

July \_\_, 2021

By email: [pamela.jones@state.nm.us](mailto:pamela.jones@state.nm.us)

Pamela Jones, WQCC Administrator  
New Mexico Environment Department  
P.O. Box 5469  
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Re: Public Comments for Triennial Review - Docket No. WQCC 20-51(R)

Dear Ms. Jones:

I support the proposals by Communities for Clean Water (CCW) and the Gila Resources Information Project (GRIP) to provide more protections of New Mexico's waters. Specifically, I urge the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) to:

- adopt an adequate definition of climate change that identifies human activities as the major cause of climate change. *See* the CCW and GRIP proposed changes to definitions.
- state in the regulations that a purpose of the regulations is to address climate change.
- support the adoption of the CCW and GRIP proposed definition of **Emerging Contaminants**.
- support adoption of language that clearly gives NMED authority to require monitoring for **Emerging Contaminants**.
- support adding PFAS to the definition of **Emerging Contaminants**.
- not limit the definition of **Toxic Pollutants** to the EPA list of toxic pollutants. New Mexico should not cede its authority to identify and regulate toxic pollutants.
- oppose the efforts of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) to weaken the human health-organism only (HH-OO) criteria. In order to protect public health and New Mexico communities, ensure the fish we catch in rivers, streams, reservoirs, and lakes are kept safe to eat.
- not eliminate requirements to monitor for **PFAS**, a group of harmful 'forever' chemicals. PFAS have been detected at LANL. PFAS, or per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances, have been around since the 1940s and are found in Teflon and in military-grade fire retardants.
- not eliminate the requirement that LANL monitor for **PCBs** with sufficient accuracy to determine whether state standards are violated.
- express its dismay that LANL is spending taxpayer dollars on lawyers to fight state efforts to protect waters from toxic and persistent pollutants.

Thank you for your careful consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Name and contact information