

**TITLE 20 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**  
**CHAPTER 5 PETROLEUM STORAGE TANKS**  
**PART 120 CORRECTIVE ACTION FOR UST SYSTEMS CONTAINING OTHER REGULATED SUBSTANCES**

**20.5.120.1 ISSUING AGENCY:** New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board.  
[20.5.120.1 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2 SCOPE:** This part applies to owners and operators of hazardous substance UST systems as defined in 20.5.101 NMAC. If the owner and operator of an UST system are separate persons, only one person is required to comply with the requirements of this part, including any notice and reporting requirements; however, both parties are liable in the event of noncompliance.  
[20.5.120.2 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** This part is promulgated pursuant to the provisions of the Hazardous Waste Act, Sections 74-4-1 through 74-4-14 NMSA 1978; the Ground Water Protection Act, Sections 74-6B-1 through 74-6B-14 NMSA 1978; the Water Quality Act, Sections 74-6-1 through 74-6-17 NMSA 1978; and the general provisions of the Environmental Improvement Act, Sections 74-1-1 through 74-1-17 NMSA 1978.  
[20.5.120.3 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.4 DURATION:** Permanent.  
[20.5.120.4 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.5 EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 24, 2018, unless a later date is indicated in the bracketed history note at the end of a section.  
[20.5.120.5 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.6 OBJECTIVE:** The purpose of this part is to provide for corrective action at sites contaminated by releases from hazardous substance UST systems and to protect the public health, safety and welfare and the environment of the state.  
[20.5.120.6 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.7 DEFINITIONS:** The definitions in 20.5.101 NMAC apply to this part.  
[20.5.120.7 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.8 to 20.5.120.1999 [RESERVED]**

**20.5.120.2000 GENERAL:**

**A.** Owners and operators of hazardous substance UST systems shall take corrective action to address all releases, including such action as collection and analysis of relevant site-specific data, soil remediation, groundwater and surface water remediation and any other appropriate actions pursuant to this part, in a manner protective of public health, safety and welfare and the environment.

**B.** Upon confirmation of a release pursuant to 20.5.118.1802 NMAC or identification and reporting of a release in any other manner, owners and operators of hazardous substance UST systems shall comply with the requirements of this part if the release:

(1) is of unknown volume or is greater in volume than the reportable quantity under 40 C.F.R. Part 302; or

(2) is of any size and the owner or operator is directed by the department to comply with this part.

**C.** Owners and operators shall maintain and provide to the department all reports required in 20.5.120.2029 and 20.5.120.2030 NMAC.

**D.** Owners and operators shall mail or deliver and provide paper and electronic copies of all written notices and reports required under this part to be submitted to the department to the owner or operator's assigned project manager from the petroleum storage tank bureau, New Mexico environment department.

**E.** Owners and operators shall comply with any site-specific timeline or deadline that is approved in writing by the department at the time of workplan approval. If no applicable site-specific timeline has been

approved, the following timeline shall apply to all corrective action requirements under this part. The time deadlines set forth in this part are computed from the date of reporting of a release or of reporting of the confirmation of a suspected release pursuant to 20.5.118.1800 NMAC unless another event is specified in these rules.

**Default Corrective Action Timeline**

<b>Deadline, in days from report:</b>	<b>Action or deliverable due date, as defined above:</b>
0	report discovery or confirmation of a release
3	72-hour report
14	14-day report
60	submit NAPL assessment
60	initiate interim removal of contaminated soil
60	preliminary investigation report
120	secondary investigation report
<b>When monitored natural attenuation is used:</b>	
510	monitored natural attenuation (MNA) plan
570	implementation of MNA
935	first annual MNA monitoring report
935	annual evaluation of MNA report
<b>When other remediation is used:</b>	
510	conceptual remediation plan
540	final remediation plan
600	implementation of remediation
690	first quarterly monitoring report
965	annual evaluation of remediation system report

**F.** All owners and operators are responsible for compliance with all provisions of this part. An owner or operator may designate a representative to facilitate compliance with this part. The designation of such a representative shall not affect the department’s right to seek compliance at any time from the owner or the operator or both. The designation of a representative is intended to facilitate compliance with this part and shall not relieve the owner and operator of their legal liabilities or responsibilities under this part.

**G.** Except for 20.5.120.2001, 20.5.120.2002 and 20.5.120.2003 NMAC, owners and operators shall submit to the department written workplans for all corrective action under this part. Owners and operators may submit workplans in stages to reflect the sequence or types of corrective action described in 20.5.120 NMAC at the site, but the owners and operators shall submit all workplans to and obtain approval by the department in writing for technical adequacy before the corrective action is commenced.

**H.** Unless otherwise approved, a qualified firm as specified in 20.5.122 NMAC shall perform all corrective action and, when required by the rules in Title 20, Chapter 5 NMAC, a professional engineer as defined in 20.5.101.7 NMAC.

(1) All contractors and their subcontractors shall have appropriate licenses and certifications and be in compliance with applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to the rules in Title 16, Chapter 39 NMAC governing engineers, 14.6.3 NMAC governing contractors and, 29 CFR part 1910 governing worker health and safety.

(2) Owners and operators shall identify all prime contractors and all subcontractors in all workplans submitted to the department.

**I.** Where site conditions are amenable, owners and operators may use accelerated site characterization techniques if pre-approved by the department.

**J.** All monitoring wells shall be permitted in conformance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and ordinances in effect at the time of installation.

