

July \_\_\_, 2021

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

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

Dear New Mexico Water Quality Control Commissioners:

My name is (INSERT YOUR NAME) and I am a (COMMUNITY MEMBER/PARCIANTE/ COMISSIONER/MAYORDOMO/YOUNG PERSON/FARMER) from the community of (INSERT ACEQUIA AND/OR TOWN NAME). Traditional rural communities such as acequias and land grant-mercedes are experiencing rapid land use development that negatively impacts our water resources. Impacts include potential risks of groundwater contamination and increased degradation of surface water quality from municipal wastewater treatment facilities and industrial water users, such as oil & gas, mining, and national laboratories. The state Triennial Review is therefore critical to ensure our precious water is protected for current and future generations of acequeros.

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 CCW's and GRIP's proposed definition of climate change that identifies human activities as the major cause of climate change and make clear that the purpose of these regulations is to address climate change;
- Adopt CCW's and GRIP's proposed definition of **Emerging Contaminants**.
- Adopt language that clearly gives NMED authority to require monitoring for **Emerging Contaminants**;
- Add 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;
- Not eliminate requirements to monitor for **PFAS**, a group of harmful 'forever' chemicals. Not eliminate the requirement that LANL monitor for **PCBs** with sufficient accuracy to determine whether state standards are violated; and
- Express dismay that LANL is spending taxpayer dollars on lawyers to fight state efforts protecting waters from toxic and persistent pollutants.

El agua es vida. Thank you for your careful consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

**ADD YOUR NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION**