



# Environmental Restoration Operations Overview

SAND2016-3690C

February 18, 2016

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**Purpose:** present an overview of the remaining scope and challenges to arrive at a fully-funded exit strategy for the 3 Groundwater Areas

- ER Mission – Identify, characterize & remediate sites where hazardous &/or radioactive materials have been released
- Scope: 315 Solid Waste Management Units or Areas of Concern
- Schedule: program started in ~1989; “projectized” in 2004 and 2011
- Very successful, completed corrective action at *302 of 315 ER*



## Compliance Order on Consent

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- All ER activities regulated by *New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) under a Compliance Order on Consent (COoC)* signed by DOE, Sandia and NMED in 2004
- COoC includes fines and penalties – up to \$10,000 / day
- COoC serves as the regulatory compliance driver for budget requests
- Very professional and courteous relationship with NMED



# Remaining 12 ER Sites

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- 5 “Soil sites”
- 3 “Active mission” sites (on original 2004 DOE-EM Baseline)
- 1 Mixed Waste Landfill
- 3 Groundwater Areas of Concern
  - Burn Site
  - Tijeras Arroyo
  - Technical Area V



# Focus on 5 Soil Sites & Groundwater

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## 5 Soil sites

- 3 “Active mission” sites – *corrective action deferred, carried as an environmental liability (EL) in NNSA system*
- 1 Mixed Waste Landfill, *NMED Secretary Flynn issued Corrective Action Complete with Controls status on February 12*

## 3 Groundwater Areas of Concern with Contamination

Burn Site

Tijeras Arroyo

Technical Area V



# Focus is on remaining 8 ER Sites

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- 5 Soil sites
- 3 Groundwater Areas of Concern
  - Burn Site
  - Tijeras Arroyo
  - Technical Area V



## Five Soil Sites

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- 2006 / 2008 requested Corrective Action Complete determination from NMED
- A 2010 letter from NMED requested additional groundwater characterization and assessment of these sites
- Required groundwater assessment work completed Feb. 2015
- Received Certificates of Completion from NMED in Jan. 2016
- Will request Corrective Action Complete status from NMED ~March 2016, with public meeting, possible Public Hearing



# Remaining 8 ER Sites

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5 Soil sites

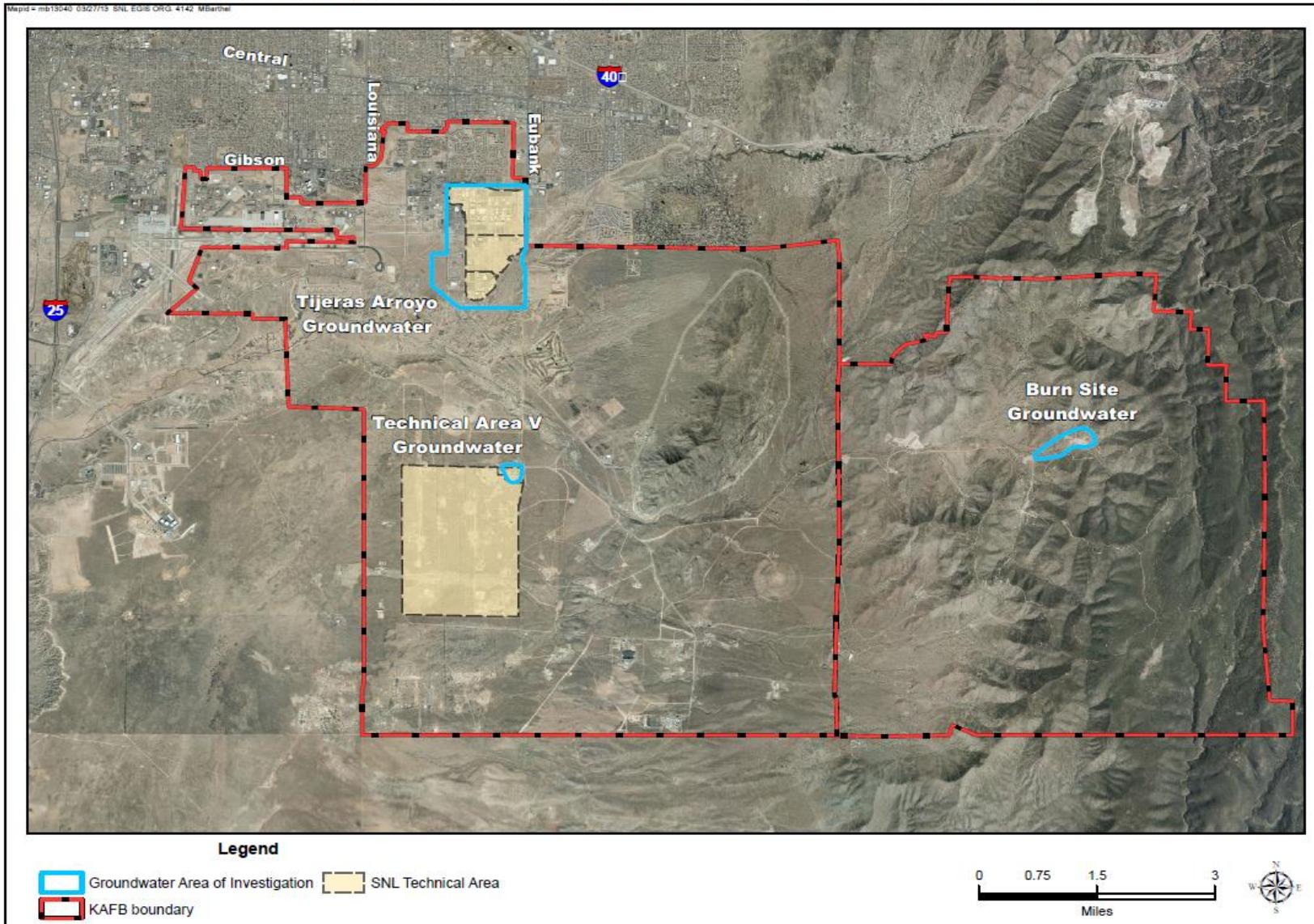
→ 3 Groundwater Areas of Concern

Burn Site

Tijeras Arroyo

Technical Area V

# Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico - Groundwater Areas of Concern





# Key Points SNL Groundwater Contamination

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- Water-supply wells are located in the northern part of KAFB
- Three sites are well characterized and not a threat to the Albuquerque/Bernalillo Co. water supply wells
- Per COoC, site characterization must be complete to the satisfaction of NMED
- At these sites, contamination levels are low, but above drinking water standards (Maximum Contaminant Levels – MCL) – thus creates risk
- 2010 Baseline exit strategy – monitor GW contamination levels and degradation products until contaminates dissipate/attenuate (will require decades)
- Challenges: stakeholder's exit strategies require re-alignment; scope changes to baseline require more time and budget; regulatory framework requires long public hearing cycles



## Remaining 8 ER Sites

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5 Soil sites

3 Groundwater Areas of Concern

→ Burn Site

Tijeras Arroyo

Technical Area V



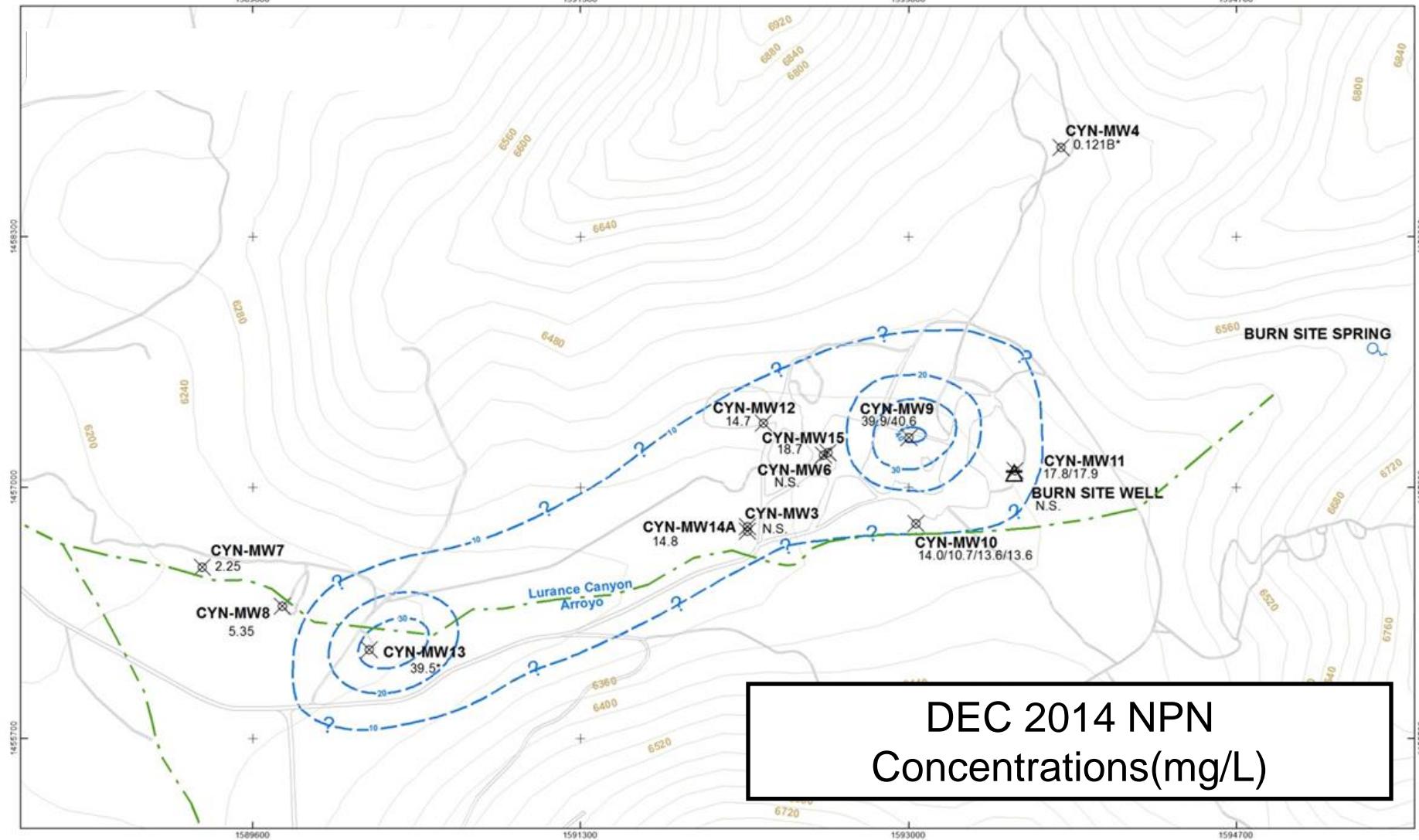
# Burn Site GW AOC

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- GW monitored since 1996
- GW occurs at ~100 to 200 ft deep in fractured bedrock
- Fractured bedrock causes complicated hydrology
- 9 mi. away from drinking-water supplies
- GW contaminated with nitrate, up to 42 ppm (regulatory standard is 10 ppm)

← N



**Legend**

Groundwater Monitoring Well, with December 2014, Nitrate plus Nitrite Concentrations (mg/L). N.S. denotes not sampled. \*Asterik denotes June 2014 sample.



Production Well (non-potable)

Concentration Contour (mg/L)  
(dashed where inferred; queried where uncertain)



Spring



Unpaved Road

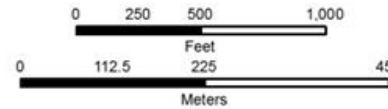


Arroyo



40-ft. Contour

Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico  
Environmental Geographic Information System



New Mexico State Plane Central Zone, 1983  
1988 North American Vertical Datum





## Burn Site GW AOC

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- EM/Internal Remedy Review review of strategy 2013- 2015
- EM/IRR - advocated “weight-of-evidence” process to determine origin of nitrates in GW
- Formally began weight-of-evidence process June 2014



## Remaining 8 ER Sites

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5 Soil sites

3 Groundwater Areas of Concern

    Burn Site

→ Tijeras Arroyo

    Technical Area V

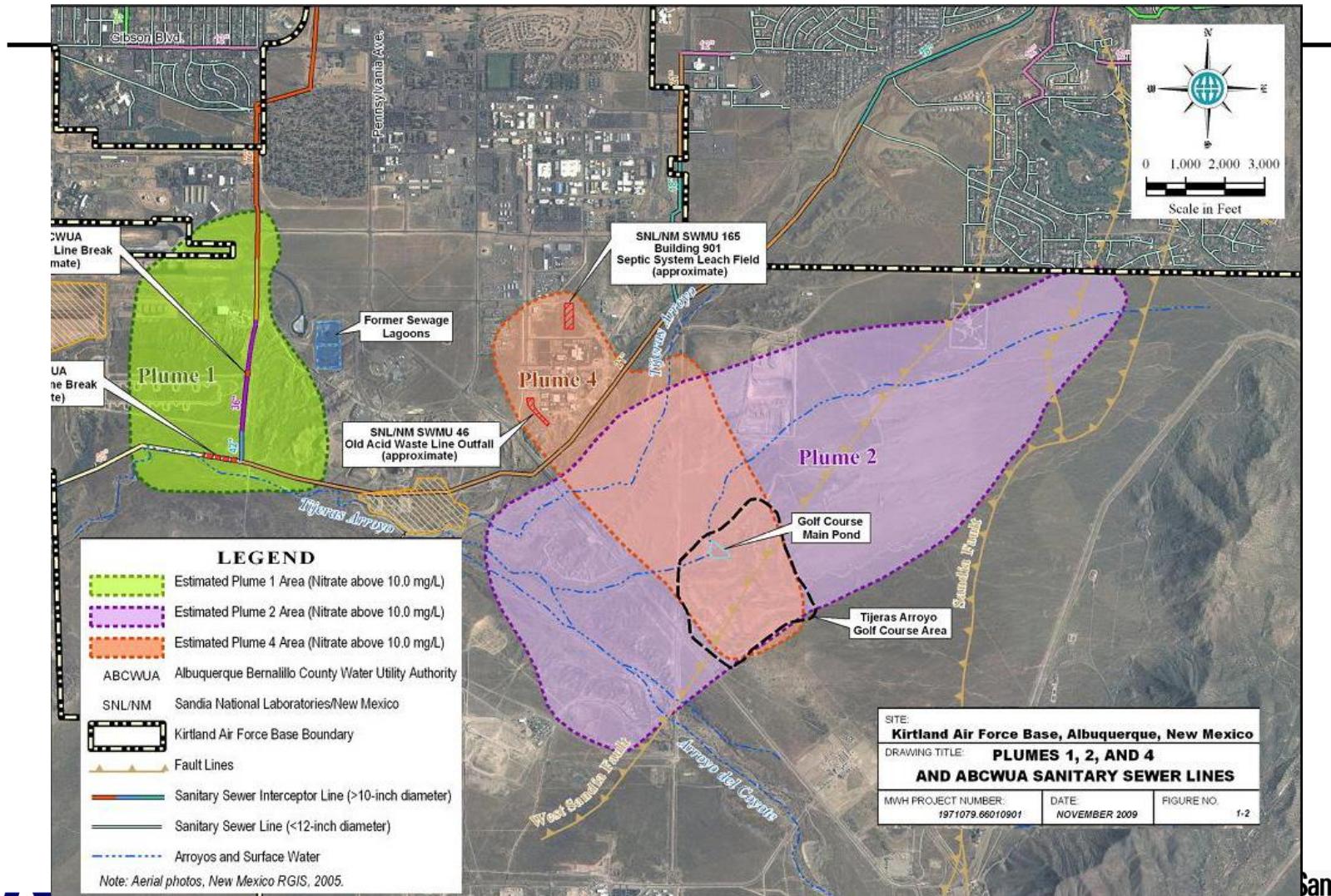


# Tijeras Arroyo GW AOC

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- GW monitored since 1993
- Perched GW ~300 ft. below surface and ~ 200 ft above regional aquifer
- DOE responsible for ~30% plume, KAFB ~ 70% plume
- DOE portion contaminated with nitrate and TCE
  - Nitrate: up to 39 ppm (regulatory standard is 10 ppm)
  - TCE: up to 9 ppb (regulatory standard is 5 ppb)
- Updating the 2005 Corrective Measures Evaluation Report
- Perched GW under SNL is drying out

# Boundary of Nitrate Plume 4 in Perched Aquifer (orange), Tijeras Arroyo GW above 10 ppm





# Remaining 8 ER Sites

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5 Soil sites

3 Groundwater Areas of Concern

Burn Site

Tijeras Arroyo

→ Technical Area V



# Technical Area V GW AOC

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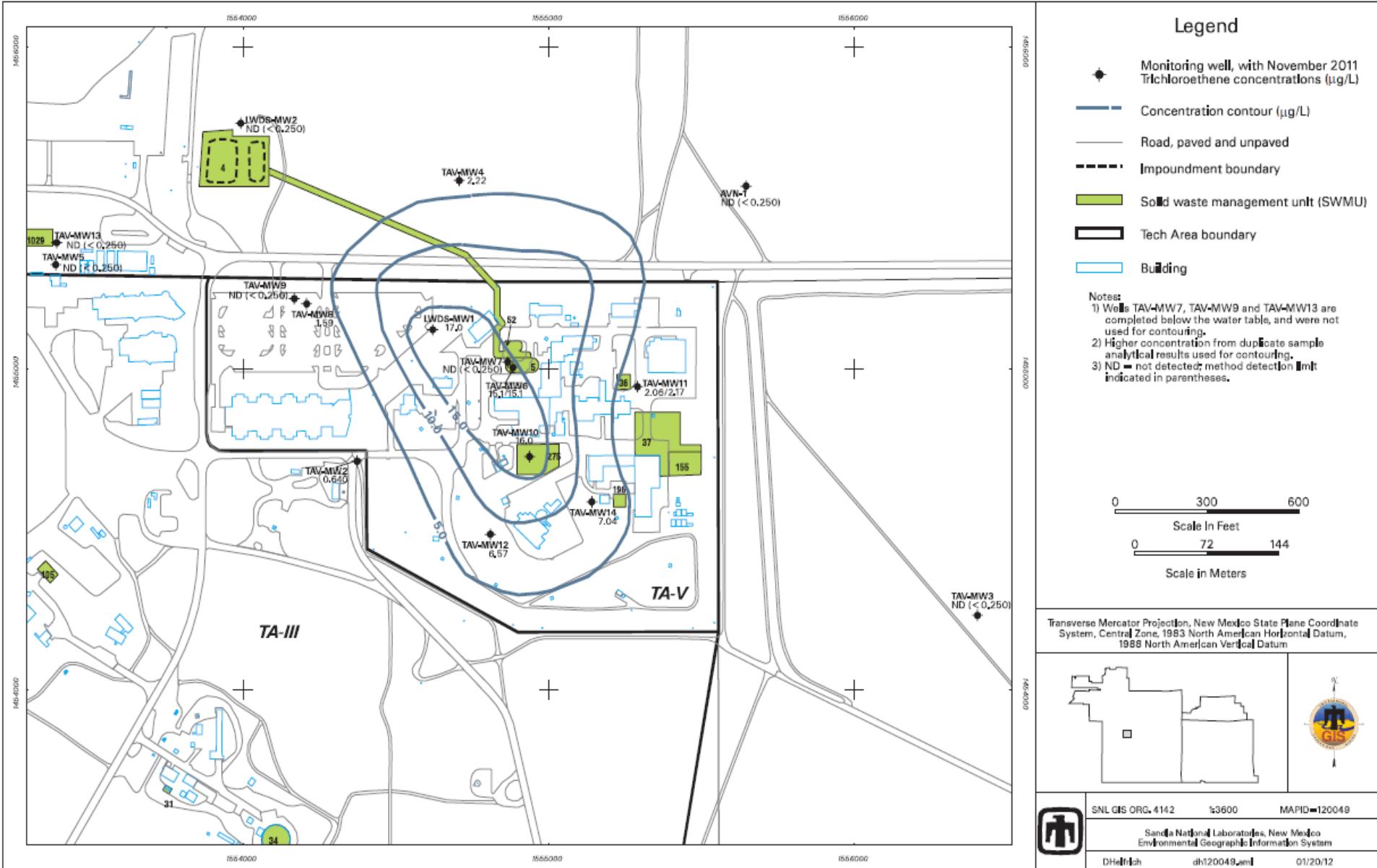




## TA-V GW AOC

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- GW monitored since 1992
- GW occurs ~500 ft deep in unconsolidated sediments
- Contaminated
  - Nitrate: 0 to 14 ppm (std. = 10 ppm)
  - TCE: 0 to 19 ppb (std = 5 ppb)
- From high-volume waste-water disposal systems operated from ~1960 to 1990
- Small plume, 4 mi. away from drinking-water supplies





## TA-V GW AOC

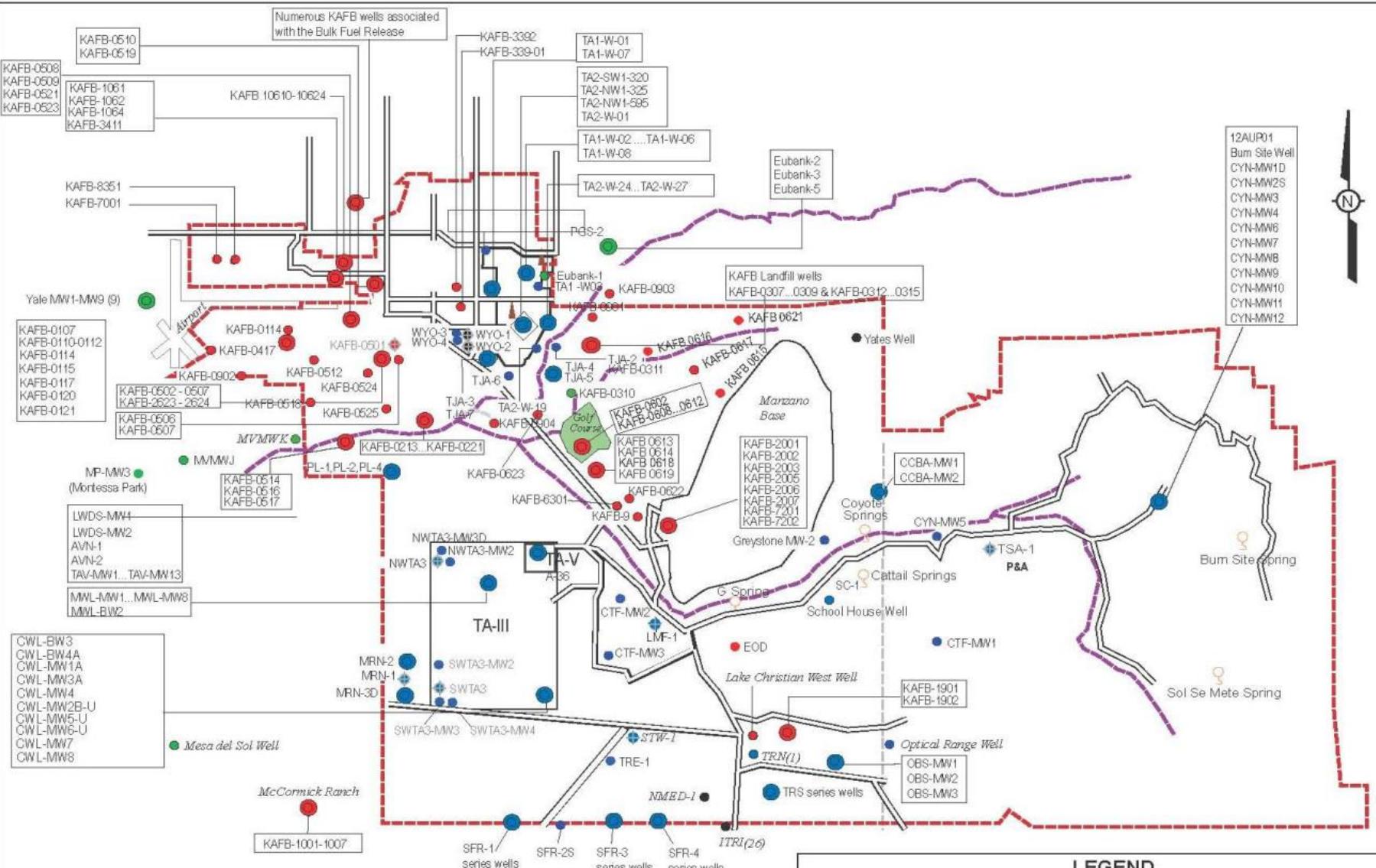
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- EM/IRR review of strategy 2013- 2015
- EM/IRR advocated treatability study to demonstrate in-situ treatment of nitrates and TCE
- Meeting January 29, 2015, NMED agree to TS
- TS Workplan in review with NMED



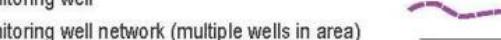
# Backup Slides

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## LEGEND

- Monitoring well
- Monitoring well network (multiple wells in area)
- ◆ Plugged and abandoned well
- Kirtland AFB wells
- Sandia National Laboratories wells
- City of Albuquerque wells
- Other



Arroyo

Road

Spring

Meteorological Tower

KAFB boundary

Not to Scale



# Progress of Sandia's Environmental Restoration Operations

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**Joe Estrada**  
Environmental Restoration Operations  
Federal Project Director  
DOE/NNSA  
Sandia Field Office

**John R. Cochran**  
Environmental Restoration Operations  
Project Manager  
Sandia National Laboratories  
October 27, 2015





# Overview of Sandia's Environmental Restoration Operations

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- Mission – Identify, characterize & remediate sites where hazardous &/or radioactive materials have been released
- Scope: 315 sites
  - Legally - Solid Waste Management Units or Areas of Concern
  - For presentation - Environmental Restoration sites or “ER sites”
- All activities regulated by New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) under the 2004 Compliance Order on Consent (COoC)
- DOE/NNSA and Sandia Corporation are in compliance with: Compliance Order on Consent, Federal and State requirements



# Overview of Sandia's Environmental Restoration Operations

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- Very successful, completed corrective action at 302 of 315 ER sites through the NMED regulatory process
- 13 ER sites remain in corrective action process
- Presentation will review progress in completing corrective action at these 13 ER sites
- Focus on progress made during last 6 months



# Remaining 13 ER Sites

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- 6 “Soil sites”
- 3 “Active mission” sites with deferred corrective action
- 1 Mixed Waste Landfill
- 3 Groundwater Areas of Concern
  - Burn Site
  - Tijeras Arroyo
  - Technical Area V



# Remaining 13 ER Sites

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6 Soil sites

~~3 “Active mission” sites with deferred corrective action~~

1 Mixed Waste Landfill

3 Groundwater Areas of Concern

    Burn Site

    Tijeras Arroyo

    Technical Area V



# Remaining 10 ER Sites

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- 6 Soil sites (**Five plus One**)
  - 1 Mixed Waste Landfill
  - 3 Groundwater Areas of Concern
    - Burn Site
    - Tijeras Arroyo
    - Technical Area V



## Five Soil Sites

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- “Soil sites” to separate them from the landfill and the groundwater areas of concern
- A 2010 letter from NMED requested additional groundwater characterization of these ER sites (ER sites 8/58, 68, 149 & 154)
- All required groundwater characterization work has been completed and the results documented
- In letter dated February 24, 2015, NMED stated that corrective action activities have been completed, and that Certificates of Completion may be requested for these sites
- In letter dated September 4, 2015, Certificates of Completion were requested for the five soil sites



## One “New” Soil Site

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- “New” release site, discovered in 2012
- Voluntary corrective actions completed at this site (ER site 502)
- Remaining concentrations in soil below cleanup criteria
- Reported the results to NMED in November 2013 and are awaiting NMED review



## Remaining 10 ER Sites

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- 6 Soil sites (five plus one)
- 1 Mixed Waste Landfill
- 3 Groundwater Areas of Concern
  - Burn Site
  - Tijeras Arroyo
  - Technical Area V



# Mixed Waste Landfill

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# Mixed Waste Landfill

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- Implementing Long Term Monitoring and Maintenance Plan (the LTMMP)
- October 17, 2014 DOE and Sandia requested a Permit Modification, for NMED to grant Corrective Action Complete with Controls status to the MWL
- NMED hosted a public comment period on their intent, pending public comment, to approve Corrective Action Complete with Controls status for the MWL
- Public Hearing was requested during the public comment period



# Mixed Waste Landfill

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- NMED hosted 2 meetings in attempts to resolved differences, without Public Hearing, meetings unsuccessful
- Public Hearing was held July 8 – 11, 2015
- DOE and Sandia participated in Public Hearing
- Next Steps:
  - Hearing Office will issue a report with recommendations to the Secretary of the Environment, and
  - Secretary of the Environment will make a final determination
- To better inform the community, DOE/Sandia made presentations to:
  - Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority Governing Board on August 19 and to their
  - Water Protection Advisory Board on September 11



## Remaining 10 ER Sites

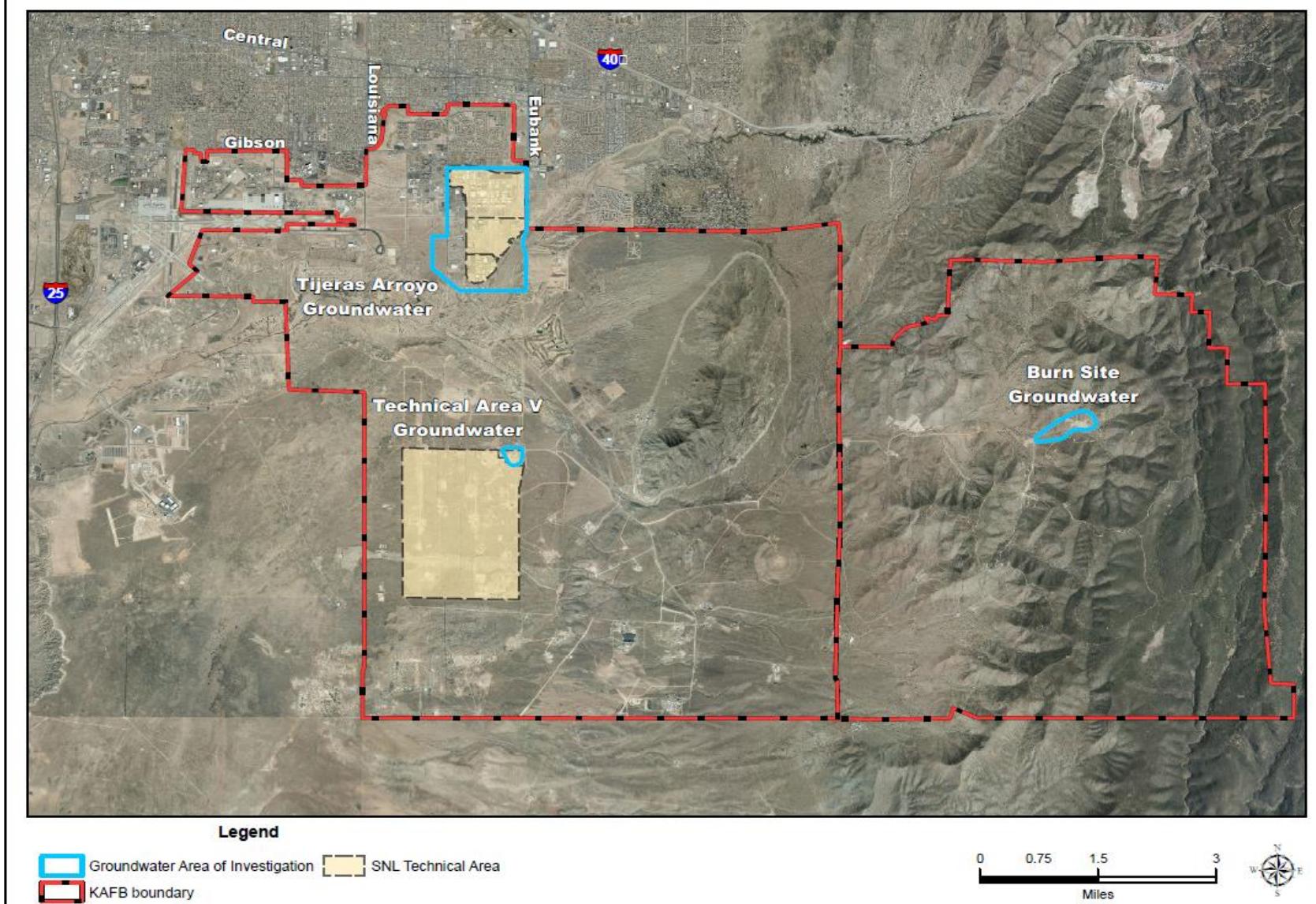
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- 6 Soil sites (five plus one)
- 1 Mixed Waste Landfill
- 3 Groundwater Areas of Concern