**K.** Owners and operators shall clearly mark and secure monitoring wells and major remediation equipment to prevent unauthorized access, tampering. Owners and operators shall close or abandon all wells in accordance with the requirements of applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations in effect at the time the workplan was approved.

**L.** If a release constitutes a hazardous substance incident under the provisions of the Hazardous Waste Act relating to hazardous substance incidents, those provisions may apply in addition to this part.

**M.** The department shall notify owners and operators taking corrective action and contractors of state-lead sites in writing when it has determined that a deliverable completed under an approved workplan is satisfactory.

The written notice shall also inform the owner, operator or contractor that any application for payment from the fund of costs associated with the approved deliverable must be received by the department within 90 days of the date the owner, operator or contractor received written notice of approval and that the department shall not grant extensions of the deadline except for good cause as shown pursuant to 20.5.123.2318 NMAC.

[20.5.120.2000 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

[The address of the department's Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau, Remedial Action Program, is: 2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505.]

**20.5.120.2001 MINIMUM SITE ASSESSMENT, INITIAL RESPONSE:**

**A.** Upon discovery or confirmation of a release, owners and operators of the UST system shall immediately prevent any further release from the UST system by whatever means necessary, including removing product from the UST system or any part of the UST system that is known to leak or is suspected of leaking. If necessary, owners and operators shall remove the UST system from service in accordance with 20.5.115 NMAC.

**B.** Owners and operators shall inform the department in accordance with 20.5.118.1800 NMAC of any release and action taken to mitigate immediate damage from the release.

[20.5.120.2001 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2002 MINIMUM SITE ASSESSMENT, INITIAL ABATEMENT:**

**A.** Owners and operators shall undertake the initial abatement and site investigation actions specified in this section within 72 hours of discovery or confirmation of a release pursuant to 20.5.118 NMAC, using the default timeline as set forth in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC or as otherwise approved by the department.

**B.** Owners and operators shall identify the location and details of construction of all private water supply wells, using readily accessible public records, within a 1,000-foot radius, and all public water supply wells within a one mile radius of the UST system, and shall determine if the identified wells lie within a designated wellhead protection area. Owners and operators shall take appropriate measures to protect these water supplies from contamination.

**C.** Owners and operators shall contain or remediate releases which present an imminent threat of contamination to or are within 500 feet of a surface water course as soon as practicable to prevent contamination of surface water. If the surface water course is a drinking water supply, within 24 hours owners and operators shall notify the owners or operators of all drinking water supplies likely to be affected by the release.

**D.** If the release has contaminated a water supply, owners and operators shall immediately provide a temporary replacement drinking water supply, as well as adequate warnings or other mechanisms to prevent persons from drinking or otherwise contacting water contaminated by the release. Within seven days of discovery or confirmation of a release pursuant to 20.5.118 NMAC that has contaminated a water supply, owners and operators shall provide a replacement water supply which is of adequate quality and quantity for drinking, bathing, cooking and washing. Owners and operators shall maintain the replacement water supply until an alternate water supply sufficient for all domestic purposes is available.

**E.** Owners and operators shall identify the depth, location, composition and construction of all underground utilities including water lines, sewer lines, communication cables, electric lines, and natural gas lines within the area of the release to assess the susceptibility of these utilities to permeation by contaminants or deterioration caused by contaminants. Owners and operators shall notify the utility owner that the release has occurred and obtain permission to perform a site check of the utilities or other subsurface structures most likely to be contaminated by the release to determine whether NAPL or vapors are present.

**F.** Owners and operators shall complete an investigation to determine whether potentially explosive or harmful vapors are present in any building, utility corridor, basement, or other surface or subsurface structure on or adjacent to the release site.

(1) The investigation shall include testing for vapors using the following:  
(a) a combustible gas indicator or equivalent instrument calibrated according to the manufacturer's instructions to test for potentially explosive levels of vapors; and  
(b) a photoionization detector, flame ionization detector or another method approved by the department calibrated according to the manufacturer's instructions to test for potentially harmful vapors.

(2) In the event owners and operators discover potentially explosive levels of vapors greater than 10 percent of the lower explosive limit (LEL) or potentially harmful vapors reading greater than five whole units above ambient concentrations in any structure in the vicinity of the release site, owners and operators shall take immediate action to mitigate the vapor hazard. Within seven days of the discovery of the vapors, owners and

operators shall install and place into operation a vapor mitigation system capable of reducing vapors to safe levels within the shortest reasonable time. The vapor mitigation system shall be designed by and constructed under the direct, responsible, supervisory control of a professional engineer, when required by the department.

(a) Once a vapor mitigation system has been installed, owners and operators shall monitor and report in writing to the department the levels of vapors in the affected structures weekly for the first month and monthly thereafter unless a different monitoring schedule is approved in writing by the department. This monitoring shall be performed in accordance with Subparagraphs (a) and (b) of Paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(b) After the vapor mitigation system has been in operation for three months, owners and operators shall have 30 days to submit to the department a written summary report containing the monitoring results. The department may direct owners and operators to modify the vapor mitigation system as necessary to reduce vapors to safe levels. Owners and operators shall submit monitoring results to the department at three-month intervals until operation of the vapor mitigation system is discontinued in accordance with this section.

