



**NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**  
GROUND WATER QUALITY BUREAU  
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN  
(PIP)



**Facility Name:** Los Alamos County – White Rock Wastewater Treatment Facility

**Facility Location:** 600 Overlook Road  
White Rock, NM  
Sections 3 and 4, Township 18N, Range 07E  
Sections 33 and 34, Township 19N, Range 07E

**County:** Los Alamos

**Responsible Party:** Jennifer Baca, Engineering Associate  
Los Alamos County Department of Public Utilities  
1000 Central Avenue, Suite 130  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

**Agency:** Ground Water Quality Bureau  
Pollution Prevention Section

**GWQB Action:** Permitting – Renewal and Modification  
DP-907

**Bureau Contact:** Gerald Knutson, Environmental Scientist & Specialist A  
(505) 827-2996  
gerald.knutson@state.nm.us

Main bureau telephone number:  
(505) 827-2900

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 2, 2020

**REVISION DATE:** N/A

/s/ Pamela E. Homer for Steve Pullen

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**Steve Pullen, Manager**  
**Pollution Prevention Section**

## Element 1 – Public Involvement Plan (PIP) Overview

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED or Department), Ground Water Quality Bureau (Bureau) has developed this PIP for the application for renewal and modification of the Ground Water Discharge Permit for the County of Los Alamos – White Rock Wastewater Treatment Facility. The permit for this facility is referred to as DP-907.

The purpose of this PIP is to plan for providing public participation opportunities and information that may be needed for the community to participate in the permitting process for this facility. This PIP identifies information about the community and resources needed by the Bureau to incorporate community participation activities into the decision-making process. This PIP is developed in accordance with the Department’s *Public Participation Policy* (Policy 07-13 or Policy), and incorporates the requirements of the Policy, as well as applicable regulatory and statutory public participation requirements.

This PIP implements the “elements” set forth in the Policy. Those elements include:

1. An overview of the Public Involvement Plan for the community affected by the activity
2. Bureau contact names and contact information, specifically for Limited English Proficiency (LEP) language assistance services (e.g., translation, interpreters) or for disability accommodations
3. A summary of the regulatory public participation framework associated with discharge permits
4. A description of community/stakeholder groups based on results of a preliminary environmental justice (EJ) screening
5. Details about planned public outreach activities

In developing this PIP, community participation needs were assessed to ensure appropriate public outreach. This was accomplished by identifying whether there is a combination of environmental and demographic factors that may impact public participation (e.g., low income community, minority community, LEP individuals, linguistically isolated households).

Public involvement associated with discharge permits occurs at different stages and in different forms. Public involvement activities required by statute or regulation are mandatory and subject to statutory or regulatory deadlines. Mandatory public involvement activities and associated time requirements relevant to this PIP are noted in the *Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities* at the end of this PIP.

The Bureau plans to conduct the public involvement activities related to the permitting process outlined in the *Table of Public Involvement Activities* below. The activity timeline and dates are tentative and subject to change.

### Table of Public Involvement Activities

Activity	Date
<b>Application Notice (PN-1)</b> See <i>Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities</i> at the end of this PIP for details.	February 2020 (anticipated)
<b>Placement of a hardcopy of the PIP in the local NMED office:</b> NMED Española Office 712 La Joya Street Española, NM 87532 (505) 753-7256	January 2020
<b>Notice of availability of draft permit (PN-2)</b> See <i>Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities</i> .	Within 60 days of determining the application is technically complete. Date to be determined

All notices for upcoming meetings or hearings will include a statement that any person who requires assistance, an interpreter, or an auxiliary aid to participate in the process may contact a specifically identified Department person to request those services. Requested interpretation services during the meeting and accommodations or services for persons with disabilities will be arranged to the extent possible.

This PIP is a “living” document that may be amended for numerous reasons, including the consideration of public comments and feedback.

## Element 2 – Bureau Contact Information

### PIP Specific Contacts

The Bureau contact for this discharge permit is:  
 Gerald Knutson, Environmental Scientist & Specialist A  
 NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau  
 P.O. Box 5469, Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469  
 (505) 827-2996 / gerald.knutson@state.nm.us

### Non-English Language Speaker Assistance

All public notices will contain a statement that non-English speakers may call the Bureau contact listed above and request language assistance in order to learn more about this permit or the permitting process. Arrangements may be made for document translation or interpretation related to the permitting process as necessary and as resources allow.