Burn Site

Tijeras Arroyo

Technical Area V



## Location of 3 Groundwater AOCs on KAFB



## Remaining 10 ER Sites

---

- 6 Soil sites (five plus one)
- 1 Mixed Waste Landfill
- 3 Groundwater Areas of Concern

→ Burn Site

Tijeras Arroyo

Technical Area V



## Burn Site GW AOC

---

- Groundwater occurs ~100 to 200 ft deep in fractured bedrock
- GW contains nitrate, up to 42 ppm (regulatory standard is 10 ppm)
- On June 18, 2014, NMED approved extension of Corrective Measure Evaluation (CME) Report to March 31, 2016 to allow weight-of-evidence process to determine origin of nitrates in GW
- Currently conducting weight-of-evidence process
- Continuing to monitor the GW



## Remaining 10 ER Sites

---

- 6 Soil sites (five plus one)
- 1 Mixed Waste Landfill
- 3 Groundwater Areas of Concern
  - Burn Site
  - Tijeras Arroyo
  - Technical Area V



# Tijeras Arroyo GW AOC

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- Perched GW occurs:
  - ~250 ft. below surface, and
  - ~ 250 ft above regional aquifer
- Perched GW contaminated with nitrate and TCE
  - Nitrate: up to 39 ppm (regulatory standard is 10 ppm)
  - TCE: up to 9 ppb (regulatory standard is 5 ppb)
- Updating the 2005 Corrective Measures Evaluation (CME) Report submitted to NMED, with new data from SNL and KAFB (by December 2, 2016)
- Continuing to monitor the GW



## Remaining 10 ER Sites

---

- 6 Soil sites (five plus one)
- 1 Mixed Waste Landfill
- 3 Groundwater Areas of Concern

Burn Site

Tijeras Arroyo

→ Technical Area V



## Technical Area V GW AOC

---

- Regional GW occurs 500 ft. below surface
- Contaminated with nitrate and TCE
  - Nitrate: up to 14 ppm (regulatory standard is 10 ppm)
  - TCE: up to 19 ppb (regulatory standard is 5 ppb)
- NMED agreed to consider possible bioremediation, and extended due date for CME Report to November 30, 2016
- Treatability Study Workplan for in-situ bio remediation submitted to NMED **on September x, 2015**
- Continuing to monitor the GW



# Summary of Status of Sandia's ER Operations

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- Requested Certificates of Completion for 5 soil sites
- Voluntary Corrective Action completed at 1 soil site
- MWL: (1) LTMMP being implemented, (2) NMED held public comment period and Public Hearing (July 8-11) on their intent to grant corrective action complete with controls status to MWL
- Conducting Weight of Evidence Process at Burn Site GW AOC
- Updating CME Report on Tijeras Arroyo GW AOC
- Submitted Treatability Study Workplan to NMED for the treating the TA-V GW AOC



## More Information & Questions

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- On-line information ER documents hosted by NMED -  
<http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/HWB/snlperm.html>
- On-line collection of ER documents hosted by UNM's Lobo Vault - <http://repository.unm.edu/handle/1928/10963>
- Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report for Sandia Labs -  
[http://www.sandia.gov/news/publications/environmental\\_reports/index.html](http://www.sandia.gov/news/publications/environmental_reports/index.html)
- Send email questions to - [envinfo@sandia.gov](mailto:envinfo@sandia.gov)
- Call Sandia National Laboratories Community Involvement - 284-5200



# Backup Slides

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## Mixed Waste Landfill - Background

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- 2.6 acre landfill
- Operational 1959 to 1988
- GW monitoring & other field investigations began 1990
  - 500 feet to groundwater, groundwater is not contaminated
  - Very little rain, 500 feet of dry absorb soils
  - Wastes will not migrate to groundwater
- Natural evapotranspirative (ET) cover recommended as remedy (2003)
- Public Hearing on remedy in 2004



# Summary of Long-Term Monitoring Parameters, Frequencies, and Methods Mixed Waste Landfill, Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico

Sampling Media	Monitoring Parameters/ Constituents of Concern	Monitoring Frequency <sup>a</sup>	Number of Samples Per Event	Locations	Monitoring Method	Comments
<b>Air</b>	Radon	Year 1 – Quarterly Year 2 – Quarterly Year 3 – Semiannual Year 4 – Semiannual Year 5 and subsequent years – Annual	17	10 detectors placed at corners and midpoints of perimeter fence 5 detectors placed on completed cover 2 detectors at background locations (TBD)	Track-etch detectors (at breathing level); sampling and analysis per Appendix C	Samples are time-weighted average and will be collected over a 3-month period.
<b>Surface Soil</b>	Tritium	Annual	4	One sample collected from each corner of the MWL ET Cover.	Grab samples of soil collected; moisture extracted and analyzed for tritium using liquid scintillation	Samples will continue to be collected from the original MWL ground surface at the four corners of the ET Cover.
<b>Vadose Zone</b>	VOCs in soil vapor	Year 1 – Semiannual Year 2 – Semiannual Year 3 – Semiannual Year 4 and subsequent years – Annual	17	Samples collected from 3 perimeter multi-port FLUTE™ or equivalent wells (5 sampling ports per well) and 2 single-port soil-vapor monitoring points installed through the ET Cover	Sampling and analysis per Appendix D (Compendium Method TO-15 or equivalent). Table 3.4.1-1 presents list of analytes	The 3 multiport FLUTE™ wells or equivalent are proposed and located at the MWL perimeter. Sampling ports planned for depths of 50, 100, 200, 300, and 400 ft bgs. The 2 single-port soil-vapor monitoring points have a sampling port approximately 35 ft below the original ground surface.
<b>Vadose Zone</b>	Moisture content underneath the ET Cover	Year 1 – Semiannual Year 2 – Semiannual Year 3 and subsequent years – Annual	171	3 soil-moisture monitoring access tubes Measurements obtained at 1-ft increments from 4 ft to 25 ft bgs, then 5-ft increments to total depth of the access tube (200 linear ft)	Soil-moisture monitoring per Appendix E	Moisture content in vadose zone beneath the cover is measured using a neutron probe to evaluate moisture infiltration through the ET Cover.



# Summary of Long-Term Monitoring Parameters, Frequencies, and Methods Mixed Waste Landfill, Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico

Sampling Media	Monitoring Parameters/a/ Constituents of Concern	Monitoring Frequencya	Number of Samples Per Event	Locations	Monitoring Method	Comments
<b>Ground water</b>	VOCs, metals, tritium, radon, gamma-emitting radionuclides (short list), and gross alpha/beta activity	Semiannual	4	MWL compliance groundwater monitoring well network: MWL-BW2, MWL-MW7, MWL-MW8, and MWL-MW9	Sampling and Analysis per Appendix F. Table 3.5.4-1 lists specific analytes and EPA Methods <sup>b</sup>	Monitoring wells MWL-MW4, MWL-MW5, and MWL-MW6 will be retained for information only.
<b>Biota – Surface Soil</b>	RCRA Metals plus Cu, Ni, V, Zn, Co, and Be; and gamma-emitting radionuclides (short list)	Annual	Up to 4 (2 each, if they exist)	Variable - ant hills and animal burrows on the MWL ET Cover located during ET Cover inspections, if present	Grab sampling and analysis of surface soil at animal burrow and/or ant hill feature per Appendix G	Soil sampling will be performed in August or September to evaluate potential for mobilization of contaminants by biota. If no features are identified, no samples will be collected.
<b>Biota – Cover Vegetation</b>	Gamma-emitting radionuclides (short list) in vegetation	Annual	Up to 2 if they exist	Variable - potentially deep-rooted vegetation overlying former disposal areas located during ET Cover inspections, if present	Grab sampling and analysis of vegetation, including the plant and root system per Appendix G	Vegetation sampling will be performed in August or September to evaluate potential for mobilization of contaminants by plants. If no potentially deep-rooted plants are present, no samples will be collected.



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**Overview of Groundwater  
Protection at**

**Sandia National  
Laboratories, New  
Mexico**

**Pam Puissant**  
Department 4142

**Michael Skelly**  
Department 6234





# Regulators of SNL's Groundwater Programs

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- **New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Hazardous Waste Bureau**
  - Has primacy over US EPA Region 6 since the early 1990s
  - Regulated mainly under the Compliance Order on Consent
  - RCRA Permit also has requirements, especially on newly discovered groundwater issues
  - Meetings held on an as-needed basis
- **NMED DOE Oversight Bureau**
  - Collects split samples and other QA/QC based on a Memo of Understanding with DOE SFO
  - Continuous data sharing
  - Technical meetings held monthly



# Regulators of SNL's Groundwater Programs

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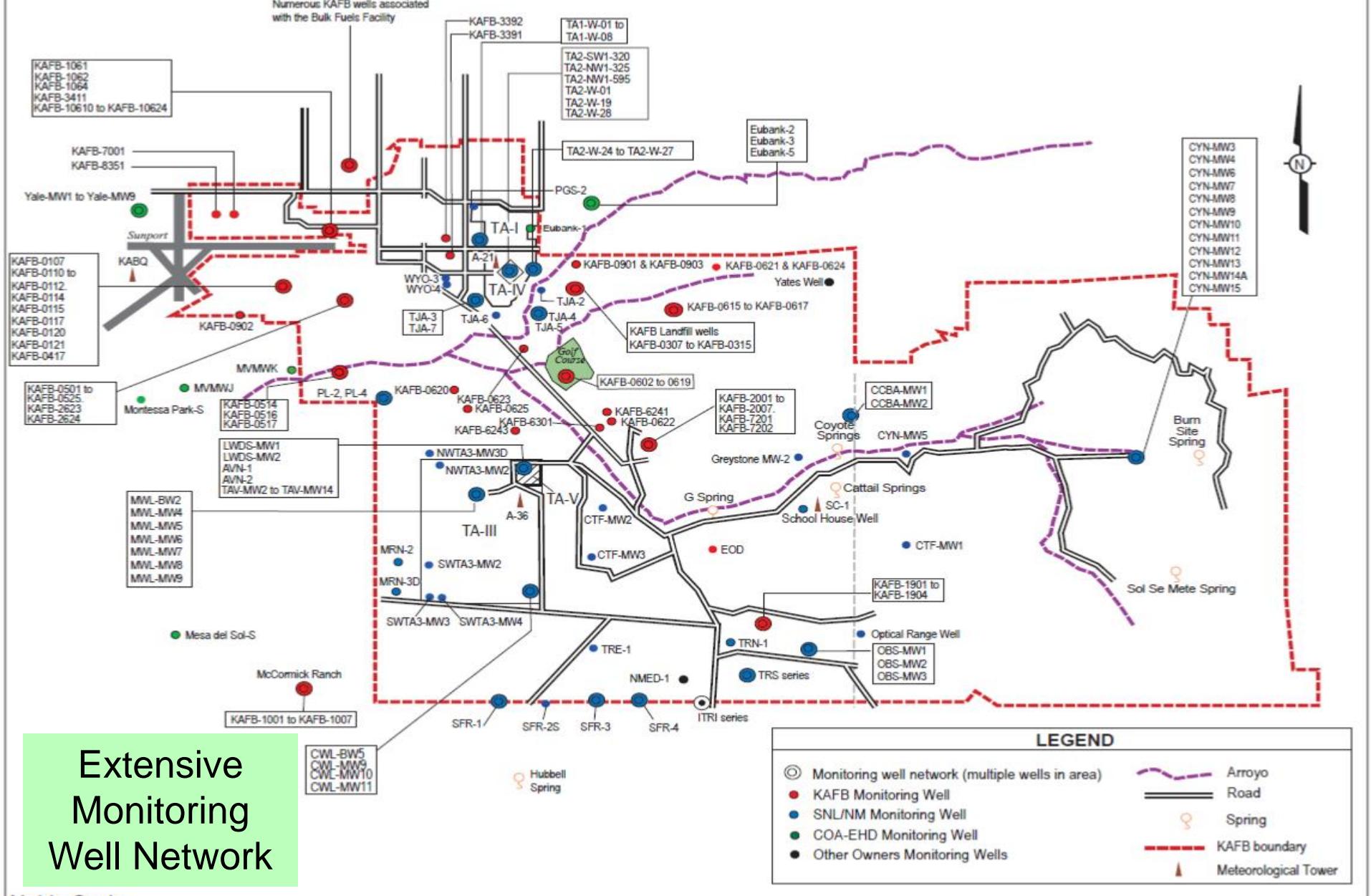
- **NM Office of the State Engineer**
  - Permission required for the installation and decommissioning of groundwater monitoring wells
  - Meetings held as needed
- **“Others”**
  - KAFB—land use permits for SNL wells on KAFB property
  - Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority/Water Protection Advisory Board—reviews SNL groundwater program based on public concerns
  - Albuquerque Environmental Health Department—data sharing
  - Public—Citizen groups, semi-annual meetings and hearings



# General Groundwater Conditions at Sandia

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- Groundwater in two regimes, basin-fill aquifer & bedrock aquifer
- Depths to groundwater is 100 ft (bedrock) to 550 ft (basin fill)
  - Perched groundwater system (minor aquifer above the regional water table) near Tijeras Arroyo (~300 ft deep)
- Natural flow from the mountains to the Rio Grande
- Current groundwater flow NW toward KAFB & ABCWUA production wells
- Slow flow rates (a few ft/yr to 10's of ft/yr), except on the west side of the base (100's ft/yr)
- Water table declining 1 to 2 ft/yr due to pumping, except for wells in the far north that are currently showing an increase
- Water-supply wells are located in the northern part of the base
- Minimal recharge from rain--except in mountains & along channels



## Extensive Monitoring Well Network

146239.0204000.A5



# Seven Groundwater Projects at SNL

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1. **Long-Term Stewardship Groundwater Monitoring Program**--detection monitoring to ensure that current operations are not degrading groundwater
2. **Chemical Waste Landfill**--detection monitoring of a remediated landfill
3. **Mixed Waste Landfill**--detection monitoring of a closed, covered landfill
4. **Burn Site Groundwater**--contamination regulated as Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) with nitrate above regulatory standard and perchlorate above NMED screening level
5. **Tijeras Arroyo Groundwater**--contamination regulated as SWMU with nitrate and trichloroethene (TCE) contamination above regulatory standards
6. **Technical Area V**--contamination regulated as SWMU with nitrate and TCE above regulatory standards
7. **Miscellaneous SWMUs**--Six small sites, each with one to three wells, with routine characterization monitoring



# Relationship of Long-Term Stewardship and Environmental Restoration

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- Memorandum of Understanding—defines roles and responsibilities to assure regulatory compliance
- ER takes SWMUs and AOCs to Site Closure or Remedy Selection
- LTS maintains Institutional Controls and/or implements Long-Term Monitoring Requirements
- Synergies—shared staff, shared resources (ERFO, SMO), same regulators, maintain historical knowledge
- Different funding sources—ER funded by DOE EM, LTS funded by NA-533/MW PMU



# Long-Term Stewardship Groundwater Monitoring Program

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- Protecting groundwater resources at Sandia & surrounding area
- Determine impact, if any, of current operations on quality/quantity of groundwater
- Establish baseline water quality and groundwater flow information
- Provide stakeholders an update of groundwater data for Sandia investigations through the publication of an *Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report*, included as an appendix to the *Annual Site Environmental Report*



## Chemical Waste Landfill

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- 1.9 acre landfill, operational from 1962 to 1981
- TCE discovered in 1990 in groundwater prompted remediation via soil-vapor extraction and excavation of contaminated soils and debris.
- Currently regulated under a Post-Closure Care Permit
- 4 groundwater monitoring wells sampled semiannually, no analytes above regulatory standards
- 5 soil-vapor monitoring wells sampled annually



View to the NE, Well  
being Installed on the  
North Side



## Mixed Waste Landfill

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- 2.6 acre landfill, operational 1959 to 1988
- Groundwater monitoring & other field investigations began 1990
- Public Hearing on remedy in 2004
- NMED issued Final Order in 2005; selecting evapotranspirative cover w/ bio-intrusion barrier as remedy (constructed in 2009)
- 4 groundwater monitoring wells sampled annually, no analytes above regulatory standards
- Hearing for the Corrective Action Complete proposal scheduled to start July 8, 2015



# Mixed Waste Landfill

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# Corrective Measures Evaluation Process for BSG, TAG, and TAV

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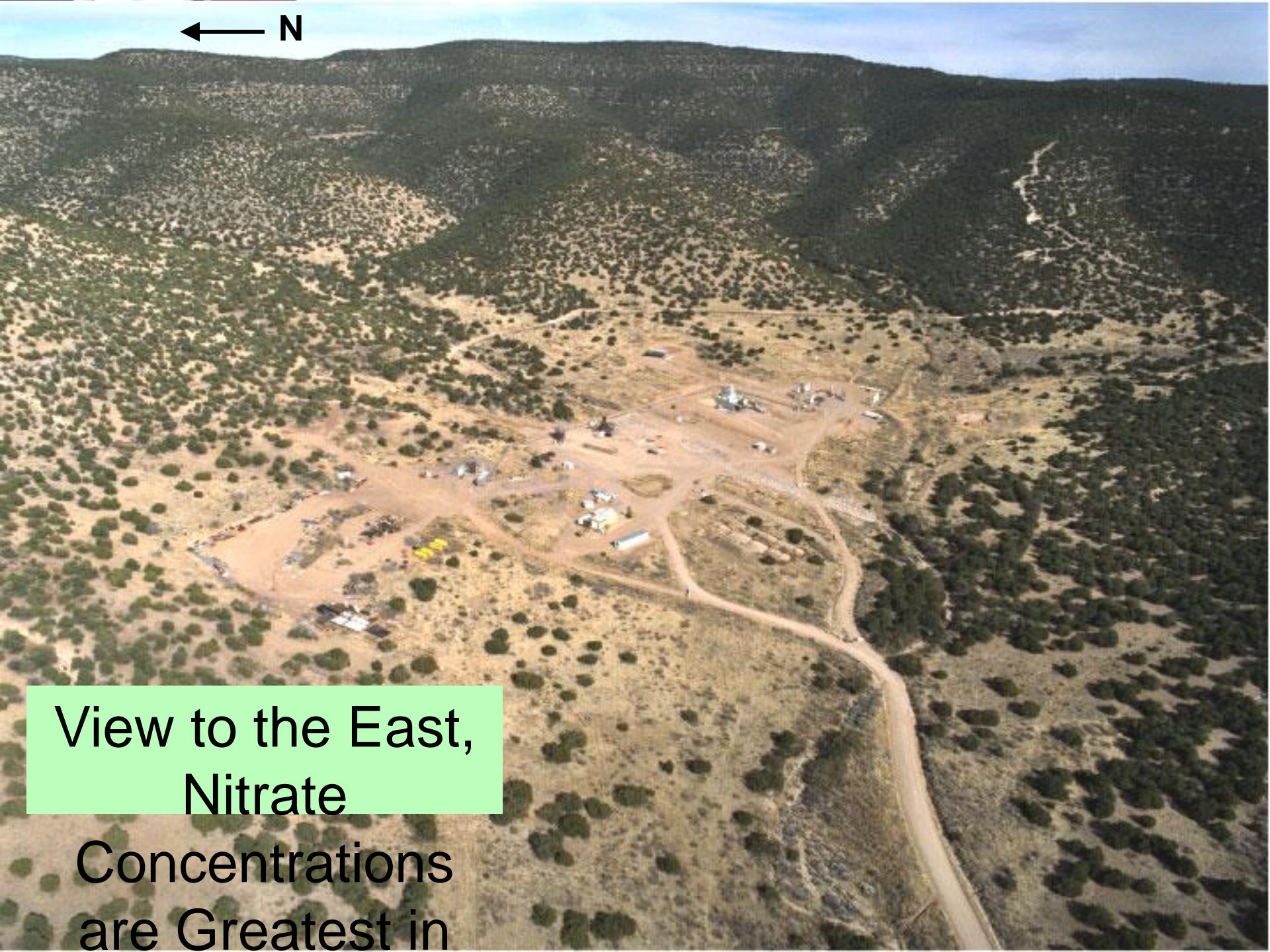
## Possible remedial alternatives identified in CME Work Plans:

- **Groundwater Monitoring**
- **Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA)**
- ***In Situ* Bioremediation (ISB) followed by  
Groundwater Monitoring**
- **ISB followed by MNA**
- **Pump and Treat followed by Groundwater  
Monitoring**
- **Pump and Treat followed by MNA**



View to the East,  
Nitrate

Concentrations  
are Greatest in

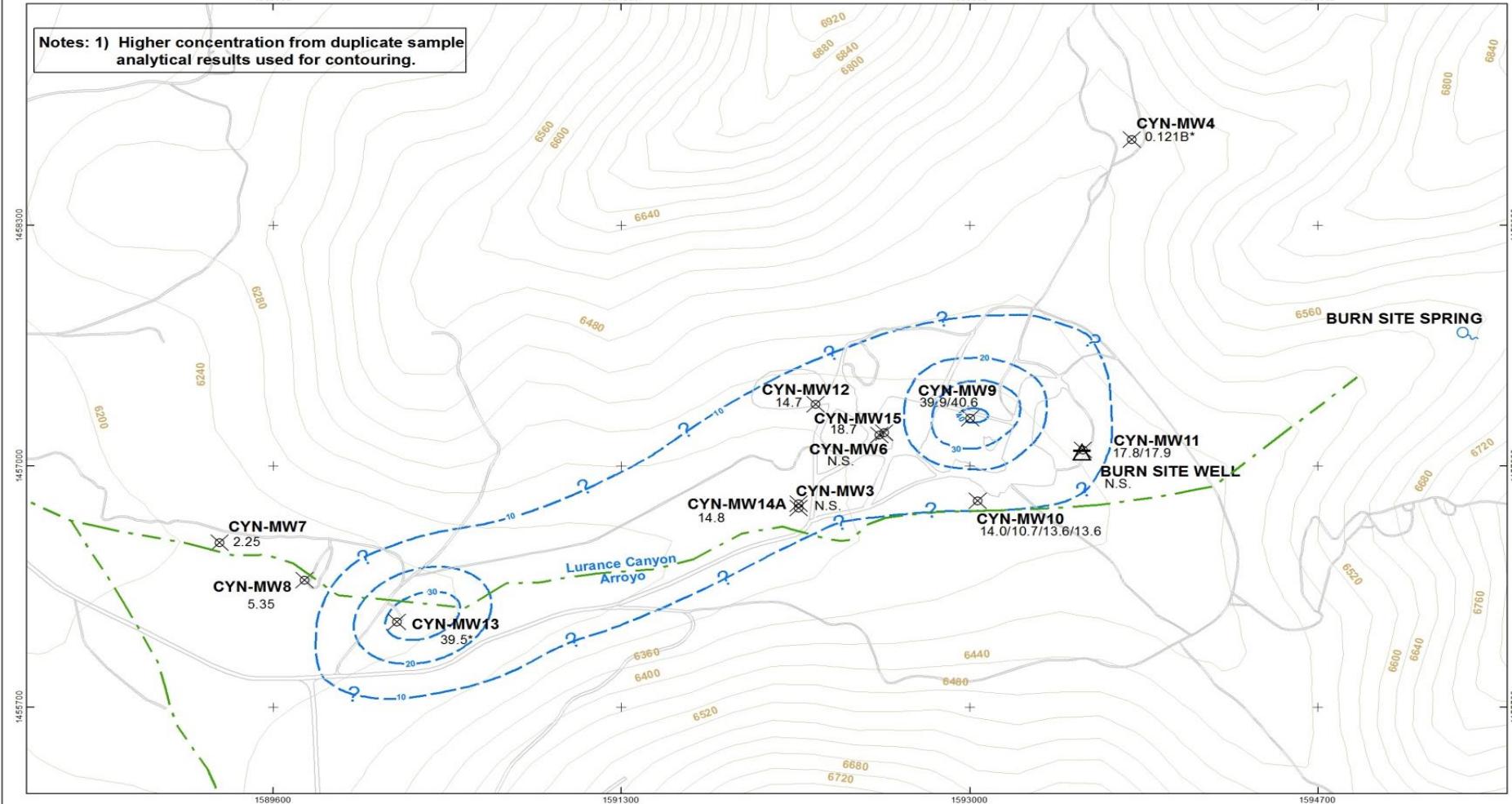




## Burn Site Groundwater

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- Groundwater monitored since 1996
- Groundwater occurs at ~100 to 300 ft below ground surface (bgs) in fractured bedrock
- Currently monitoring 10 wells
- Contaminated with nitrate (5 to 6 wells) and perchlorate (1 well)
  - Nitrate: 0 to 37 parts per million (ppm) (regulatory standard is 10 ppm)
  - Perchlorate: 0 to 9 parts per billion (ppb) (no drinking water standard established)
- Small plume very far away from drinking-water supplies
- Tentative source—suspected wide-spread non-point source from use of high explosives, with a possible contribution from natural nitrate sources

**Legend**

Groundwater Monitoring Well, with December 2014, Nitrate plus Nitrite Concentrations (mg/L). N.S. denotes not sampled. \*Asterisk denotes June 2014 sample.



Production Well (non-potable)

Concentration Contour (mg/L) (dashed where inferred; queried where uncertain)



Spring



Unpaved Road

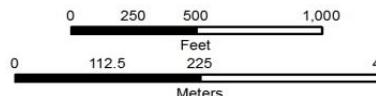


Arroyo



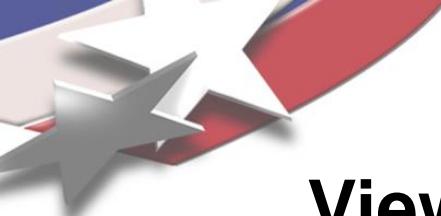
40-ft. Contour

**Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico Environmental Geographic Information System**



New Mexico State Plane Central Zone, 1983  
1988 North American Vertical Datum





# View of Tijeras Arroyo Groundwater Site



View to the South, Nitrate Concentrations are Greatest in Southern Portion of the Site

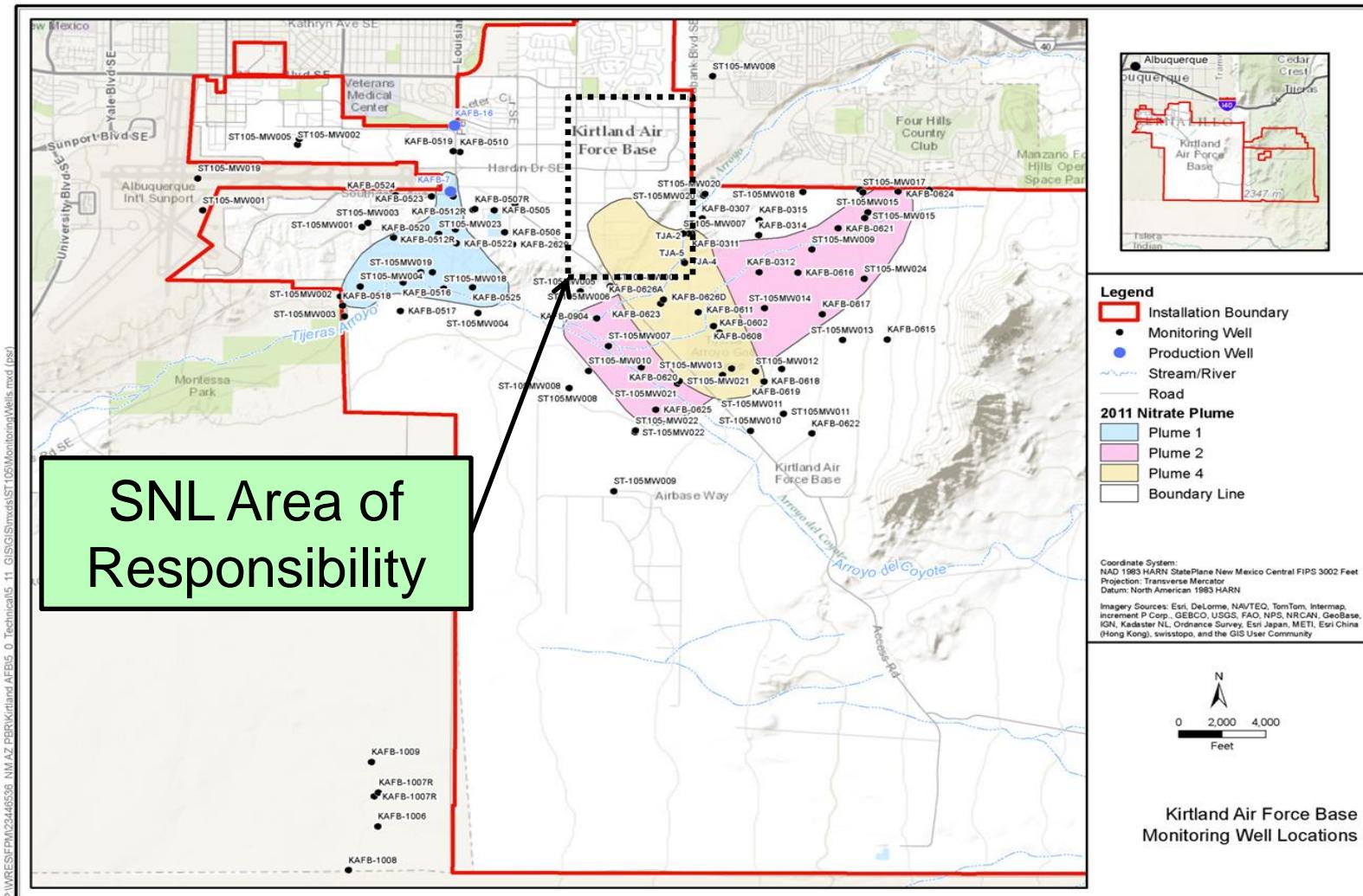


# Tijeras Arroyo Groundwater

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- Groundwater monitored since 1992
- Groundwater occurs at ~300 ft bgs in a perched aquifer & 500 ft bgs in the regional aquifer in unconsolidated sediments
- Large area--covers forty square miles, DOE/Sandia responsible for less than 2 mi<sup>2</sup> of the total & limited to the perched aquifer (no production wells in perched system)
- Contaminated with nitrate (5 wells) & TCE (1 well)
  - Nitrate: 0 to 33 ppm (std. = 10 ppm)
  - TCE: 0 to 9 ppb (std. = 5 ppb)
- Suspected sources include former & active waste-water systems owned or operated by DOE/Sandia, KAFB and ABCWUA
- Revised Corrective Measures Evaluation Report to be submitted in 2015