(3) Owners and operators shall continue to operate the vapor mitigation system until the results of three consecutive monthly monitoring events indicate the following:

(a) levels of vapors are less than ten percent LEL; and

(b) levels of vapors are less than or equal to five whole instrument units above ambient levels in any structure in the vicinity of the release site when measured as required in Subparagraphs (a) and (b) of Paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(4) When operation of a vapor mitigation system is discontinued, owners and operators shall monitor the vapor levels in the structure weekly for the first month and monthly thereafter until one calendar year has passed, or as otherwise approved by the department. If during this period the levels exceed those set forth in Subparagraphs (a) and (b) of Paragraph (3) of this subsection, owners and operators shall notify the department and take the necessary corrective action, as directed by the department.

G. Owners and operators shall remove any exposed hazardous substances related to the release and mitigate any related immediate fire and safety hazards as soon as possible, but in no case no later than 72 hours after the confirmation or other identification of the release.

[20.5.120.2002 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

### **20.5.120.2003 MINIMUM SITE ASSESSMENT, 72-HOUR AND 14-DAY REPORTS:**

A. Owners and operators shall make an oral report summarizing the abatement procedures undertaken and the results of action taken under 20.5.120.2001 and 20.5.120.2002 NMAC within 72 hours of the discovery or confirmation of a release pursuant to 20.5.118 NMAC.

B. Owners and operators shall submit a paper and electronic copy of a written report to the department within 14 days of the discovery or confirmation of a release pursuant to 20.5.118 NMAC in addition to the written notice required under 20.5.118 NMAC. This report shall summarize all the work performed pursuant to 20.5.120.2001 and 20.5.120.2002 NMAC and shall include the following information, as appropriate:

(1) a map based on a United States geologic survey topographic map showing locations of actual and potential receptors, including, but not limited to, private and public water supplies identified pursuant to Subsection B of 20.5.120.2002 NMAC; owners and operators shall draw two concentric circles, at 1,000 feet and at one mile radii from the center of the release, and shall also show on the map all surface water courses within a one mile radius of the site;

(2) information about any water supplies known or suspected to have been contaminated by the release;

(3) most likely direction of groundwater flow;

(4) a site plan map showing locations of utilities, surface structures and storage tank systems;

(5) information about underground utilities gathered in accordance with Subsection E of 20.5.120.2002 NMAC;

(6) soil borings, logs, and details of construction of all wells, if available;

(7) description of any actions taken to abate adverse effects;

(8) data from vapor monitoring performed in the vicinity of the site;

(9) description of any actions taken to abate potentially explosive or harmful vapors and any plans for further action;

(10) description of fire and safety hazards resulting from the release and actions taken to abate such hazards;

(11) description of current and past ownership of the property, UST systems, the substance stored in the system, age of tank and history of any tank removals;

- (12) present land use, within 1,000 feet of the site; and
- (13) records of tightness tests, repairs to the UST system, release detection and monitoring

results.

[20.5.120.2003 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2004 NOTICE, SPLIT SAMPLES AND SAMPLING PROCEDURES:**

**A.** Except for the 72-hour vapor check, owners and operators shall notify the department at least four days prior to the collection of any samples which are required pursuant to this part and upon which laboratory analyses are to be performed to allow the department an opportunity to be present at the collection of samples or to split samples.

**B.** Owners and operators shall notify the department at least four days prior to the decommissioning, destruction or abandonment of any wells.

**C.** Owners and operators shall collect, store and transport all samples necessary to comply with the requirements of this part in a manner consistent with the nature of the known or suspected and in conformance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

[20.5.120.2004 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2005 INTERIM REMOVAL OF NON-AQUEOUS PHASE LIQUID:**

**A.** Owners and operators shall assess the potential for remediation of non-aqueous phase liquid (NAPL) where there is a thickness of greater than one-eighth inch of NAPL in surface water, in any excavation pit, or in any well. Owners and operators shall submit the assessment to the department in accordance with a timeline approved by the department or the timeline set forth in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC.

**B.** The department may approve interim removal of NAPL when such action is determined to be practical and necessary to protect public health, safety and welfare or the environment. In this event, owners and operators shall remove NAPL in accordance with a timeline approved by the department or the timeline set forth in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC.

**C.** Owners and operators shall remove NAPL in a manner that minimizes the spread of contamination into uncontaminated media.

**D.** Owners and operators shall store and dispose of NAPL in accordance with all flammable and combustible liquids codes approved by the state fire marshal or other local authority, state hazardous waste regulations 20.4.1 NMAC, and any other applicable laws or regulations.

**E.** Owners and operators shall report recovery and disposal of NAPL to the department.

[20.5.120.2005 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2006 INTERIM REMOVAL OF CONTAMINATED SOIL:**

**A.** Owners and operators shall remediate contaminated soil in accordance with 20.5.120.2018 and 20.5.120.2026 NMAC, unless approved by the department to remove and treat contaminated soil in accordance with this section.

(1) The department may approve interim removal of contaminated soil when such action is determined to be practical and necessary to protect public health, safety and welfare or the environment.

(2) Under this section, owners and operators shall excavate, treat and dispose of contaminated soil using methods approved by the department, in compliance with local laws and regulations, and under a timeline approved by the department or the timeline in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC.

(3) The department shall approve the vertical and horizontal extent of soil to be excavated.

**B.** When treating or temporarily storing soil on site, owners and operators shall:

(1) for treatment on site, spread soil in a six-inch layer over an impervious liner or other surface approved by the department to prevent infiltration to groundwater and place the layer of soil on level ground and berm to prevent runoff from contaminating other soil or surface water;

(2) for temporary storage, place the soil in a secure, bermed area on an impervious liner or surface or in a secured and properly labeled container, as approved by the department; and

(3) handle soil in a manner that does not contaminate groundwater, surface water or other uncontaminated soil or does not create or cause a public nuisance or threat to human health, safety and welfare or the environment.

**C.** When contaminated soil is taken off site, owners and operators shall provide the department with the following information within 14 days of removal of the soil from the site:

(1) written documentation of the type and concentration of contaminants, volume and weight of soil, method of treatment, date transported, and location of the site of disposal or treatment;

(2) a signed, written statement by the owner of the treatment or disposal site describing the location of the site and expressly accepting the contaminated soil; and

(3) if contaminated soil is taken to a permitted solid or hazardous waste facility, a manifest signed by the generator, transporter and the owner or operator of the solid waste facility.

**D.** Remediation shall be considered complete when the requirements in 20.5.120.2026 NMAC are met.

**E.** In accordance with a timeline approved by the department or the timeline set forth in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC, owners and operators shall submit to the department a report describing the removal and treatment of contaminated soil.

(1) The report shall describe the soil removal action and its effectiveness, including volumes and weight removed.

(2) Owners and operators shall submit the report within 30 days of the soil removal action. [20.5.120.2006 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

#### **20.5.120.2007 MINIMUM SITE ASSESSMENT, PRELIMINARY AND OTHER REQUIRED INVESTIGATIONS:**

**A.** A preliminary investigation is not required when owners and operators can demonstrate that the contamination has not reached groundwater and one of the following two conditions apply:

(1) the release is remediated in accordance with this part within 72 hours of discovery or confirmation; or

(2) the release is permanently contained within the excavation area.

**B.** If the contamination extends beyond the boundaries of the property where the release originated, owners and operators shall conduct a secondary investigation in accordance with 20.5.120.2010 NMAC.

[20.5.120.2007 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

#### **20.5.120.2008 MINIMUM SITE ASSESSMENT, PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION -**

**REQUIREMENTS:** Owners and operators shall conduct a preliminary investigation in accordance with this Subsection and under a timeline approved by the department or the timeline set forth in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC. The preliminary investigation shall determine the following, unless otherwise approved by the department.

**A.** If not previously identified and reported under 20.5.120.2003 NMAC, the preliminary investigation shall determine the regulated substance released or suspected of being released at the site, the media of concern, current and potential receptors, current and anticipated use of property, complete and incomplete exposure pathways, and routes of exposure.

**B.** The preliminary investigation shall also determine the horizontal and vertical extent and magnitude of soil contamination.

(1) Owners and operators shall conduct a soil boring survey by advancing a continuously cored soil boring at each area of release where soil contamination is most likely to be encountered unless otherwise directed by the department. The initial incident report and a soil vapor survey may be used in locating these areas. Owners and operators shall advance at least one of the borings into the groundwater saturated zone or, with approval from the department, to a depth at which measured levels of contaminants in soil are no longer detectable by laboratory analysis, and vapor concentrations, as determined with a field instrument, are less than 100 whole instrument units.

(2) Owners and operators shall advance at least four additional soil borings to characterize the release within property boundaries. Borings shall be completed to the depth at which contaminants in soil are no longer detectable by laboratory analysis, and vapor concentrations, as determined with a field instrument, are less than 100 whole instruments units. If the soil borings indicate that contaminated soil extends beyond the boundary of the property on which the storage tank system is located, owners and operators shall advance soil borings sufficient to characterize the extent and magnitude of contamination within site boundaries.

(3) The preliminary investigation shall assess, at five-foot intervals, field estimates of concentrations of contaminants of concern in the soil borings and select and prepare samples for laboratory analysis.

(4) Owners and operators shall gather field data for soil classification, determining and recording color, grain size, texture, description of lithification, plasticity and clay content.

(5) The preliminary investigation shall include derived values for soil bulk density (g/cc), soil moisture content (percent by mass), and effective porosity, and fraction organic carbon content (percent by mass) using samples taken from an uncontaminated area of the vadose zone.

(6) The preliminary investigation shall delimit the horizontal and vertical extent of contaminant saturated soil as defined in 20.5.101.7 NMAC.

C. The preliminary investigation shall determine whether groundwater or surface water has been contaminated above applicable standards or whether a potential for groundwater or surface water contamination is present by performing the following:

(1) install at least three groundwater monitoring wells at locations where the results of the soil boring survey conducted pursuant to this section indicate that groundwater may be contaminated; owners and operators shall:

(a) locate monitoring wells so that groundwater gradient can be determined;  
(b) install at least one monitoring well on site in the area of highest contamination as determined by the soil borings installed in conformance with the initial incident report and other relevant information;

(c) install one of the monitoring wells in the estimated down-gradient direction from the area of highest contamination;

(d) construct wells in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations; and

(e) survey the wells using a New Mexico licensed professional surveyor, in decimal degrees of latitude and longitude in accordance with NAD 83;

(2) calculate the direction and gradient of groundwater flow;

(3) inspect all monitoring wells for the presence of NAPL using a method approved by the department; if NAPL is present in any well, measure the apparent thickness, delimit its horizontal extent, and initiate recovery procedures in accordance with 20.5.120.2005 NMAC; and

(4) sample each monitoring well that does not contain NAPL and analyze the sample for contaminants of concern to determine whether:

