

Meeting Date: November 16, 2017

Staff Contact: Rick Shean, Water Quality Hydrologist

TITLE: R-17-21 – Supporting an Inventory of Known and Potential

Groundwater Contamination Sites Within and Near the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority Service Area Including

Potential Threats to the Regional Aquifer

ACTION: Recommend Approval

SUMMARY:

The Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water Authority) staff requests approval for the Water Authority Governing Board to hire a consultant to prepare an inventory of known and potential groundwater contamination sites within and near the service area to understand the threat these sites pose to the regional groundwater resources and the Water Authority's drinking water supply. This project is being completed at the request of board members Commissioner Maggie Hart Stebbins and Councilor Pat Davis.

Water Authority staff will work with the Water Protection Advisory Board to create a scope of work and to prioritize sites to be considered by the chosen contractor for this inventory and threat analysis. Proposed activities to be performed will be description of the nature and extent of the contamination from the known or potential source of contamination, characterization of the contamination's properties, and potential fate and transport pathways and time of travel to nearby Water Authority production wells.

Information gathered from this project will be used to support the Water Authority's groundwater management plan, the water quality protection policy and action plan, and the groundwater operations planning.

The project will be performed and reported by June.

FISCAL IMPACT:

\$75,000 budgeted in FY-18 Operating Budget.

ALBUQUERQUE BERNALILLO COUNTY WATER UTILITY AUTHORITY

BILL NO. <u>R-17-21</u>

1	RESOLUTION
2	SUPPORTING AN INVENTORY OF KNOWN AND POTENTIAL GROUNDWATER
3	CONTAMINATION SITES WITHIN AND NEAR THE ALBUQUERQUE BERNALILLO
4	COUNTY WATER UTILITY AUTHORITY SERVICE AREA INCLUDING POTENTIAL
5	THREATS TO THE REGIONAL AQUIFER
6	WHEREAS, the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water
7	Authority) has prepared for its ratepayers a 100-year water resources management
8	strategy entitled, "Water 2120: Securing Our Water Future", which was authorized by
9	the Governing Board through the approval of R-16-12, directing staff to continue
10	implementing the Water Quality Protection Policy and Action Plan through Policy H of
11	Water 2120;
12	WHEREAS, the Water Authority has adopted the Water Quality Protection Policy
13	and Action Plan with the mission of ensuring the quality of our surface and groundwater
14	resources so that public health, quality of life, and economic vitality of this and future
15	generations are not diminished; and
16	WHEREAS, Policy H also directs the Water Authority to consider the occurrence,
17	fate and potential treatment of emerging contaminants in current and future water
18	supplies; and
19	WHEREAS, the Water Authority is committed to the proactive surveillance and
20	monitoring of known and potential sources of contamination threatening the drinking
21	water supply; and
22	WHEREAS, there are at least twenty known groundwater contamination sites in
23	the service area, including, superfund and state-lead cleanup sites, and several actively
24	monitored hazardous material and waste impoundments and groundwater
25	contamination sites on Kirtland Air Force Base related to historical activities, including
26	the Bulk Fuels Facility leak, and Sandia National Laboratory operations; and
27	WHEREAS, the Sandoval County Commission is considering an oil and gas
28	ordinance that has the potential to attract these activities closer to the Water Authority's

1	service area and introduce potential contamination to currently high-quality
2	groundwater; and
3	WHEREAS, the Water Authority continues to support the mission of the joint
4	City/County/Water Authority work on the Water Quality Protection Policy and Action
5	Plan (WQPPAP) to ensure the quality of surface and groundwater resources; and
6	WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County and Water Authority
7	jointly cooperate through the Water Protection Advisory Board in protecting surface and
8	groundwater in the region.
9	BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WATER AUTHORITY:
10	Section 1. That an inventory of known groundwater contamination sites within
11	and adjacent to the Water Authority's service area be prepared.
12	Section 2. That potential groundwater contamination threats within and adjacent
13	to the Water Authority's service area be identified.
14	Section 3. That existing information of known and potential groundwater
15	contamination threats be utilized and a report and recommendations which may be
16	used in support of the groundwater management plan and/or update to the WQPPAP
17	be prepared.
18	Section 4. That the findings of this process be presented to the Water Authority
19	Board by June 2018.
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