responsible parties and take appropriate legal action.
  - $6M for cleanup of Tucumcari Truck Terminal and the former Aerex Refinery in San Juan County.
  - $12M to address uranium mine sites with no responsible party and where the site is not eligible for cleanup under other state or federal programs.

Contaminated Sites Update

- $6M for cleanup of Tucumcari Truck Terminal and the former Aerex Refinery in San Juan County.
  - Tucumcari Truck Terminal soil and groundwater contaminated with petroleum wastes; hazardous building materials (asbestos, lead-based paint)
  - Contractor: Daniel B. Stephens and Assoc.
  - Timeline
    - Oct.-Nov. 2025: soil investigation
    - Dec. 2025: hazardous building materials abatement
    - Feb.-March 2026: contaminated soil excavation

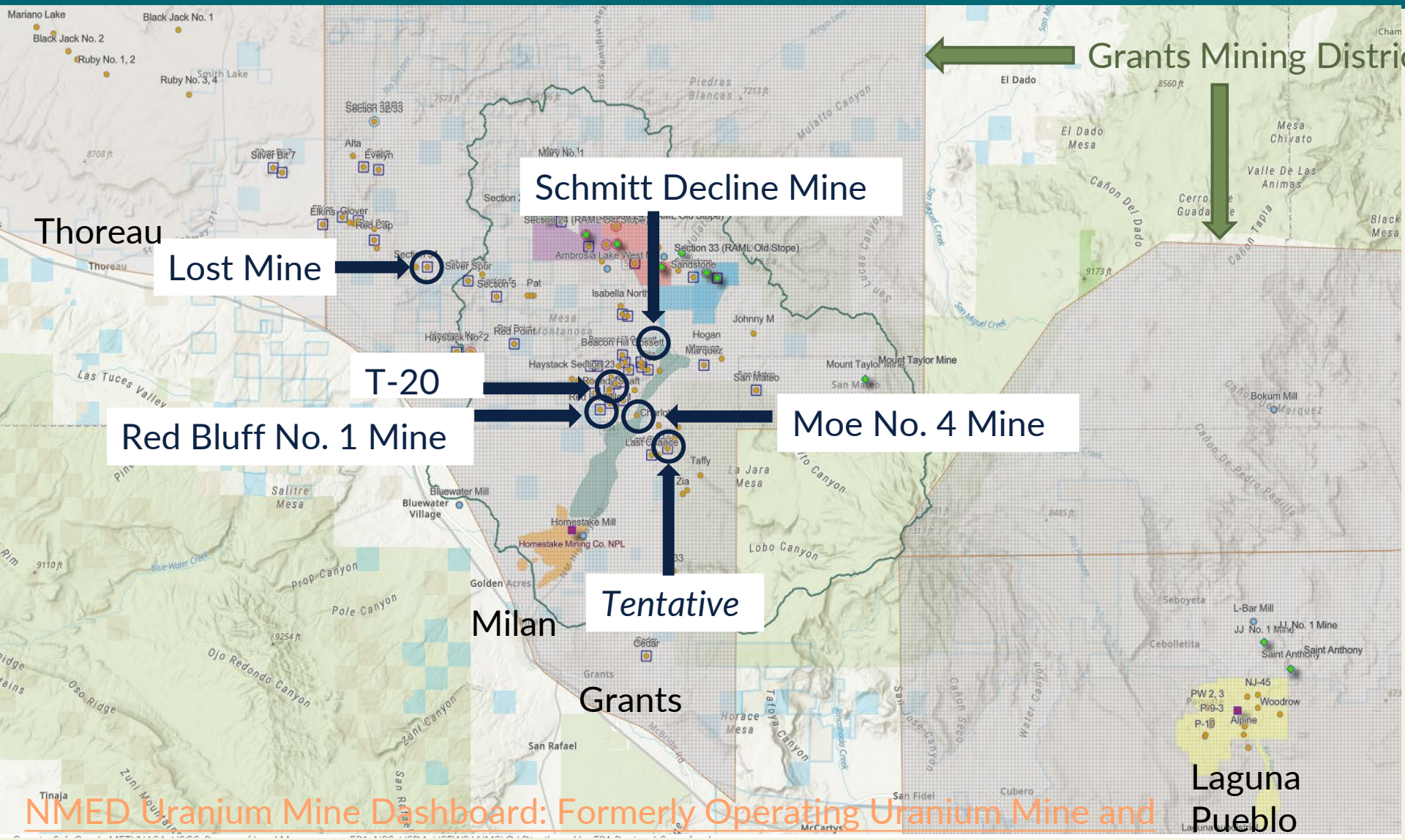
Contaminated Sites Update

- $6M for cleanup of Tucumcari Truck Terminal and the former Aerex Refinery in San Juan County.
  - Aerex Refinery soil and groundwater contaminated with petroleum wastes
  - Contractor: EA Engineering, Science, and Technology.
  - Timeline:
    - Nov.-Dec. 2025: Remedial Action Plan preparation.
    - March-May 2026: Contaminated soil excavation.

Uranium Mine Update

- $12M to address abandoned uranium mine sites.
  - Six cleanup contractors hired for Grants Mining District.
    - EA (a public benefit company), INTERA, and ENTACT will be breaking ground this fiscal year on the Schmitt Decline, Moe No. 4, and Red Bluff No. 1 mines.
    - Tetra Tech, Parsons, and Engineering/Remediation Resources Group-Los Alamos Technical Associates–Joint Venture preparing sites for cleanup next FY.
  - The contracts are all 4 years, which is an approximate timeline to conduct cleanup.

Neglected Uranium Mine Cleanups



NMED Uranium Mine Dashboard: Formerly Operating Uranium Mine and Mill Site in New Mexico

Moe No. 4 Uranium Mine





- Approximately $4M for surface reclamation
  - Contractor: INTERA Inc.
  - Timeline:
    - May-June 2026: Reclamation and site closeout.

Schmitt Decline Uranium Mine







- Approximately $1.9M for surface reclamation
  - Contractor: EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC (“EA”)
    - March-June 2026: Reclamation and site closeout.

Red Bluff No. 1 Uranium Mine

- Approximately $1.2M for surface reclamation
  - Contractor: ENTACT LLC
    - March-June 2026: Reclamation and closeout.





- Site is located on the edge of a bluff, showing exposed ore-bearing formation (gray rock).
- It is a dry mine (no groundwater impact) located on state trust land.

Next Steps

- There are over 348 (= 302 + 46) sites in New Mexico without a responsible party:
  - 302 neglected contaminated sites plus an unknown number of former dry cleaner sites.
  - 46 neglected abandoned uranium mine sites.
  - Consider a sustainable funding for site remediation which helps protect and revitalize communities.