(a) immediate mitigation procedures are warranted; and

(b) other hazardous conditions exist as a result of the release if not previously identified in accordance with 20.5.120.2002 NMAC by:

(i) identifying the location and depth of underground utilities and other subsurface structures on or adjacent to the site not identified earlier in accordance with Subsection E of 20.5.120.2002 NMAC;

(ii) checking for the presence of vapors in accordance with 20.5.120.2002 and 20.5.120.2008 NMAC; and

D. Owners and operators shall identify all other hazards and potential threats to public health, safety and welfare and the environment which may exist as a result of the release to determine if:

(1) immediate mitigation procedures are warranted; and

(2) other hazardous conditions exist as a result of the release if not previously identified in accordance with 20.5.120.2003 NMAC by;

(a) identifying the location and depth of underground utilities and other subsurface structures on or adjacent to the site not identified earlier in accordance with Subsection E of 20.5.120.2002 NMAC.

(b) checking for the presence of vapors in accordance with 20.5.120.2002 and 20.5.120.2008 NMAC.

[20.5.120.2008 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2009 MINIMUM SITE ASSESSMENT, PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION REPORT:**

A. Owners and operators shall submit paper and electronic copies of a written report of the preliminary investigation and other requirements of the minimum site assessment as defined in 20.5.101.7 NMAC in accordance with a timeline approved by the department or the timeline set forth in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC. The report shall include the information gathered under 20.5.120.2001, 20.5.120.2002, 20.5.120.2003 and 20.5.120.2007 NMAC and shall conform to the requirements of this section and 20.5.120.2008 NMAC.

B. Owners and operators shall attach a statement signed by an authorized representative of the qualified firm preparing the report for the owner or operator attesting to the veracity of the information submitted in the report and attached documents.

**C.** The minimum site assessment report shall at a minimum, include all pertinent data collected during the minimum site assessment investigation, interpretation of that data using cross sections, contoured maps that depict the magnitude and extent of all contaminated media, identification of any threatened receptors, recommendations for additional work and justification for the recommended work.

**D.** The department shall review the report and notify owners and operators of any inadequacies in the report within 30 days of receipt. Owners and operators shall, in accordance with a timeline approved by the department, correct the report and resubmit it to the department for review and written approval. If the revised report does not conform to the minimum site assessment, preliminary investigation requirements in this section and 20.5.120.2008 NMAC, the department shall reject the report and owners and operators shall be determined not to have conducted a minimum site assessment for the purposes of Subparagraph (c) of Paragraph (1) of Subsection B of Section 74-6B-8 NMSA 1978. The department's failure to review or to comment on this report shall not relieve owners and operators of their responsibilities under this part or otherwise under the law.

**E.** Owners and operators shall comply with the requirements of any local government which has designated a wellhead/source water protection area that includes the area of the release.

**F.** Owners and operators shall provide notice that includes the contaminants identified, as well as the horizontal and vertical extent of those contaminants, to all owners of property located within the extent of contamination.

[20.5.120.2009 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

#### **20.5.120.2010 SECONDARY INVESTIGATION:**

**A.** Owners and operators shall perform a secondary investigation in accordance with a timeline approved by the department or the timeline set forth in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC when the department makes at least one of the following determinations about the site:

(1) the extent and magnitude of contamination in all media has not been delimited by the preliminary investigation; or

(2) the release threatens public health, safety and welfare or the environment.

**B.** The secondary investigation shall determine the following:

(1) the horizontal and vertical extent and magnitude of soil contamination both on and off site;

(2) the horizontal extent and magnitude of dissolved phase groundwater contamination both on and off site;

(3) the vertical extent and magnitude of dissolved phase groundwater contamination, when site conditions warrant;

(4) characteristics, aerial extent, estimated volume and apparent thickness of NAPL in wells;

(5) the elevation of groundwater and surface water and the gradient, rate and direction of groundwater and surface water flow;

(6) the rate and direction of contaminant migration;

(7) the hydrologic properties of the contaminated portion of the aquifer including hydraulic conductivity, transmissivity and storativity; the department may require field verification of estimates made from literature;

(8) whether the aquifer is perched;

(9) whether the aquifer is confined or unconfined; and

(10) any other technical information requested by the department which is reasonably necessary to meet the requirements of this part.

[20.5.120.2010 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

#### **20.5.120.2011 SECONDARY INVESTIGATION REPORT:**

**A.** Owners and operators shall submit paper and electronic copies of a written report of the secondary investigation to the department in accordance with a timeline approved by the department or the timeline in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC. The report shall include all information gathered under 20.5.120.2010 NMAC and shall conform to the requirements of this part.

**B.** Owners and operators shall attach a statement signed by an authorized representative of the qualified firm preparing the report for the owner or operator attesting to the veracity of the information submitted in the report and attached documents.

**C.** The secondary investigation report shall, at a minimum, include all pertinent data collected during the secondary investigation, interpretation of that data using cross sections, contoured maps that depict the



magnitude and extent of all contaminated media, identification of any threatened receptors, recommendations for additional work and justification for the recommended work.

**D.** The department shall review the report and notify owners and operators of any inadequacies in the report within 30 days of receipt. Owners and operators shall, in accordance with a timeline approved by the department, correct the report and resubmit it to the department for review and written approval. If the revised report does not meet the requirements of 20.5.120.2010 NMAC, the owner and operator will be in violation of this part until the inadequacies are corrected. The department's failure to review or to comment on the secondary investigation report shall not relieve owners and operators of their responsibilities under this part or otherwise under the law.

