

# La Cieneguilla Water Company (Jose Anguamea Lorenzo Villegas)

Submitted via NMED's Public Commenting Portal and Email  
January 21, 2026

James Kenney  
Cabinet Secretary  
New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)  
1190 St. Francis Drive, Suite N4050  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505  
james.kenny@env.nm.gov

Re: PPWG Preliminary Comments on PFAS Labeling Proposal under HB 212

Dear Estimado Secretary Kenney:

El Valle De La Cieneguilla Land Grant Association and La Cieneguilla Water Company is a community-based organization that comprises of "local" property landowner's and inhabitants of generational families from Santa Fe County, New Mexico.

El Valle De La Cieneguilla Land Grant Association and the La Cieneguilla Water Company appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments on NMED's planned PFAS labeling requirements pursuant to HB 212 as presented during a recent NMED webinar. Our indigenous community are committed to environmental stewardship and agree that action on certain materials in products can be appropriate when risk-based, science-driven, not misleading to consumers, protective of critical products, realistic in implementation, and consistent with applicable use. Fortunately, NMED's planned PFAS labeling requirements are not problematic in several respects. El Valle De La Cieneguilla Land Grant Association and the La Cieneguilla Water Company therefore urges NMED to continue on further action for this rulemaking and disregard all of opposition from the following group of manufacturers and distributors of drugs, biologics, animal drugs, medical devices, the manufacturers of major, portable and floor care home appliances concerns, etc., before proceedings.

El Valle De La Cieneguilla Land Grant Association and the La Cieneguilla Water Company supports the Purpose of the Proposed Act HB 212:

1. Establish the Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Protection Act.
2. Prohibit certain products that contain intentionally added PFAS.
3. Authorize the Environment Improvement Board (EIB) to create rules restricting PFAS-containing products.
4. Require disclosure and testing for products sold or distributed in the state that contain intentionally added PFAS.
5. Outlines penalties for violations.

It is our strongest opinion the "Implementation of labeling requirements" should not be delayed; that the "Requiring exempt products to label" does align with statutory language; and that the

proposed requirements for manufacturers to "list component's containing intentionally added PFAS" is substantially inside the scope of HB 212.

El Valle De La Cieneguilla Land Grant Association and the La Cieneguilla Water Company respectfully opposes all the written public comments that have been submitted by the AdvMed, the Medtech Association, the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM), the Motorcycle Industry (MIC), the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America (SVIA), the Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ROHVA), the American Chemistry Council's (ACC), the Polyurethanes Industry (CPI), and the PFAS Pharmaceutical Working Group (PPWG) to the EIB 25-61 (NMED).

It is noteworthy to state in a public forum that many of these outside "foreigner's which make-up the Manufacturer's Industry "public comments" for this specific rulemaking arguments, seriously do not have our best interests in claiming to protecting our New Mexico citizen's health, safety, and public welfare attributes. The manufacture false narratives and claiming to addressing the current PFAS contamination of private wells and primary groundwater resources throughout indigenous communities in New Mexico is a false narrative altogether. This is one classic example on why the identified manufacture's public comments in my perspective do not have the highest level of character, integrity, respect, dignity, moral compass, merits and validation of truth attributes relating to their opposition relating to this specific NMED - EIB 25-61 (R): In the Matter of Proposed Adoption of 20.13.2 NMAC, Per-and Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substance in Consumer Products. Their actions and words relating to OPPOSTION of HB 212 is deplorable and unconscious able in all magnitudes.

The Office of Governor Michelle Lujan-Grisham  
State of New Mexico  
State Capitol  
490 Old Santa Fe Trail Room 400  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

February 20, 2024

Subject: **Request Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham for an Executive Order: The Creation of the New Mexico PFAS Action Response Team (NMPART)**

Dear Governor Lujan-Grisham:

In the recent Santa Fe New Mexican article dated February 2, 2024, it states: “The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) is moving to put cancer-causing compounds on a hazardous waste list that will give New Mexico and other states more authority to order the pollutants cleaned up, thanks to a petition Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham sent to the agency almost three years ago.” (*See Attachment 1: Petition Letter from Gov. Lujan Grisham to U.S. EPA*)