# Boundary of Nitrate Plume 4 in Perched Aquifer (tan), Tijeras Arroyo Groundwater above 10 ppm





# View of Technical Area V Groundwater Site



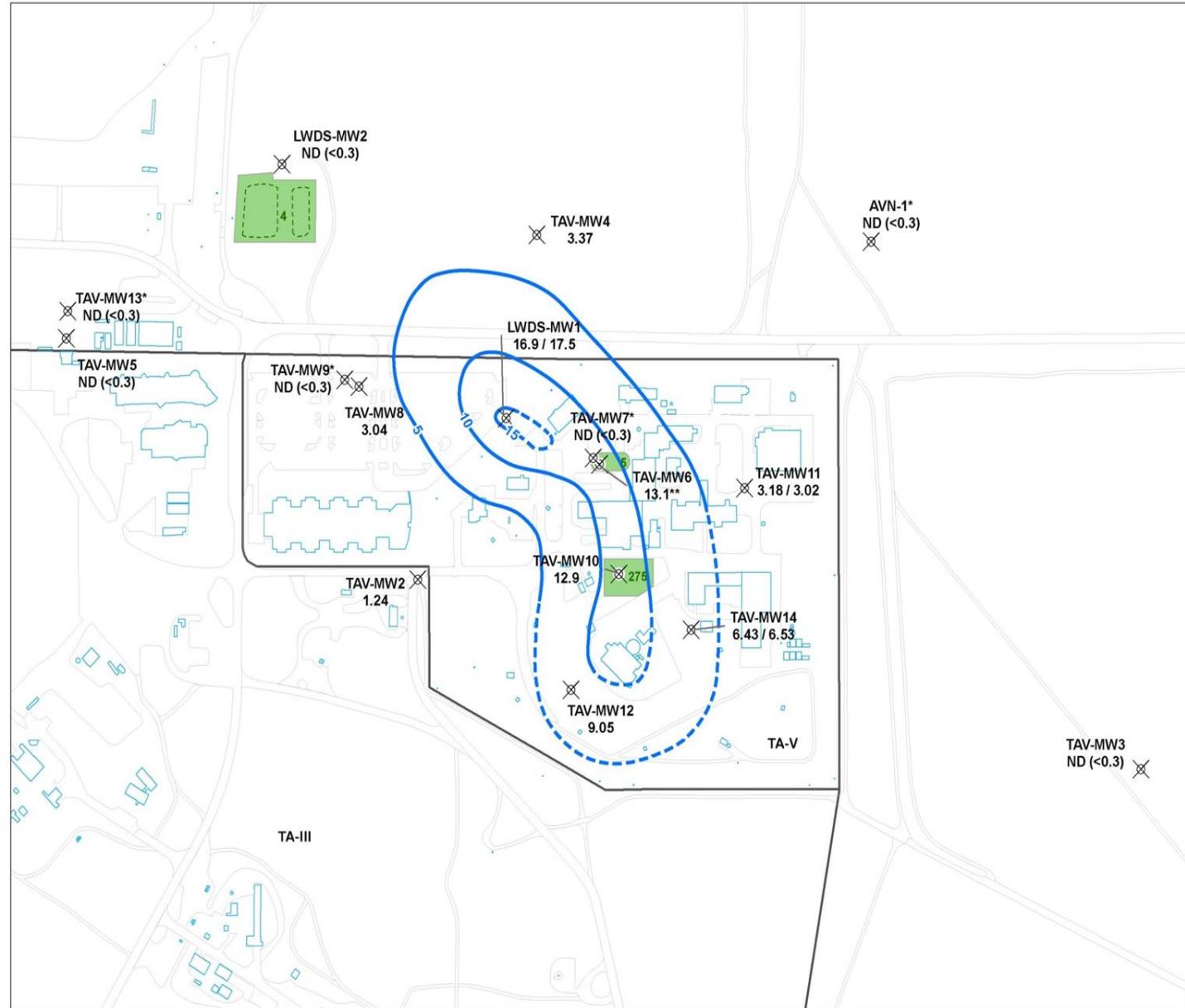
View to the SW, TCE Concentrations are Greatest in Center of the Site



# Technical Area V Groundwater

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- Groundwater monitored since 1992
- Groundwater occurs ~500 ft bgs in unconsolidated sediments
- Contaminated with nitrate & TCE
  - Nitrate: 0 to 14 ppm (standard = 10 ppm)
  - TCE: 0 to 19 ppb (standard = 5 ppb)
- Suspected sources include high-volume waste-water disposal systems
- Small plume 4 mi. away from drinking-water supplies
- 16 groundwater monitoring wells sampled four times/yr
- 3 soil-vapor monitoring wells sampled four times/yr
  - low-level detections of TCE in vapor phase
- Corrective Measures Evaluation Report: November 2014



### Legend

- Monitoring well, with October/November 2014 Trichloroethene concentrations ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ )
- Isoconcentration contour ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ), dashed where inferred
- Road, paved and unpaved
- Building / structure
- Inactive impoundment boundary
- Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU)
- Tech Area boundary

### Notes:

\* Wells AVN-1, TAV-MW7, TAV-MW9, and TAV-MW13 are completed below the water table, and were not used for contouring.

\*\* Data as of August 2014 for TAV-MW6.

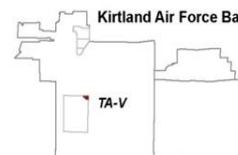
ND = not detected; method detection limit indicated in parentheses.

0 300 600

Feet

0 100 200

Meters

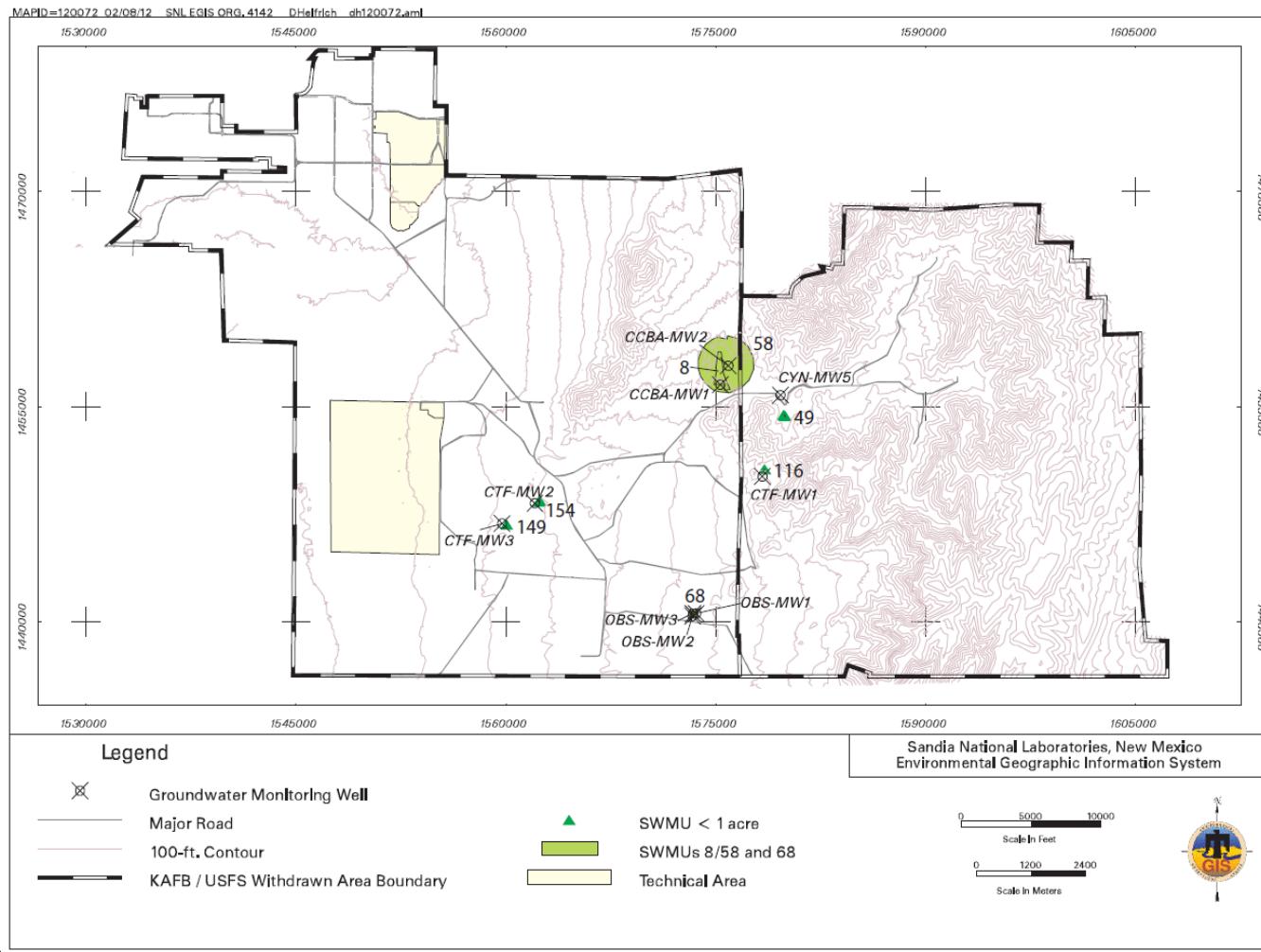


SNL EGIS ORG 4142

New Mexico State Plane Central Zone, 1983  
1988 North American Vertical Datum

SNL, EGIS Dept 4142 ce15503 2-24-15 / mb13135

# Miscellaneous Solid Waste Management Units





# Key Points – SNL Groundwater

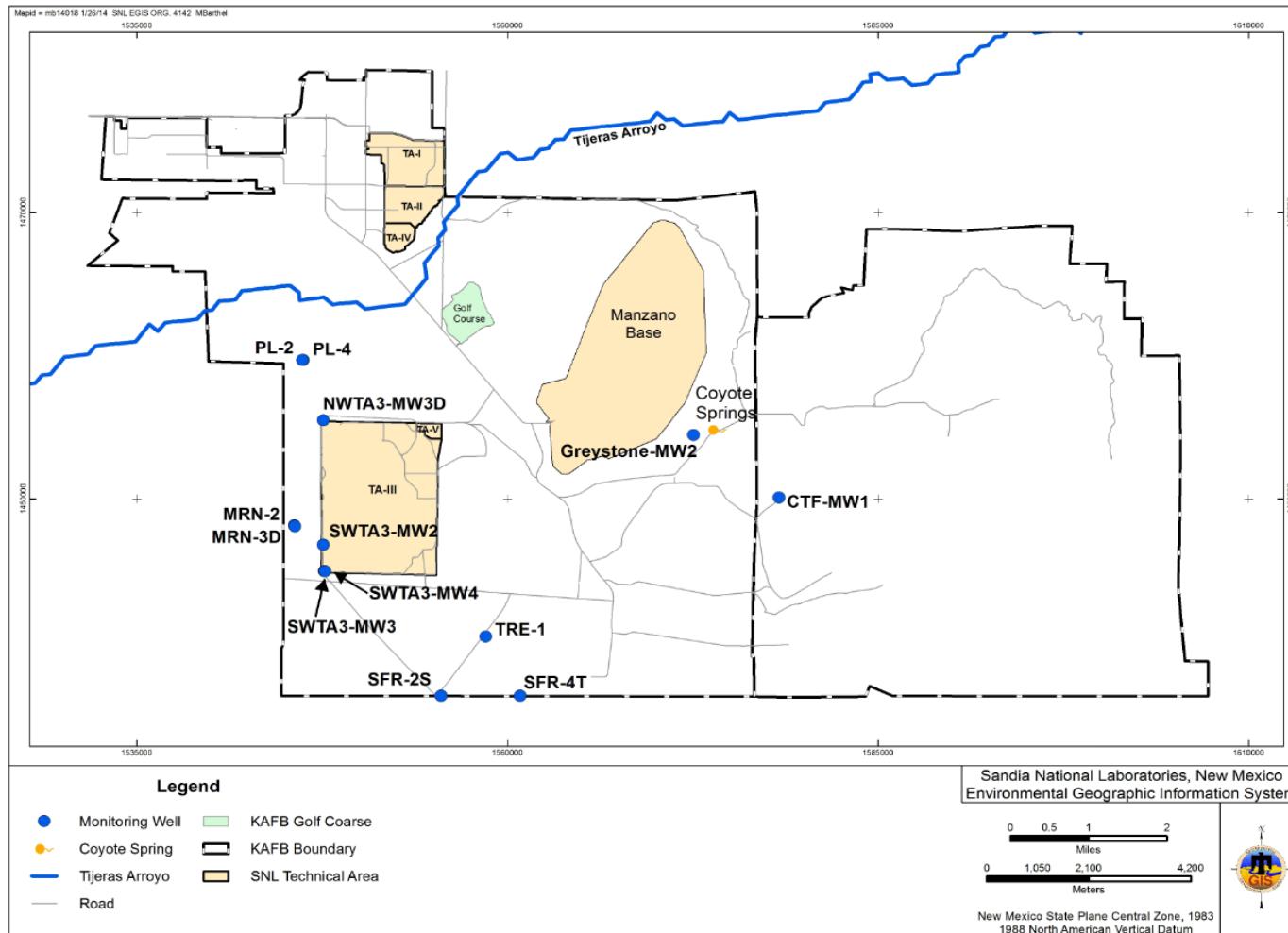
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- Contamination levels are typically low, below or just above regulatory standards
- Contaminants most commonly nitrate & TCE
- Sites are well characterized and not a threat to KAFB or Albuquerque/Bernalillo Co. water supply wells
- Groundwater Monitoring Program and ER Operations will continue to characterize, monitor groundwater, and report data per NMED requirements

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# BACKUP SLIDES

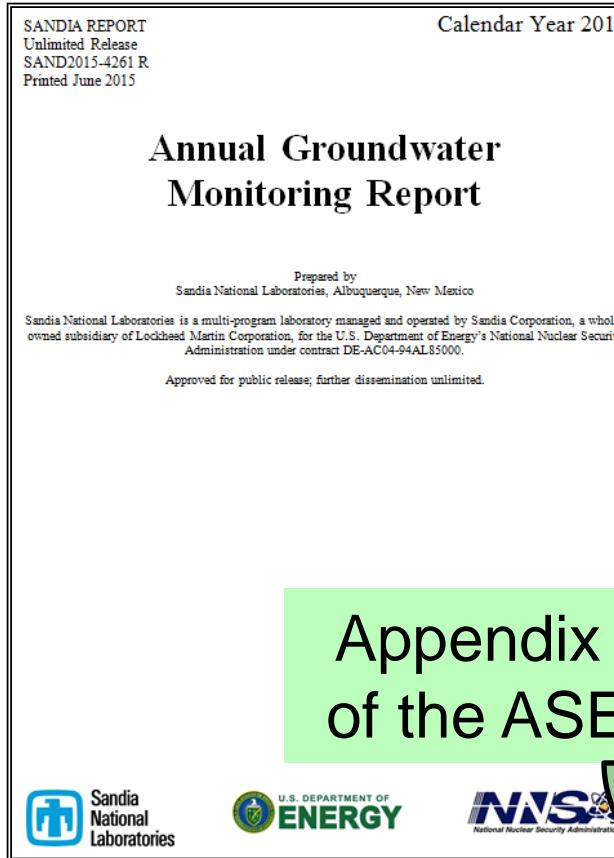
# Long-Term Stewardship Groundwater Monitoring Program



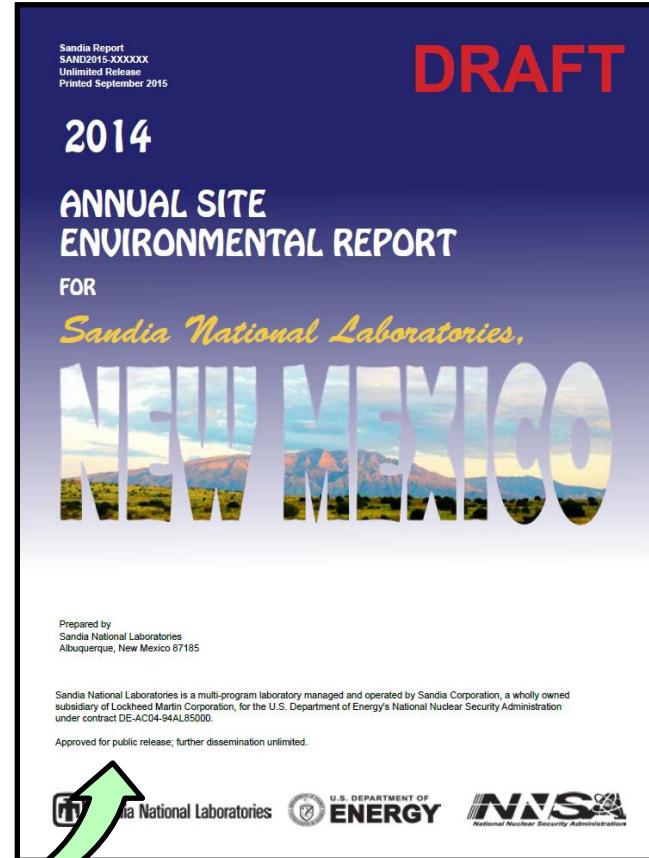
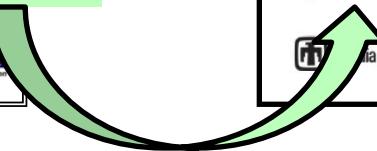