**E.** Owners and operators shall provide notice that includes the contaminants identified, as well as horizontal and vertical extent of those contaminants, to all owners of property located within the extent of contamination who were not previously notified in accordance with 20.5.120.2009 NMAC.  
[20.5.120.2011 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

#### **20.5.120.2012 MONITORED NATURAL ATTENUATION:**

**A.** If approved by the department, owners and operators shall submit a plan for remediation by monitored natural attenuation to the department if any of the following conditions have been identified at the site:

- (1) concentrations of contaminants of concern exceed target concentrations in soil or WQCC or EIB standards in groundwater or surface water; and
- (2) other conditions exist as a result of the release which threaten public health, safety and welfare or the environment, as determined by the department.

**B.** Owners and operators shall submit the monitored natural attenuation plan in accordance with this section and 20.5.120.2013 NMAC and in accordance with a timeline approved by the department or the timeline set forth in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC.

**C.** The intent of the monitored natural attenuation plan is to provide a written description of the methodology proposed and demonstrate how the plan will achieve target concentrations in a manner that is practicable, cost effective, and protective of public health, safety and welfare and the environment. The content of the monitored natural attenuation plan, at a minimum and as appropriate, shall include:

- (1) a site plan drawn to scale of no less than one inch equals 40 feet, showing all existing buildings, structures, paved areas, utilities, buried utility trenches, former and existing storage tanks and ancillary equipment, other sources of contamination, extent and magnitude of contamination, and existing and proposed monitoring wells;
- (2) cross sections showing the source contaminant mass in relation to the groundwater contamination;
- (3) a topographic map of appropriate scale showing the site in relation to existing and reasonably foreseeable future receptors;
- (4) concentration contour maps depicting the extent and magnitude of the contaminants of concern and the designated monitoring wells in relation to the site;
- (5) a schematic drawing depicting the construction details including lithology and screen intervals for the designated monitoring wells;
- (6) justification for selecting the designated monitoring wells;
- (7) recommended approach to monitoring including an implementation and monitoring schedule, the analytical methods, and the justification for the recommendation;
- (8) an estimation of the time necessary for achieving target concentrations, and a demonstration through calculations or other appropriate means which supports this schedule;
- (9) a contingency plan in case of a change in site conditions that threatens public health, safety and welfare or the environment;
- (10) public notice in conformance with the following requirements:
  - (a) owners and operators shall publish a legal notice of the submission or planned submission of the monitored natural attenuation plan at least twice in a paper of general circulation in the county in which soil or water has been contaminated by the release; the first notice shall appear within one week of, but not later than, the day of submission of the monitored natural attenuation plan to the department; the second publication of this notice shall occur no later than seven days after the date the monitored natural attenuation plan is submitted to the department, and owners and operators shall submit two certified affidavits of publication from the newspaper to the department within 21 days after the date the monitored natural attenuation plan is submitted;

(b) the notice shall contain the information specified in this section including the following:

(i) a statement that a monitored natural attenuation plan has been submitted to the department proposing actions to monitor natural attenuation of a release of hazardous substances;

(ii) the name and physical address of the site at which the release occurred and the names and physical addresses of properties where any part of contaminant plume is located, using adequate identification of the properties, including street addresses if applicable;

(iii) a statement that a copy of the monitored natural attenuation plan and all data and modeling related to the monitored natural attenuation plan, if applicable, can be viewed at the department's main office and at the department's field office for the area in which the release occurred; and

(iv) a statement that public comments on the plan must be delivered within 21 days of the publication of the second notice, to the owner or operator's assigned project manager at the petroleum storage tank bureau, New Mexico environment department, or a district office if approved by the department, and to the secretary of the environment department;

(c) within seven days of the date a monitored natural attenuation plan is submitted to the department, owners and operators shall also mail by certified mail a copy of the legal notice to adjacent property owners;

(d) owners and operators shall post a notice of the submission of the monitored natural attenuation plan at the release site within seven days of the submission of the monitored natural attenuation plan; the notice shall contain the information specified in this Subsection and shall be at least eight and on-half inches by 11 inches in size and prominently displayed in a location where it is likely to be seen by members of the public for a continuous period until the monitored natural attenuation plan is approved and implemented; public comments must be received by the department within 21 days of the date of the second publication of the public notice; and

(11) other requirements as directed by the department.

[20.5.120.2012 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

[The address of the department's Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau, Remediation Section is: 2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505.]

#### **20.5.120.2013 REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MONITORED NATURAL ATTENUATION PLAN:**

**A.** After the public comment period has ended, the department shall review the plan and shall approve the plan or notify the owner and operator in writing of the deficiencies of the plan. If the secretary determines that a decision on the monitored natural attenuation plan must be postponed due to significant comments from the public, the department must notify owners and operators of such a postponement, and may extend its review period for a period not to exceed 60 days unless otherwise provided in Subsection D of this section. All deadlines calculated from the end of the review period will be adjusted to reflect any extension.

**B.** The department may approve a monitored natural attenuation plan and impose reasonable conditions.

**C.** If the department determines that the monitored natural attenuation plan is inadequate, owners and operators shall modify the plan to correct the deficiencies specified by the department and re-submit it within the time period specified by the department.