## **Individuals with Disabilities Assistance**

All public notices will contain a statement that disabled individuals may call the Bureau contact listed above and request assistance needed to participate in activities associated with the permitting process.

The following information will be provided in public notices so that hearing-impaired callers can contact the Bureau and ask questions about the activity or proceeding: Toll-free numbers are available for TDD or TTY users to access the New Mexico Relay network (for deaf or hearing-impaired callers), 1-800-659-1779; TTY users: 1-800-659-8331.

## **Websites**

Outreach materials and notices will include links to the following website, where the Bureau's public notices and PIP information are posted:

Ground Water Quality Bureau – <https://www.env.nm.gov/gwqb/public-notice/>

## **Element 3 – Regulatory Framework for Public Participation Related to the Permitting Process**

The public participation regulatory framework associated with the permitting process is identified in the *Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities* at the end of this PIP. The Table identifies activities subject to statutory or regulatory deadlines, the associated regulatory requirements, and the associated dates or time periods.

## **Element 4 – Description of Community/Stakeholder Groups Based on the EJSCREEN**

### **EJSCREEN Summary**

To provide for adequate public participation opportunities and meaningful involvement of persons in the permitting process, 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, have minority populations, and have limited English proficiency that may benefit from a variety of approaches for notification and outreach communication. This information is used to help plan for the community's involvement in the public process for environmental activities or actions. In addition to the EJSCREEN results, the Bureau may consider additional information such as the U.S. Census Bureau website or NMED's EJ Mapping Tool.

The Bureau considers the affected community to be those persons living within a 4-mile radius of the discharge site. The results of the EJSCREEN American Community Survey (ACS) Summary Report (attached to this PIP) are summarized in the table below.

**EJSCREEN Results for the Affected Community**

Total population	5,900
Total number of households	2,214
Percentage minority population	24%
Percentage Hispanic population	17%
Percentage of the population by race	Population reporting one race: White: ..... 91% Black: ..... 0% American Indian: ..... 2% Asian: ..... 3% Pacific Islander: ..... 0% Some Other Race: ..... 1%
Total number of persons greater than the age of five who speak English “less than very well”	176
Percentage of persons greater than the age of five who speak English “less than very well”	3%
Total number of linguistically isolated households	27
Percentage of linguistically isolated households (Total number of linguistically isolated households ÷ total number of households) X 100	1.2%
Languages by percentage in linguistically isolated households	Spanish: ..... 0% Other Indo-European languages: ... ..... 0% Asian-Pacific Island languages: ..... 100% Other languages: ..... 0%
Percent linguistically isolated population, New Mexico*:	5.4%
Per capita income	\$46,793
Per capita income, USA**	\$29,979

\* U.S. Census Bureau. 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1602. Limited English Speaking Households. [https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/15\\_5YR/S1602/0400000US35](https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/15_5YR/S1602/0400000US35) (date of access: 7/26/2018).

\*\* U.S. Census Bureau. 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table S0201. Selected Population Profile in the United States. [https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/15\\_1YR/S0201/0100000US](https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/15_1YR/S0201/0100000US) (date of access: 7/26/2018).

Based on the EJSscreen results regarding language proficiencies, the Bureau plans to conduct public outreach in accordance with the *Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities* at the end of this PIP.

## **Element 5 – Detailed Actions and Outreach Activities with the Affected Public**

Public involvement activities required by statute or regulation for this permitting action are listed in the *Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities* at the end of this document.

### **Public Participation – Outreach Activities**

The Bureau will conduct the following outreach activities during this permitting process:

- Placement of this PIP on the Bureau website and in nearby NMED field office
- Postal mailing and email notices
- Newspaper notices
- Notice posted on NMED website

Newspapers to be utilized in the notification process include:

- Statewide circulation (English): Albuquerque Journal
- Local circulation (English): Los Alamos Monitor – Los Alamos County

Local, state, and federal government agencies, tribal entities, and land grant officials will be notified about the permitting process. A list of the agencies and officials notified can be provided upon request.