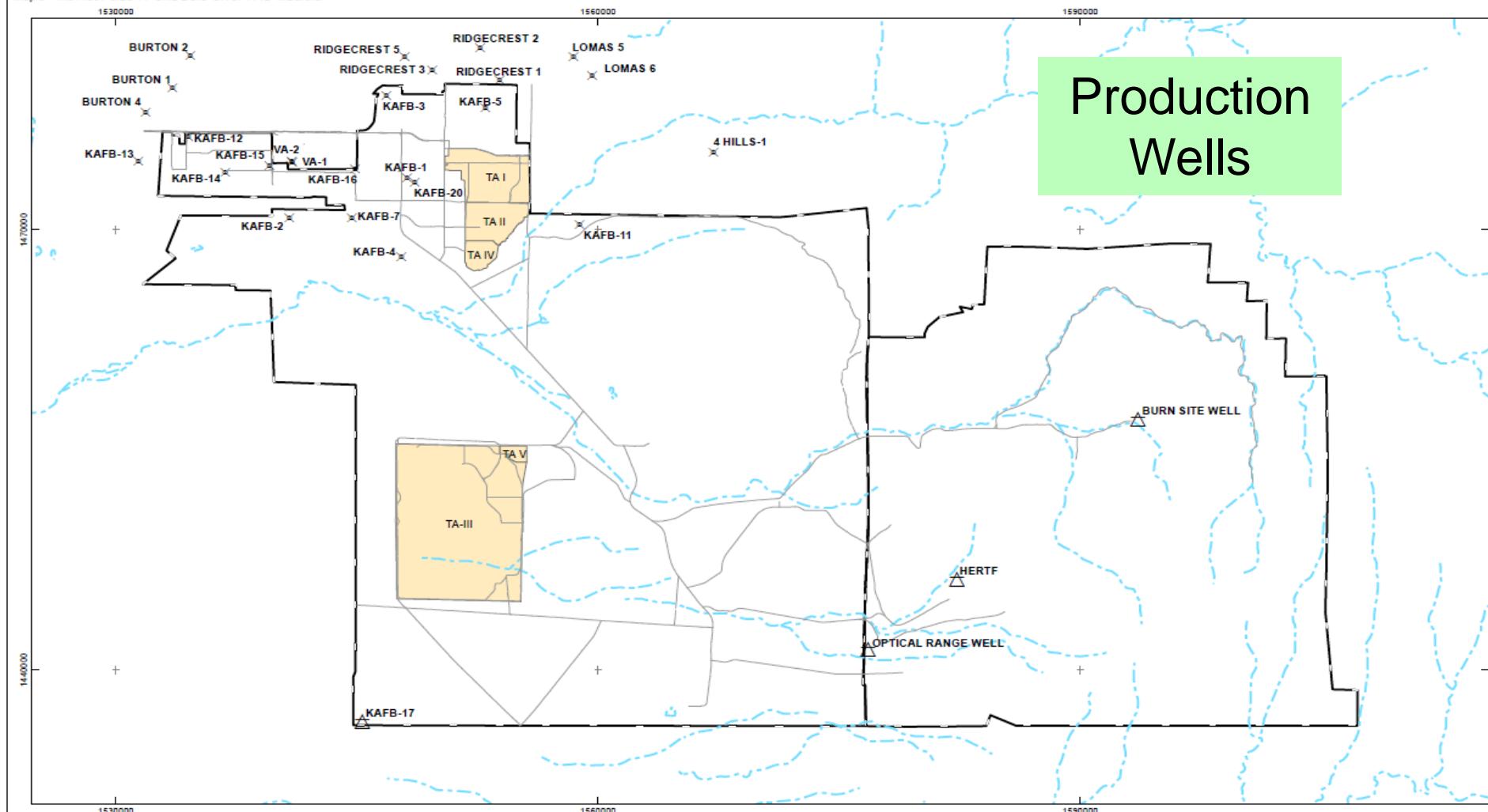
# Groundwater Monitoring Program

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## Appendix C of the ASER

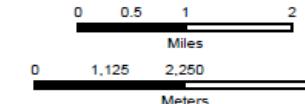




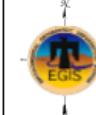
### Legend

- ✖ Production Wells
- ✖ Production Well (non-potable)
- Road
- Surface drainage, arroyo
- KAFB Boundary
- SNL Technical

Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico  
Environmental Geographic Information System



New Mexico State Plane Central Zone, 1983  
1988 North American Vertical Datum



## Water Level Measurement



# Sampling Pump System





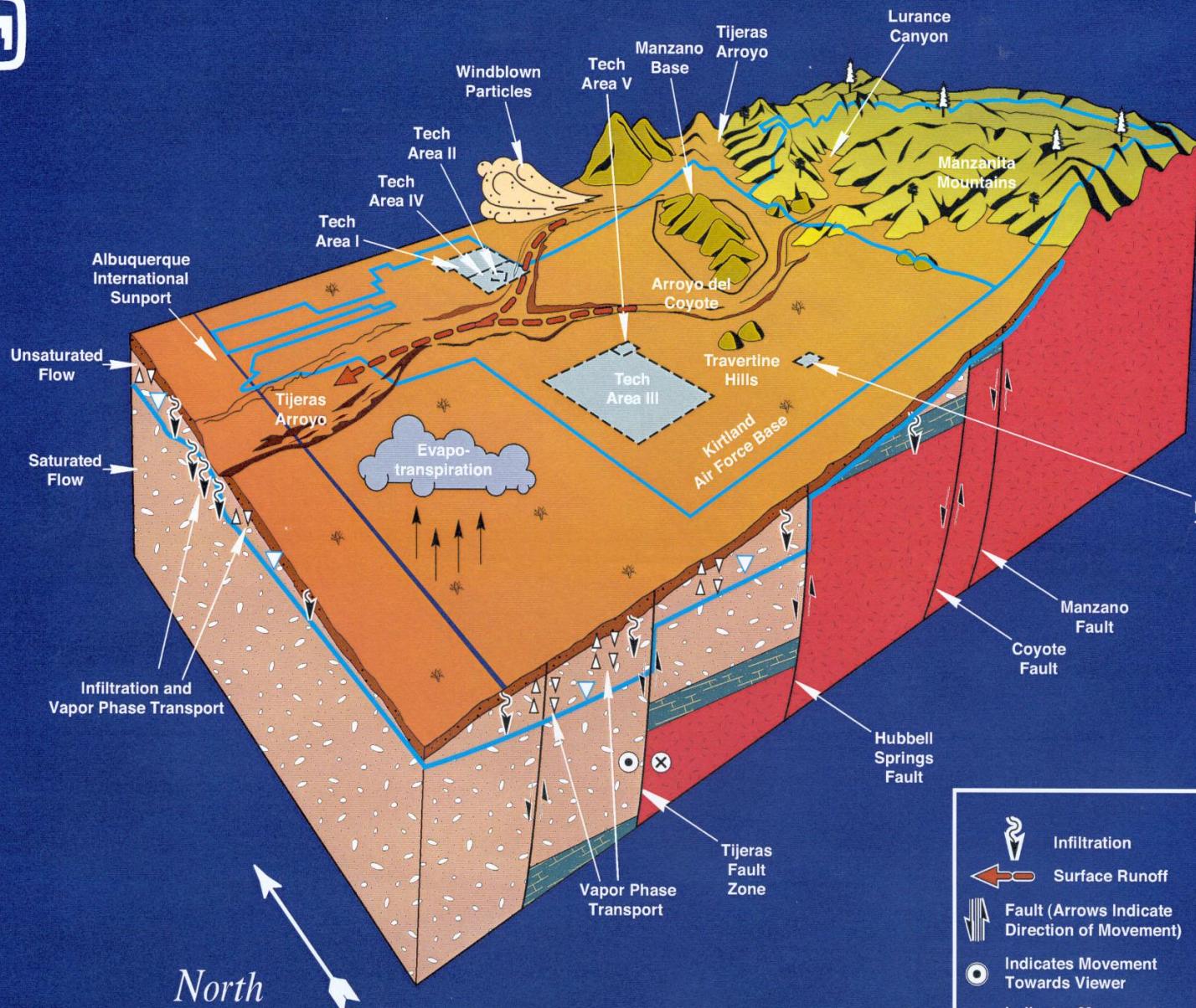
Groundwater  
Sampling



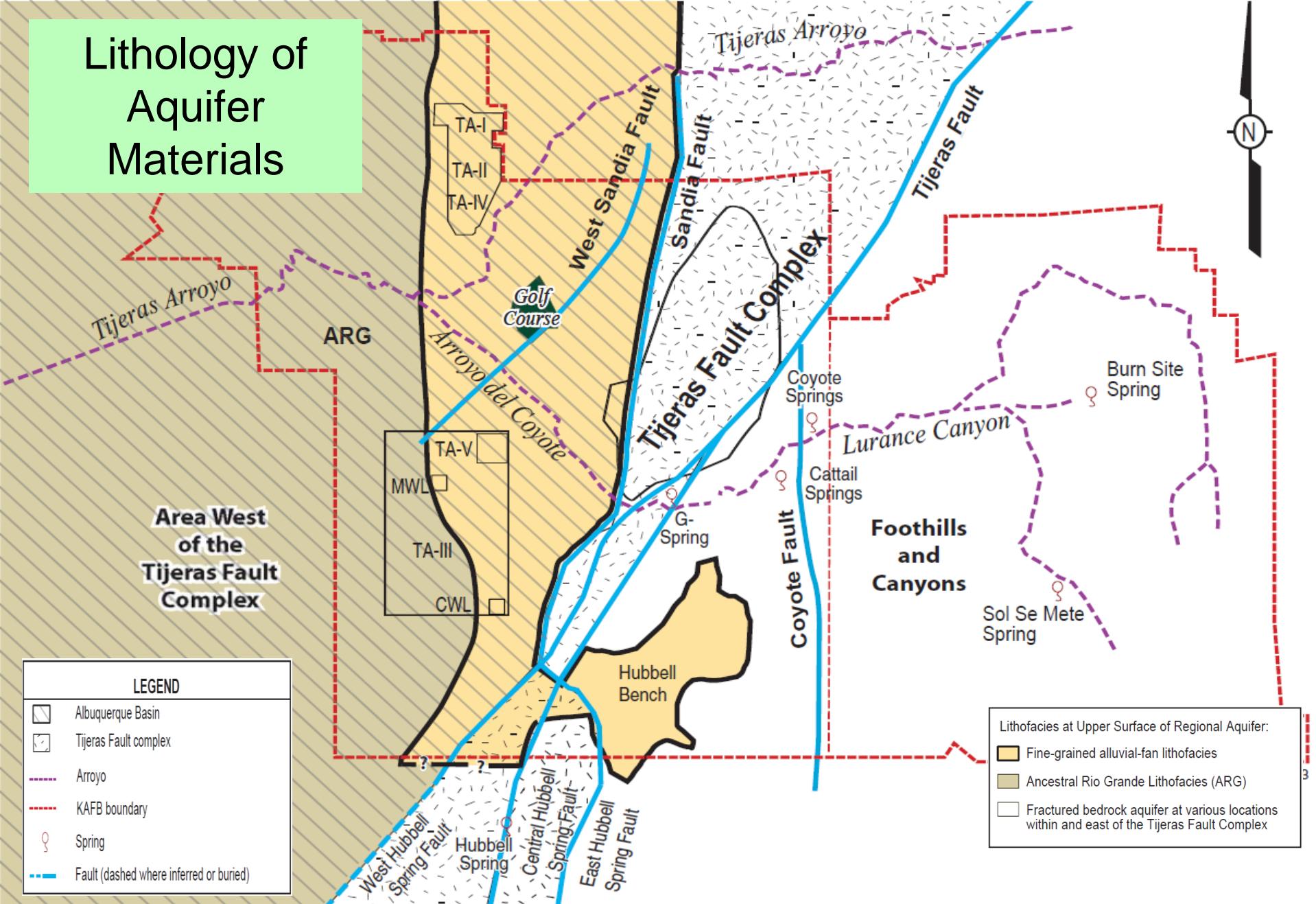
Measuring Field  
Analytical  
Parameters