**D.** The department may provide notice of the submission of the monitored natural attenuation plan to persons other than the owner and operator and provide for public participation in the review process as the department deems appropriate or when there is significant public interest. In the event an informal public meeting, public hearing or other form of public participation is conducted, the department may postpone its decision on the monitored natural attenuation plan until after a public hearing or meeting is held and a determination is made. Any public hearing or meeting that is held due to significant public interest shall be held within 60 days of determining there is significant public interest.

[20.5.120.2013 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

#### **20.5.120.2014 MONITORED NATURAL ATTENUATION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:**

**A.** Owners and operators shall implement the monitored natural attenuation plan after department approval in accordance with a timeline approved by the department or the timeline set forth in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC.

**B.** Owners and operators shall monitor the contamination until the department determines that the natural attenuation is complete pursuant to this part, or unless otherwise approved by the department.

[20.5.120.2014 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2015 REPORTS ON THE MONITORED NATURAL ATTENUATION:**

**A.** Owners and operators shall submit paper and electronic copies of written reports to the department on the progress of the monitored natural attenuation. Owners and operators shall submit the reports annually unless a different reporting period is approved by the department and shall document all work performed during the preceding interval and shall include at a minimum the following information, as appropriate:

- (1) a site plan drawn to scale of no less than one inch equals 40 feet, showing all existing buildings, structures, paved areas, utilities, buried utility trenches, former and existing storage tanks and ancillary equipment, other sources of contamination, extent and magnitude of contamination, and existing and proposed monitoring wells;
- (2) a topographic map of appropriate scale showing the site in relation to existing and reasonably foreseeable future receptors;
- (3) concentration contour maps depicting the extent and magnitude of the contaminants of concern and the designated monitoring wells in relation to the site;
- (4) tabulation of the current and historical results of all water quality analyses and water elevation data;
- (5) graphs of appropriate scale of the current and historical water quality analyses and water elevation data versus time;
- (6) data evaluation and interpretation, and recommendations; and
- (7) other information required by the department.

**B.** Owners and operators shall submit the report within 30 days of the end of the reporting period or as otherwise approved by the department.

[20.5.120.2015 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2016 EVALUATION OF MONITORED NATURAL ATTENUATION PLAN:**

**A.** Owners and operators shall evaluate the effectiveness of the monitored natural attenuation plan at the end of each year of monitoring and submit the evaluation to the department for review unless otherwise approved by the department.

**B.** When the department determines that the plan is not effectively mitigating contamination according to the identified risks to public health, safety and welfare or the environment, the owner or operator shall propose a change in the existing monitored natural attenuation plan within 30 days of the department's determination of ineffectiveness, or propose an alternative approach to remediation under 20.5.120.2019 NMAC. Within 30 days of the department's approval, the owner or operator shall implement the approved changes.

**C.** After implementation of any modification, owners and operators shall repeat annually the evaluation process described in this section.

[20.5.120.2016 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2017 MODIFICATION OF MONITORED NATURAL ATTENUATION PLAN:**

**A.** Owners and operators may petition the department to approve a modification of the monitored natural attenuation plan for good cause.

**B.** The department may approve a modification of the monitored natural attenuation plan only if such modification provides adequate protection of public health, safety and welfare and the environment and the owner or operator complies with the public notice requirements of 20.5.120.2012 NMAC.

[20.5.120.2017 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2018 COMPLETION OF MONITORED NATURAL ATTENUATION:**

**A.** Natural attenuation shall be considered complete when all of the following criteria are met:

- (1) no layer of NAPL greater than one-eighth inch in thickness is present on the water table or in any of the wells;
- (2) all applicable standards for soil and in groundwater and surface water have been achieved; the applicable standards shall be achieved concurrently at all compliance wells as approved by the department; and
- (3) any other conditions which threatened public health, safety and welfare or the environment have been abated.

**B.** If any of the conditions of Paragraphs (1) through (3) of Subsection A of this section are not met, the department may require the owner or operator to perform additional remediation.

**C.** Termination of monitored natural attenuation in accordance with this section does not relieve the owner and operator of any other liability or responsibility they may have under this part or any other federal, state or local law or regulation.

**D.** Following department approval, and with 30 days' notice unless otherwise approved by the department, owners and operators shall properly abandon wells that are no longer needed for monitoring, in accordance with federal, state and local laws and regulations.

[20.5.120.2018 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2019 CONCEPTUAL REMEDIATION PLAN:**

**A.** If approved by the department, owners and operators shall submit a conceptual remediation plan to the department if any of the following conditions have been identified at the site:

- (1) a thickness of greater than one-eighth inch of NAPL is present in the water, including in any excavation pit, or in any well;
- (2) contaminant saturated soil is present;
- (3) concentrations of contaminants of concern exceed target concentrations in soil or WQCC or EIB standards in groundwater or surface water; or
- (4) other conditions exist as a result of the release which threaten public health, safety and welfare or the environment, as determined by the department.

**B.** All remediation plans shall include but are not limited to methods to mitigate, remove or otherwise remediate the contaminant source areas.

**C.** Owners and operators shall submit the conceptual remediation plan in accordance with this section and with a timeline approved by the department or the timeline set forth in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC.

(1) The conceptual remediation plan shall provide a written description of all of the methodologies proposed and discuss how the plan will achieve target concentrations and other goals of remedial action in a manner that is practicable, cost effective, and protective of public health, safety and welfare and the environment. Owners and operators shall obtain department approval for the conceptual remediation plan before developing the final remediation plan.