Indian Tribes, Pueblos and Nations will be notified about the permitting action through the contacts maintained by the Indian Affairs Department at the following URLs:

<http://www.iad.state.nm.us/apaches.html>

<http://www.iad.state.nm.us/navajo.html>

<http://www.iad.state.nm.us/pueblos.html>

Because of the proximity of the Pueblo of San Ildefonso, a courtesy email will be sent to the environmental director or manager of the Pueblo of San Ildefonso.

Timelines and methods for submitting public comments are specified in the *Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities*. Final discharge permit documents will be available from the Bureau's contact identified in Element 2 of this PIP.

### **Postal Mailing or E-Mailing of Notices to Persons on the Facility-Specific Mailing List**

The Bureau solicits the names and contact information of interested parties with all public notices. The Bureau maintains those names on a Facility-Specific Mailing List and provides the individuals with information about regulatory activities for the facility. Individuals, organizations, and other interested parties are added to the mailing list as requested. All public notices will contain a statement directing interested individuals to contact the Bureau contact for this permit if they want to be added to the facility specific mailing list.

Other means of outreach such as fliers announcing public comment periods and/or public meetings or hearings may be posted in locations throughout the community (e.g., local businesses, schools, libraries) and on the Department's website, at the Bureau's discretion after consideration of public interest and input.