On behalf of the Texas Band of Yaqui Indians and the Pueblo de Cocorit, we would like to extend our gratitude and sincere appreciation for defending and protecting our precious groundwater resources in New Mexico, specifically, our sacred indigenous lands located in La Cieneguilla Pueblo, Santa Fe County, New Mexico. (*See Attachment 2: Pueblo De Cocorit*)

Therefore, we would like to propose an idea for a serious consideration of creating a PFAS Response Team similar to the State of Michigan’s MPART in New Mexico by the issuance of an Executive Order from your office. (*See Attachment 3: Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Executive Order 2019-03, Governor Rick Snyder, Executive Order 2017-4*)

The MPART structure and their approach to addressing PFAS in Michigan and some lessons learned has been a success in terms of collaboration between the MPART Coordination Structure, Governor’s Office Environmental Policy Advisor, MPART Executive Director, Science Advisory, Workgroup, Local Health Department Advisory Council, Citizens Advisory Workgroup, PFAS Technical Advisory Workgroup, Legislative/Policy, Communications, Budget, and Topical Workgroups. (*See Attachment 4: MPART Coordination Structure*)

In conclusion, we strongly recommend to you that by the creation of a *New Mexico PFAS Action Response Team (NMPART)*, the prevalence of PFAS Contamination sites in Clovis, La Cieneguilla Land Grant, and other New Mexico Communities that are located adjacently to the Department of Defense Facilities, it will build a trusting relationship and collaborative effort between the local, tribal, state, and federal entities within NM. This new response team will aid New Mexico’s in

understanding the nature and extent of the potential impact to groundwater in contaminated areas and to assist in identification of potential capital improvement projects with the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), the United States of Environment Protection Agency (USEPA), and the Department of Defense (DOD) to address the PFAS Contamination issues that is plaguing and threatening our precious ground water resources throughout the Land of Enchantment.

On a side note, mil gracias por tu apoyo in assisting Art Schapp's familia in Clovis, New Mexico. I spoke with him on Friday regarding the PFAS Contamination of our private wells in a high minority population and low-income population. He also sends his gratitude and sincere respect to directly for taking care of his familia and the Clovis ranching community as we speak of.

Lastly, Art and I would like to request a meeting with you to speak of PFAS ideas to assist you in spearheading a positive outcome for addressing this sensitive *environmental justice* issue that is adversely impacting our Clovis and La Cieneguilla Land Grant families and surrounding rural communities throughout New Mexico.

Con Mucho Respecto y Bendiciones,

Jose L. Villegas, Sr.  
Tribal Administrator, Government Affairs - DC  
Texas Band of Yaqui Indians and Pueblo de Cocorit  
El Valle De La Cieneguilla Land Grant Association  
505-470-7046 (Cell)  
[josevillegassr@outlook.com](mailto:josevillegassr@outlook.com)  
[caselda2010@hotmail.com](mailto:caselda2010@hotmail.com)  
[admin@tbyl.gov](mailto:admin@tbyl.gov)

**See Additional Attachments:**

- (5) SEARCHLIGHT.NM - "*When PFAS hits home: Poisoned wells in La Cieneguilla*" dated: February 19, 2024.
- (6) SEARCHLIGHT.NM dated: February 19, 2019 "*Toxic timeline: A brief history of PFAS*" - PFAS Project Lab dated: February 16, 2024
- (7) Center for Public Environmental Oversight dated: February 16, 2024.
- (8) Environmental Health News dated: February 19, 2024.
- (9) National Guard Bureau Letter Response: Compliant FY24-288256-3709-CV dated: February 8, 2024.
- (10) Santa Fe New Mexican article: "*EPA move against cancer-causing 'forever chemical' could help New Mexico's cleanup fight*" dated: February 2, 2024
- (11) Maine Delegation Introduces Bill to Support Farmer's Affected by PFAS dated: October 21, 2022.

(12) Response Letter from NMED relating to *“the Santa Fe County Commission approval to use the NMED Grant Award of \$459,000.00 for PFAS Contamination Investigation of Private Wells in La Cieneguilla Land Grant”* dated: February 19, 2024.