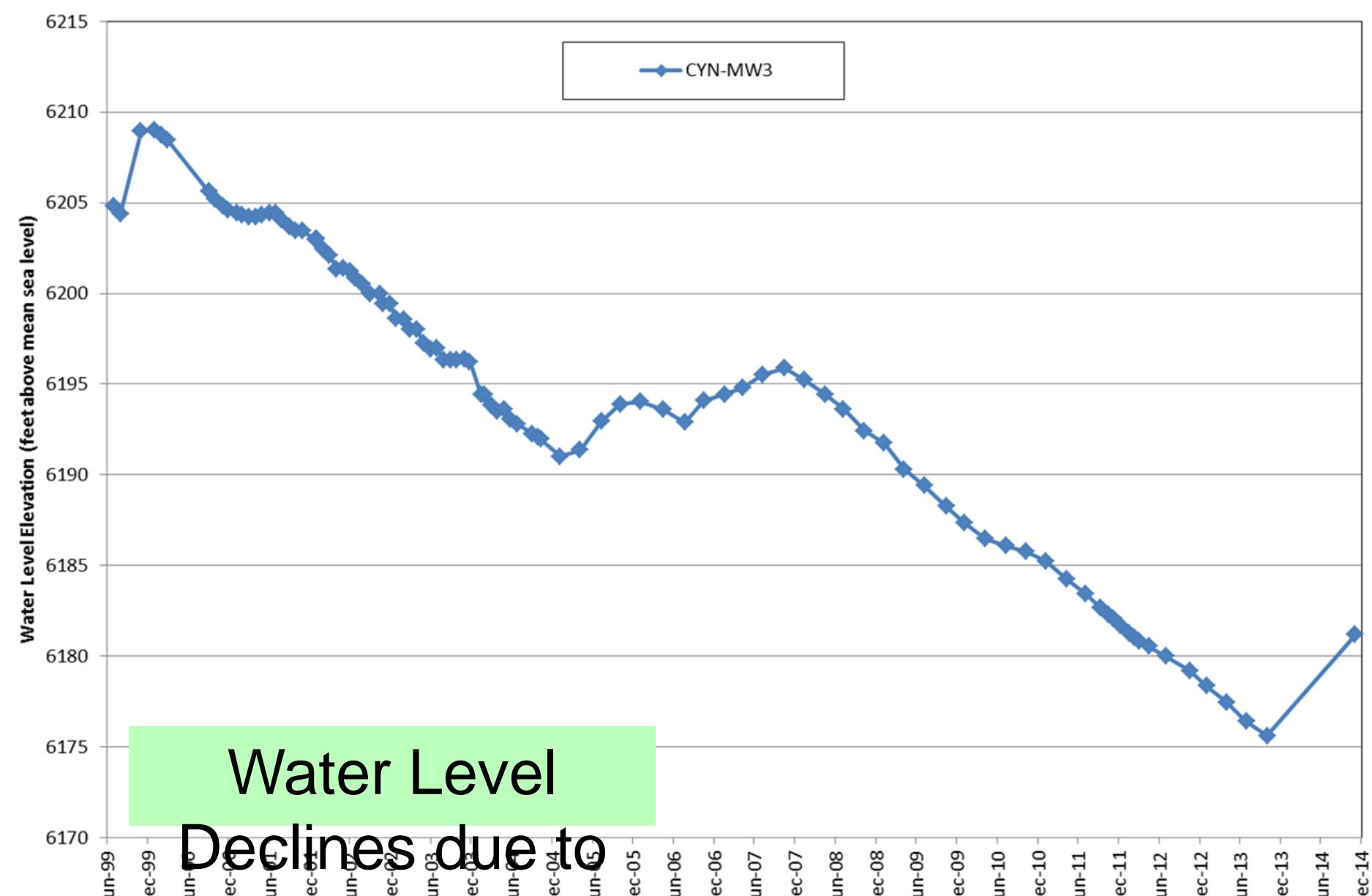


# Site Conceptual Model

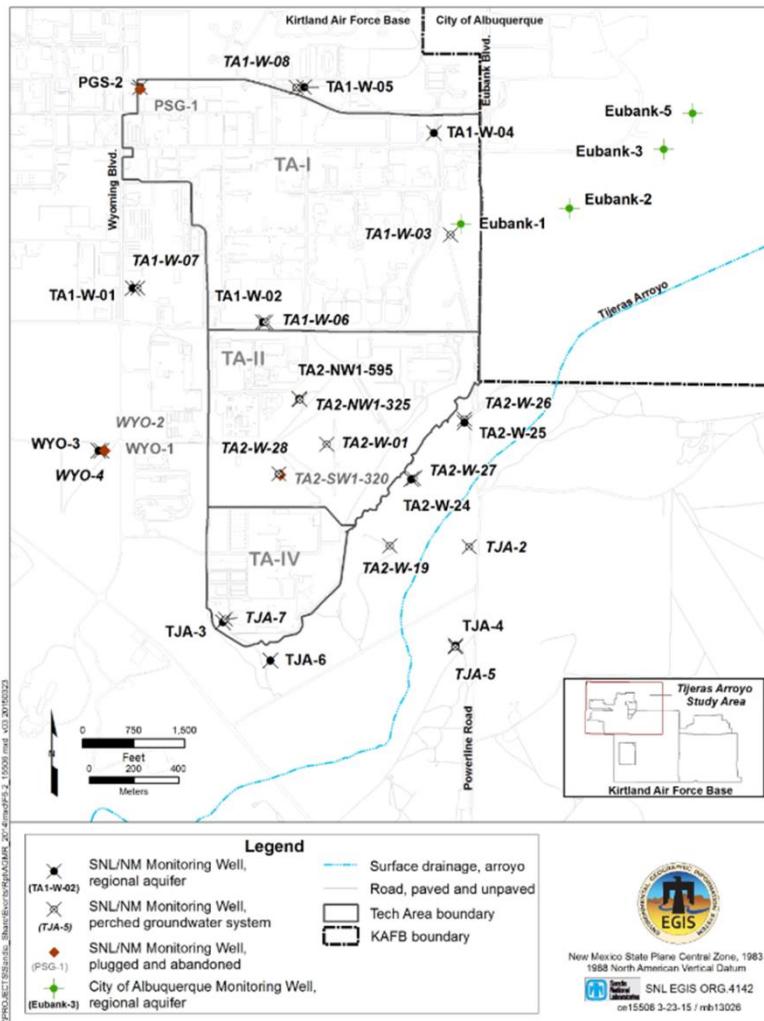


# Lithology of Aquifer Materials

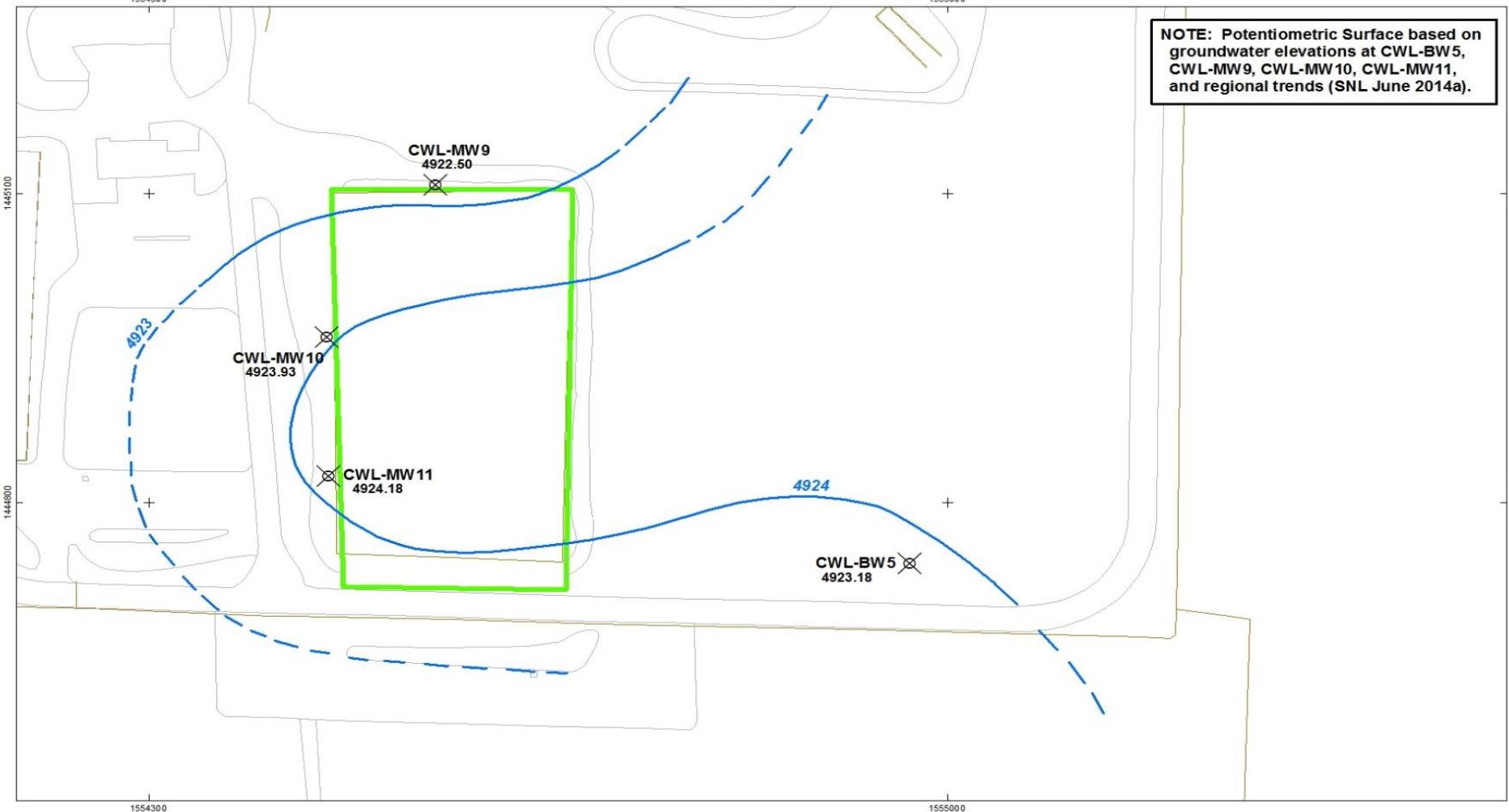




# Tijeras Arroyo Groundwater Well Locations



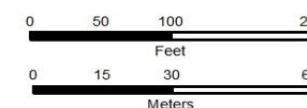
# Wells Paired-- Perched and Regional Aquifer



### Legend

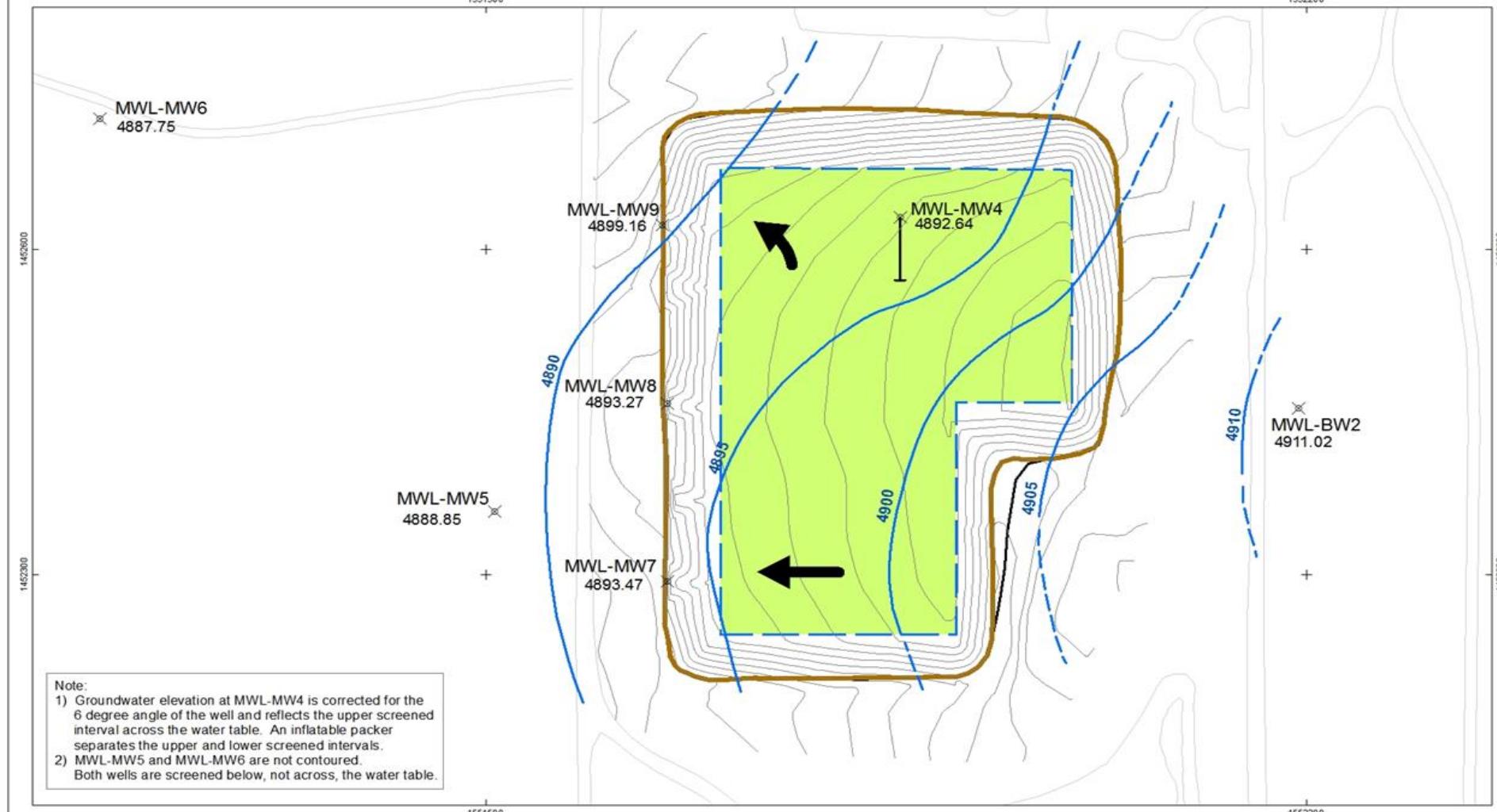
- Monitoring well, groundwater with groundwater elevation, feet amsl, October 2014 (datum NAVD88)
- Potentiometric surface contour, feet above Mean Sea Level, dashed where inferred
- Chemical Waste Landfill
- Road, paved and unpaved

Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico  
Environmental Geographic Information System



New Mexico State Plane Central Zone, 1983  
1988 North American Vertical Datum





**Legend**

- Monitoring well, groundwater. (Groundwater elevation, feet amsl, October 2014, NAVD88 datum)
- 1-ft. Contour Interval
- Monitoring well, angled extent shown for MWL-MW4 with water table elevation
- Arrows indicate the direction of groundwater flow.

Potentiometric Surface contour, feet amsl, dashed where inferred

**Toe of ET Cover**

**MWL ET Cover surface and original site boundary**

**Mixed Waste Landfill**

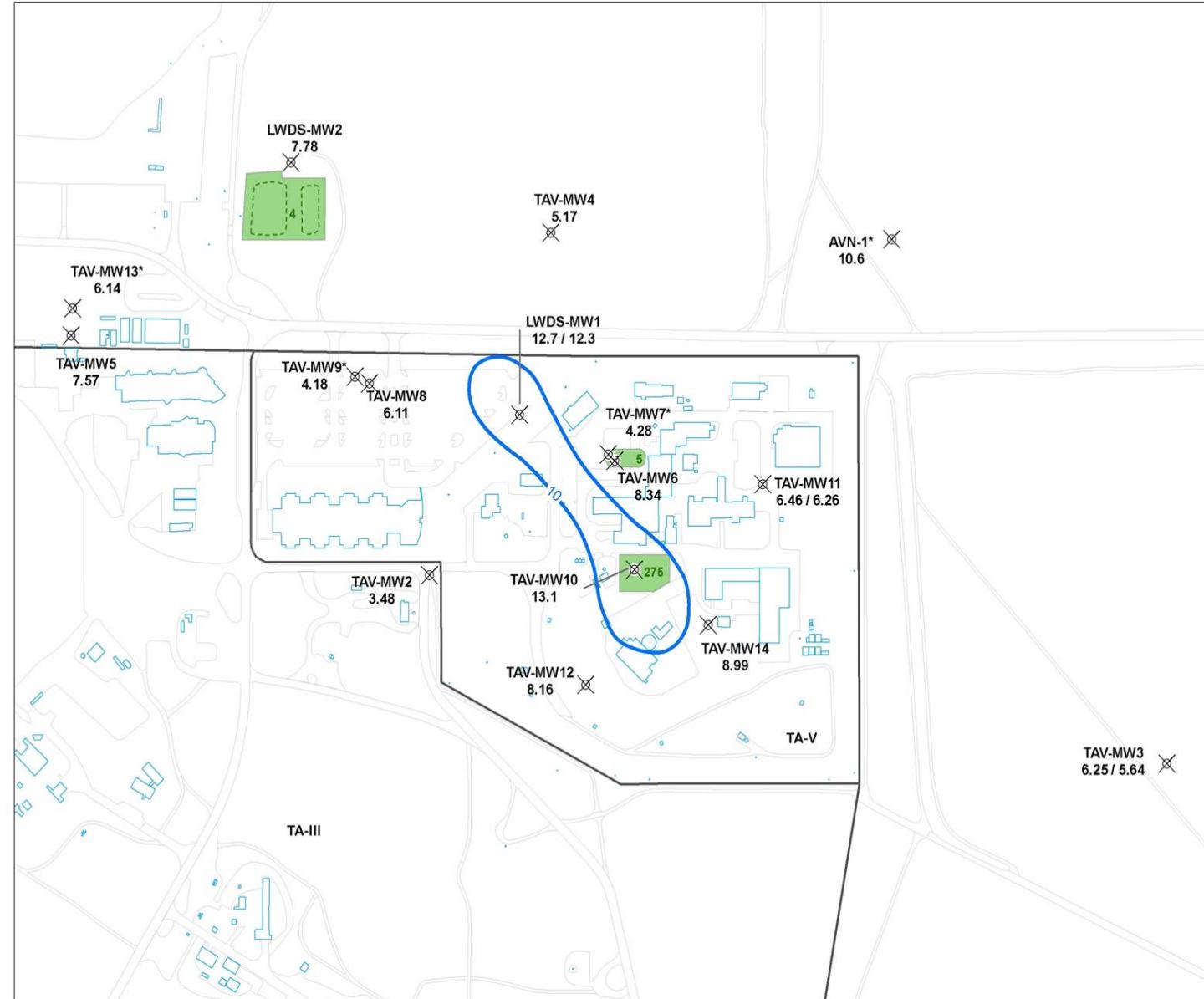
**Paved / unpaved Road**

**Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico Environmental Geographic Information System**

0 50 100 200  
Scale in Feet

0 15 30 60  
Scale in Meters

New Mexico State Plane Central Zone, 1983  
1988 North American Vertical Datum



### Legend

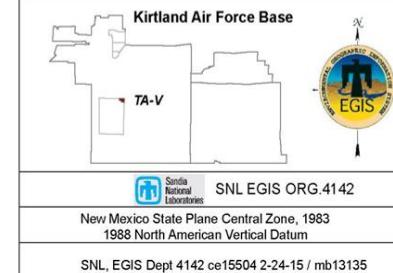
- Monitoring well, with October/November 2014 Nitrate plus Nitrite concentrations (mg/L)
- Isoconcentration contour (mg/L)
- Road, paved and unpaved
- Building / structure
- Inactive impoundment boundary
- Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU)
- Tech Area boundary