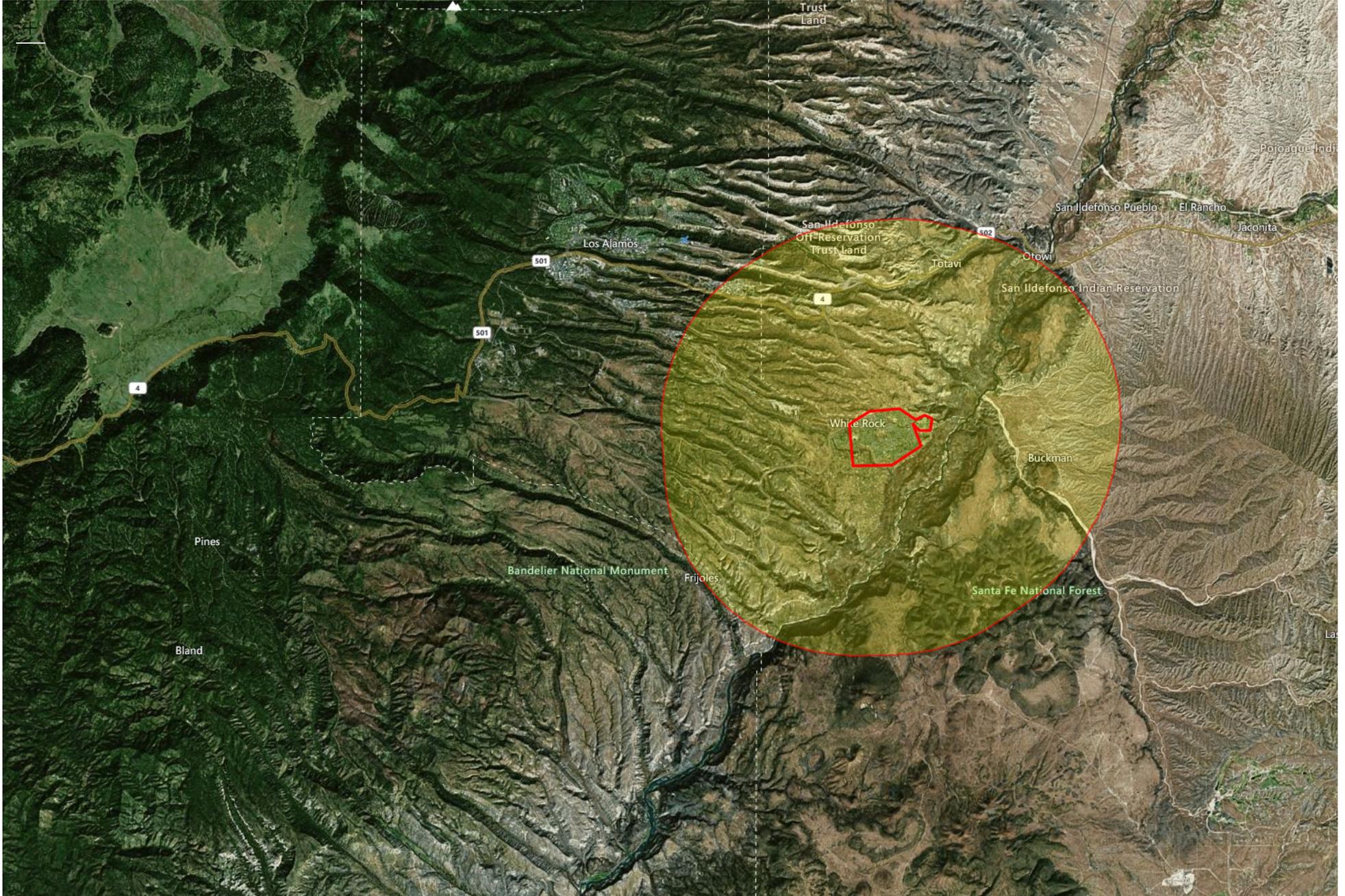
### **Attachments**

A copy of the EJSCREEN ACS Summary Report, and a map showing the area evaluated

## Table of Mandated Public Involvement Activities

Activity	Dates
<p>Application Notice (PN-1): The first notice of the Bureau’s receipt of the permit application – applicant’s obligations at 20.6.2.3108.B and C NMAC – Bureau’s obligations at 20.6.2.3108.E NMAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signs (PN-1 synopsis<sup>1</sup> in English and Spanish) - Applicant obligation</li> <li>• Mailings to owners of nearby properties - Applicant obligation</li> <li>• Newspaper display ads (PN-1 synopsis in English and Spanish) - Applicant obligation</li> <li>• NMED website <a href="https://www.env.nm.gov/qwqb/public-notice/">https://www.env.nm.gov/qwqb/public-notice/</a></li> <li>• Notice to government agencies</li> <li>• Notice to interested parties</li> </ul>	<p>Within 30 days of the department deeming the application administratively complete</p>
<p>Permit Notice (PN-2): Notice to the public of the availability of a draft permit for a 30-day review and comment period – the notice will outline the process for requesting a public hearing – obligation at 20.6.2.3108.H through J NMAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NMED website <a href="https://www.env.nm.gov/qwqb/public-notice/">https://www.env.nm.gov/qwqb/public-notice/</a></li> <li>• Newspaper legal ads</li> <li>• Notification of interested parties</li> <li>• Notice to government agencies</li> <li>• Notice to Indian Tribes, Pueblos and Nations</li> </ul>	<p>Within 60 days of the department determining the application is technically complete and drafting a permit.</p>
<p>Public Hearing Notice (if required): Upon the Department’s determination that there is substantial public interest in the permit – obligation at 20.6.2.3108.M NMAC. Notice includes information on how to participate in the hearing, and how to request an interpreter or auxiliary aid if needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NMED website <a href="https://www.env.nm.gov/qwqb/public-notice/">https://www.env.nm.gov/qwqb/public-notice/</a></li> <li>• Newspapers</li> <li>• Notice to interested parties</li> <li>• Notice to government agencies</li> <li>• Notice to Indian Tribes, Pueblos and Nations</li> </ul>	<p>Notice of the hearing shall occur at least 30 days prior to the hearing.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Suitable for display, the abbreviated format of the PN-1 synopsis does not contain all the information provided by a full public notice, e.g., language assistance or non-discrimination information.



Location: User-specified linear location  
 Ring (buffer): 4-miles radius  
 Description: DP-907

Summary of ACS Estimates		2013 - 2017
Population		5,900
Population Density (per sq. mile)		78
Minority Population		1,444
% Minority		24%
Households		2,214
Housing Units		2,360
Housing Units Built Before 1950		0
Per Capita Income		46,793
Land Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)		76.01
% Land Area		100%
Water Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)		0.17
% Water Area		0%

