

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC MEETINGS/COMMENT PERIOD

DOE Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office Issues Notice of Availability of the Draft NEPA Environmental Assessment for Chromium Interim Measures and Final Remedy

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA) has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) that evaluates potential environmental impacts of DOE's Proposed Action, a combination of treatment options whereby EM-LA would use adaptive site management (ASM) to select, implement, and manage removal of hexavalent chromium from source areas and the groundwater. The Proposed Action alternative includes four options, or a combination of these options, that can selectively be implemented to remediate chromium-contaminated groundwater below Sandia and Mortandad canyons at Los Alamos National Laboratory. The EA also evaluates the No Action alternative.

The draft EA is available for public review at https://www.energy.gov/nepa/doeea-2216-chromium-interim-measure-and-final-remedy-los-alamos-new-mexico, and on the Los Alamos Legacy Cleanup Electronic Public Reading Room: eprr.em-la.doe.gov.

Public Comments and Meetings

EM-LA invites public comment on the draft EA during a 60-day comment period commencing with this notice on December 14, 2023, and ending on February 12, 2024. To enhance public and stakeholder participation, EM-LA is providing two meetings to share information and gather verbal and written comments on the draft EA. Participants will have opportunities to ask questions and submit comments on the proposed alternatives and options, and on the draft EA. DOE plans to complete the final EA after consideration of comments received on the draft EA.

Public meetings are scheduled for the following dates and times:

Monday, January 22, 2024: In-person meeting at Cities of Gold Hotel and Casino Ballroom, 10 Cities of Gold Road, Pojoaque, New Mexico from 6:00-8:00 p.m. MDT

Wednesday, January 24, 2023: Virtual meeting from 1:00-3:00 p.m. MDT

- To join via video through your computer or smart device, go to https://Zoom.us/join and enter Meeting ID: 849 7723 8202. You will be prompted to enter a Passcode: 062428 and your name.
- To join via audio (participants will hear the presentation but not see it), call +1 669-444-9171 and enter the above Meeting ID and Passcode.

Public comments must be received by February 12, 2024.

EM-LA is providing two additional options to submit written comments:

- Email: EMLA-NEPA@em.doe.gov. Please use the subject line: Chromium Draft EA Comment
- U.S. Mail: EM-LA NEPA Document Manager, U.S. DOE Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office, 1200 Trinity Drive, Suite 400, Los Alamos, NM 87544