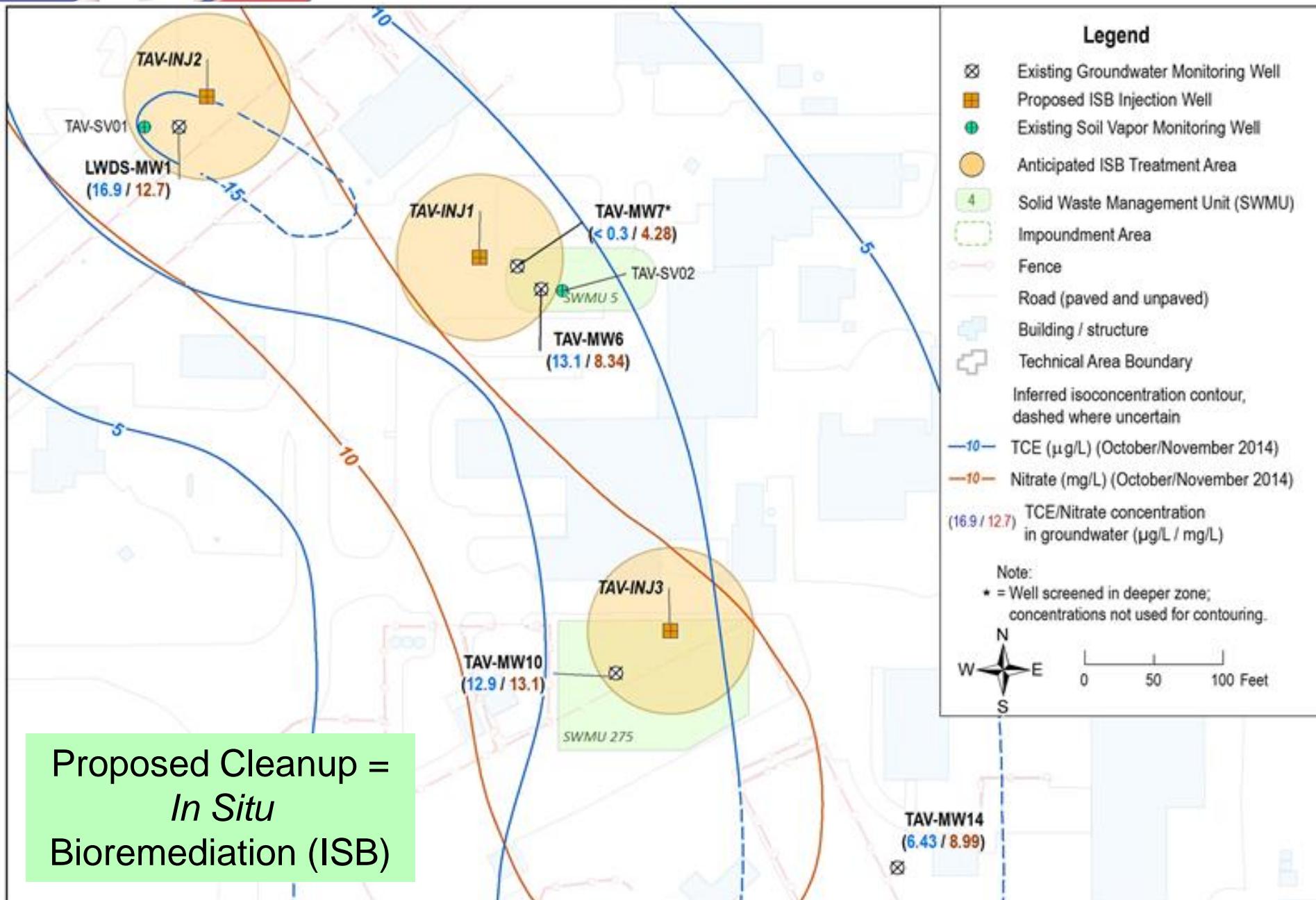
### Note:

\* Wells AVN-1, TAV-MW7, TAV-MW9, and TAV-MW13 are completed below the water table, and were not used for contouring.

0 300 600  
Feet

0 100 200  
Meters





Proposed Cleanup =  
*In Situ*  
 Bioremediation (ISB)



## Miscellaneous Solid Waste Management Units

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- No groundwater contamination detected above regulatory standards, except as noted
- **SWMU 8&58**—Explosives test area, two wells. Fluoride above drinking water standard in one well is naturally occurring
- **SWMU 49**—Septic system drain field, one well
- **SWMU 68**—Former burn site, three wells
- **SWMU 116**—Septic system drain field, one well
- **SWMU 149**—Septic system drain field, one well
- **SWMU 154**—Septic system drain field, one well. Trace concentration (less than one part per billion) of an explosive, RDX (no regulatory standard); and arsenic up 0.0774 ppm (regulatory standard is 0.01 ppm)



# Miscellaneous Solid Waste Management Units

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Two SWMUs just removed from Permit

Other Five SWMUs



# Corrective Measures Evaluation Process for BSG, TAG, and TAV

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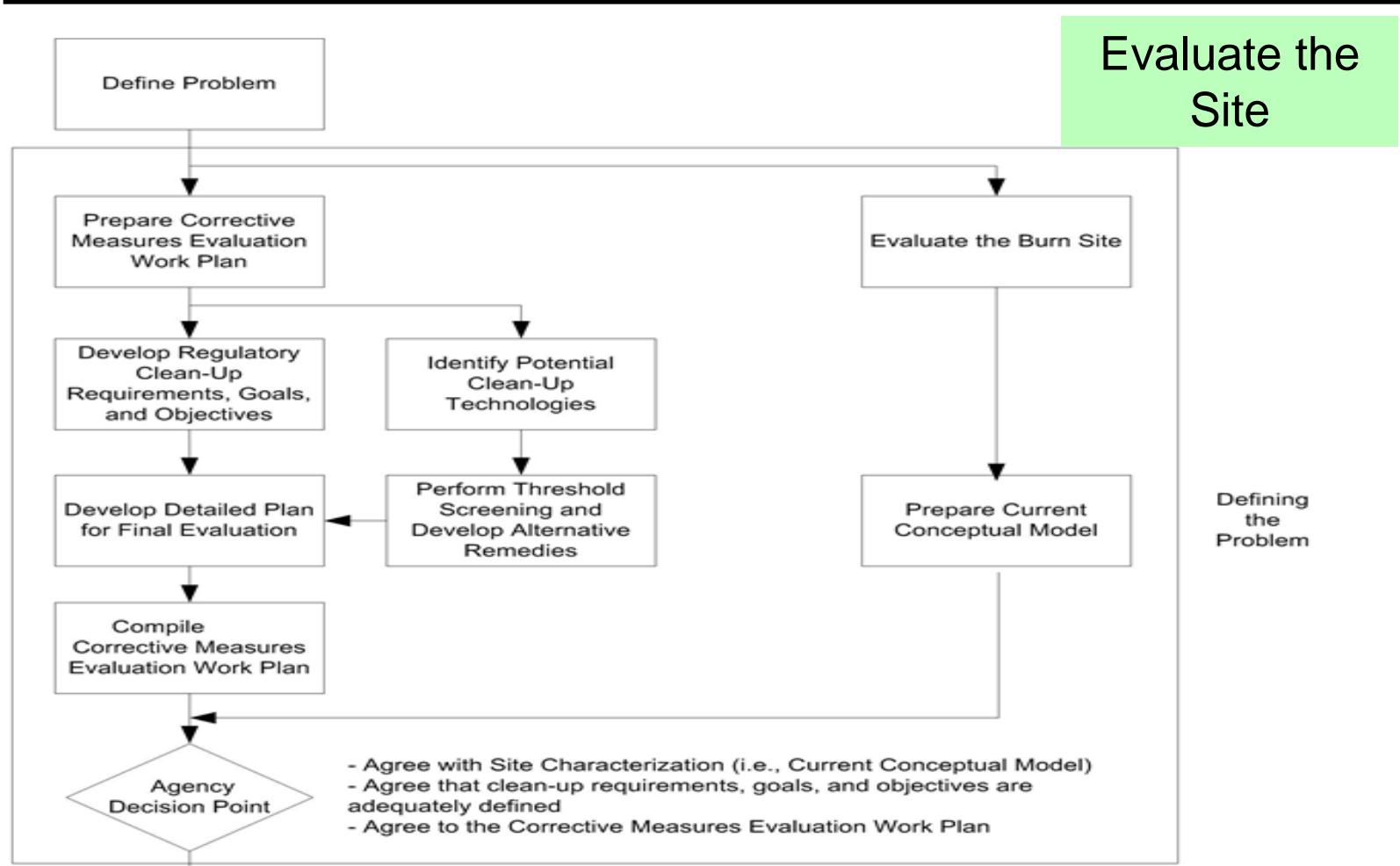
## Possible remedial alternatives identified in CME Work Plans:

- ~~Groundwater Monitoring~~
- **Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA)**
- ~~In Situ Bioremediation (ISB) followed by  
Groundwater Monitoring~~
- **ISB followed by MNA**
- ~~Pump and Treat followed by Groundwater  
Monitoring~~
- ~~Pump and Treat followed by MNA~~

Heavy Reliance on  
Natural Attenuation

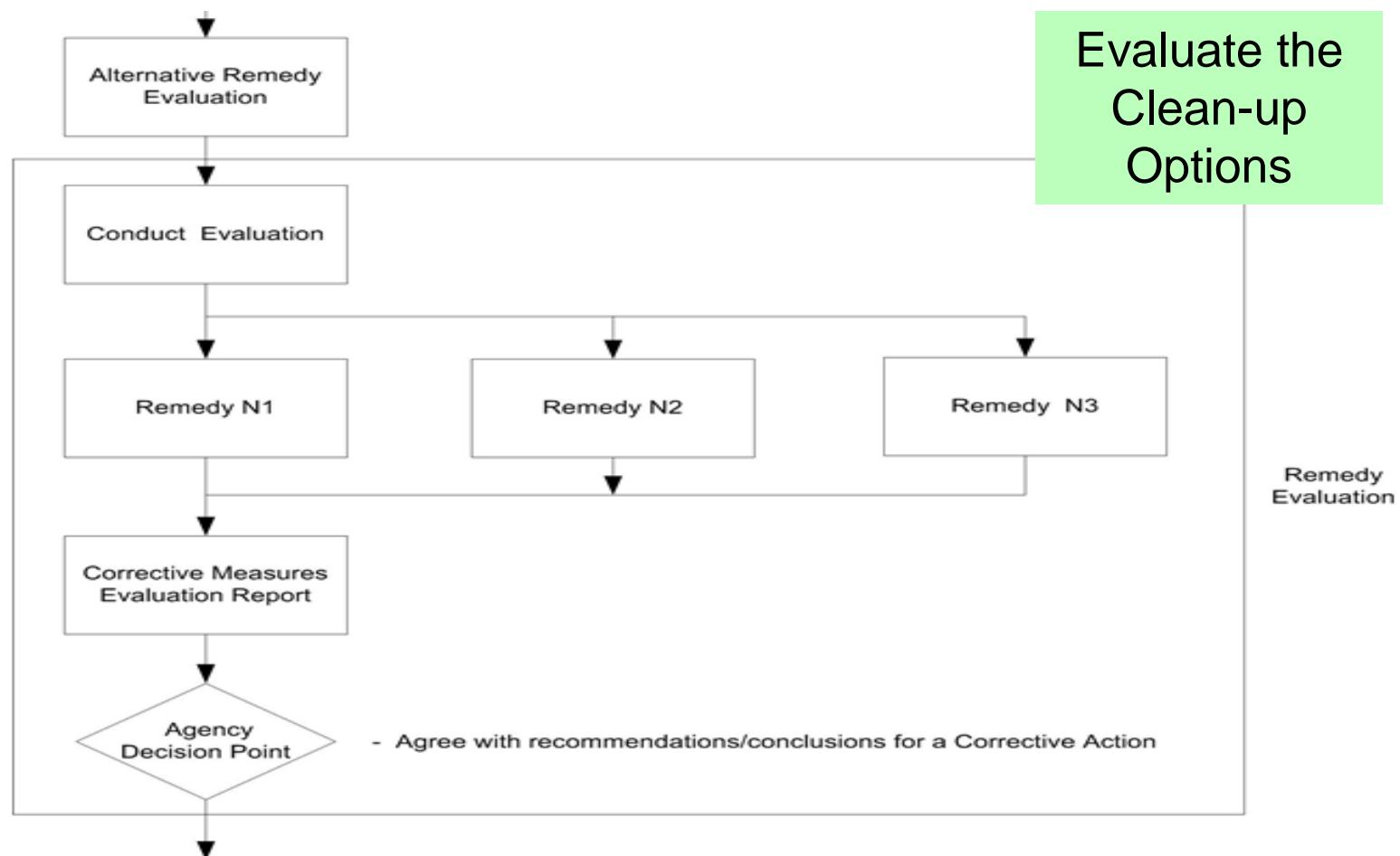


# Corrective Measures Evaluation Process for BSG, TAG, and TAV



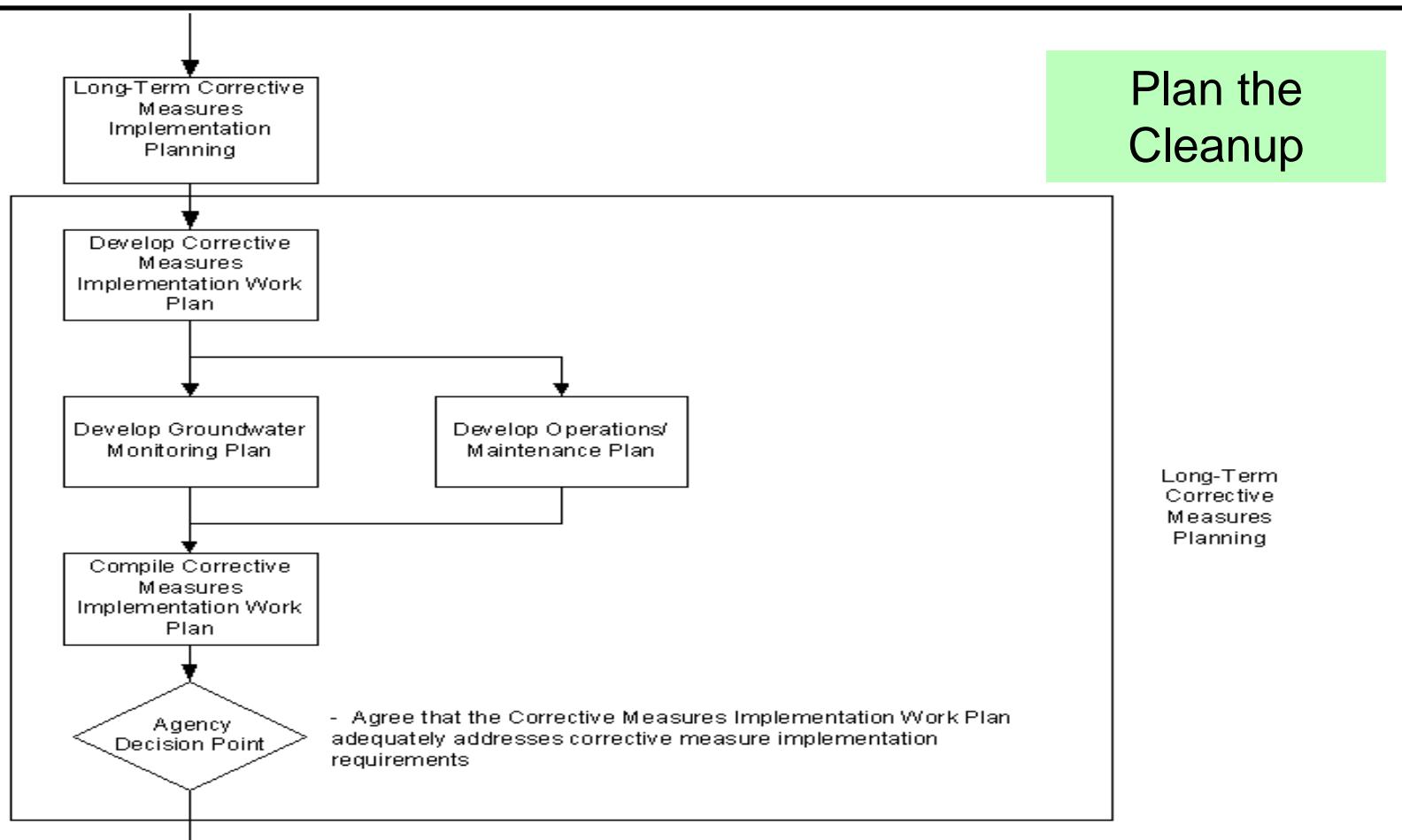


# Corrective Measures Evaluation Process for BSG, TAG, and TAV





# Corrective Measures Evaluation Process for BSG, TAG, and TAV





# Corrective Measures Evaluation Process for BSG, TAG, and TAV