	2013 - 2017 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
<b>Population by Race</b>			
Total	5,900	100%	330
Population Reporting One Race	5,713	97%	652
White	5,361	91%	356
Black	9	0%	18
American Indian	97	2%	78
Asian	174	3%	129
Pacific Islander	0	0%	12
Some Other Race	72	1%	59
Population Reporting Two or More Races	188	3%	97
Total Hispanic Population	1,001	17%	276
Total Non-Hispanic Population	4,899		
White Alone	4,456	76%	313
Black Alone	9	0%	18
American Indian Alone	97	2%	78
Non-Hispanic Asian Alone	174	3%	129
Pacific Islander Alone	0	0%	12
Other Race Alone	0	0%	13
Two or More Races Alone	164	3%	83
<b>Population by Sex</b>			
Male	2,890	49%	223
Female	3,010	51%	246
<b>Population by Age</b>			
Age 0-4	233	4%	82
Age 0-17	1,458	25%	162
Age 18+	4,443	75%	326
Age 65+	1,110	19%	135

**Data Note:** Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.

N/A means not available. **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2013 - 2017

Location: User-specified linear location  
 Ring (buffer): 4-miles radius  
 Description: DP-907

	2013 - 2017 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
<b>Population 25+ by Educational Attainment</b>			
Total	3,978	100%	189
Less than 9th Grade	0	0%	59
9th - 12th Grade, No Diploma	54	1%	70
High School Graduate	271	7%	120
Some College, No Degree	1,101	28%	156
Associate Degree	478	12%	85
Bachelor's Degree or more	2,551	64%	185
<b>Population Age 5+ Years by Ability to Speak English</b>			
Total	5,668	100%	314
Speak only English	5,099	90%	282
Non-English at Home <sup>1+2+3+4</sup>	568	10%	259
<sup>1</sup> Speak English "very well"	392	7%	208
<sup>2</sup> Speak English "well"	165	3%	103
<sup>3</sup> Speak English "not well"	0	0%	64
<sup>4</sup> Speak English "not at all"	11	0%	39
<sup>3+4</sup> Speak English "less than well"	11	0%	74
<sup>2+3+4</sup> Speak English "less than very well"	176	3%	104
<b>Linguistically Isolated Households*</b>			
Total	27	100%	68
Speak Spanish	0	0%	67
Speak Other Indo-European Languages	0	0%	12
Speak Asian-Pacific Island Languages	27	100%	25
Speak Other Languages	0	0%	12
<b>Households by Household Income</b>			
Household Income Base	2,214	100%	121
< \$15,000	68	3%	73
\$15,000 - \$25,000	7	0%	49
\$25,000 - \$50,000	142	6%	82
\$50,000 - \$75,000	269	12%	90
\$75,000 +	1,728	78%	136
<b>Occupied Housing Units by Tenure</b>			
Total	2,214	100%	121
Owner Occupied	2,026	92%	112
Renter Occupied	188	8%	110
<b>Employed Population Age 16+ Years</b>			
Total	4,680	100%	255
In Labor Force	2,830	60%	234
Civilian Unemployed in Labor Force	111	2%	54
Not In Labor Force	1,849	40%	173

**Data Note:** Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of anyrace.

N/A means not available. **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS)

\*Households in which no one 14 and over speaks English "very well" or speaks English only.

Location: User-specified linear location  
 Ring (buffer): 4-miles radius  
 Description: DP-907

	2013 - 2017 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
<b>Population by Language Spoken at Home*</b>			
Total (persons age 5 and above)	5,453	100%	315
English	4,657	85%	361
Spanish	462	8%	147
French	1	0%	19
French Creole	N/A	N/A	N/A
Italian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Portuguese	N/A	N/A	N/A
German	45	1%	44
Yiddish	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other West Germanic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Scandinavian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Greek	N/A	N/A	N/A
Russian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Polish	N/A	N/A	N/A
Serbo-Croatian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Slavic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Armenian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Persian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gujarathi	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hindi	N/A	N/A	N/A
Urdu	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Indic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Indo-European	10	0%	19
Chinese	31	1%	44
Japanese	N/A	N/A	N/A
Korean	0	0%	17
Mon-Khmer, Cambodian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hmong	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thai	N/A	N/A	N/A
Laotian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vietnamese	74	1%	125
Other Asian	22	0%	35
Tagalog	0	0%	17
Other Pacific Island	N/A	N/A	N/A
Navajo	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Native American	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hungarian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arabic	0	0%	17
Hebrew	N/A	N/A	N/A
African	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other and non-specified	150	3%	62
Total Non-English	797	15%	479

**Data Note:** Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.  
 N/A means not available. **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2013 - 2017.  
 \*Population by Language Spoken at Home is available at the census tract summary level and up.