- (2) The conceptual remediation plan, at a minimum and as appropriate, shall include:
- (a) a concise description of site conditions, including hydrogeology, contaminant characteristics and plume dynamics;
  - (b) the recommended approach to remediation and justification for the recommendation;
  - (c) a clear description of the goals of remediation and the target concentrations to be met in each medium;
  - (d) a narrative description of the proposed methodologies including a preliminary cost comparison and time lines for achieving goals of remediation;
  - (e) a cost estimate of implementation including installation, operation and maintenance, and monitoring;
  - (f) a schematic diagram of the proposed remediation system or treatment area and a narrative description of its operation;
  - (g) a plan view, to scale, of the site showing locations of the proposed equipment or excavation boundaries in relation to the site's physical features and contaminant plumes;
  - (h) a description of how the approach will achieve target concentrations and other goals of remediation; and
  - (i) a description of additional data required to support the conceptual remediation plan and design of the final plan and how it will be collected.

[20.5.120.2019 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2020 FINAL REMEDIATION PLAN:**

**A.** Following department approval of the conceptual remediation plan, owners and operators shall develop a final remediation plan in accordance with this section and shall submit three copies of the final remediation plan to the department in accordance with a timeline approved by the department or the timeline set forth in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC.

**B.** The design and engineering of any final remediation plan that includes mechanical or electrical equipment, engineered fill, piling, shoring or slope stability analysis shall be the responsibility of a professional engineer as defined in 20.5.101.7 NMAC. A professional engineer shall sign and seal all plans and drawings required pursuant to this section, unless otherwise approved by the department.

**C.** In order to eliminate the potential to emit regulated substances to the environment, all engineered remediation systems shall be designed, constructed and operated such that malfunction or failure of any integral component results in automatic shutdown of the entire system. Integral components include but are not limited to pumps, blowers, oil-water separators, oxidizer systems, air strippers, filtration systems and computers.

**D.** All final remediation plans shall, at a minimum, include all of the following:

- (1) goals of remediation and target concentrations to be achieved in each medium;
- (2) a site plan drawn to scale of no less than one inch equals 40 feet, showing all existing buildings, structures, paved areas, utilities, buried utility trenches, former and existing USTs, other sources of contamination, extent and magnitude of contamination, and existing and proposed monitoring wells;
- (3) a hydrogeologic cross section showing contaminant mass in relation to the remediation system and a topographic map of appropriate scale showing the site in relation to existing and reasonably foreseeable future receptors;
- (4) an implementation schedule;
- (5) engineered plans and specifications in accordance with Subsection E of this section;
- (6) a schedule for remediation of the source areas, for protection of receptors, and for achieving target concentrations, and a demonstration through calculations or other appropriate means which supports this schedule;
- (7) a design and schedule for system optimization that meets the requirements of 20.5.120.2024 NMAC;
- (8) a contingency plan in case of a change in site conditions that threatens public health, safety and welfare or the environment;
- (9) copies of all permits, permit applications, and property access agreements required to initiate remediation, including, if necessary, permits required by the state engineer, permits for discharge to groundwater or a waste water treatment plant, permits for air emissions or a surface water national pollution discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit;
- (10) public notice in conformance with the following requirements:
  - (a) the owner or operator shall publish a legal notice of the submission or planned submission of the final remediation plan at least twice in a paper of general circulation in the county in which soil or water has been contaminated by the release; the first notice shall appear within one week of, but not later than, the day of submission of the final remediation plan to the department; the second publication of this notice shall occur no later than seven days after the date the remediation plan is submitted to the department, and owners and operators shall submit two certified affidavits of publication from the newspaper to the department within 21 days after the date the final remediation plan is submitted;
  - (b) the notice shall contain the information specified in this section including the following:
    - (i) a statement that a remediation plan has been submitted to the department proposing actions to remediate a release of hazardous substances;
    - (ii) the name and physical address of the site at which the release occurred and the names and physical addresses of properties where any part of the remediation system will be located, using adequate identification of the properties, including street addresses if applicable;
    - (iii) a statement that a copy of the remediation plan and all data and modeling related to the remediation plan, if applicable, can be viewed at the department's main office and at the department's field office for the area in which the release occurred; and
    - (iv) a statement that public comments on the plan must be delivered, within 21 days of the publication of the second notice, to the owner or operator's assigned project manager at the petroleum storage tank bureau, New Mexico environment department, or a district office if approved by the department, and to the secretary of the environment department;
  - (c) within seven days of the date a remediation plan is submitted to the department, owners and operators shall also mail by certified mail a copy of the legal notice to adjacent property owners;
  - (d) owners and operators shall post a notice of the submission of the remediation plan at the release site within seven days of the submission of the remediation plan; the notice shall contain the information specified in this Subsection and shall be at least eight and one-half inches by 11 inches in size and

prominently displayed in a location where it is likely to be seen by members of the public for a continuous period until the remediation plan is approved and implemented; public comments must be received by the department within 21 days of the date of the second publication of the public notice;

(11) for sites where contaminated media are being removed, a description of the ultimate disposal site of contaminated media, location of excavation and trenching, and method of limiting access by pedestrian and vehicular traffic; and

(12) other requirements as directed by the department.

**E.** In addition to the requirements of Subsection D of this section, all final remediation plans shall include:

(1) for engineered systems:

(a) unless otherwise approved by the department, a complete and definitive engineering design for a mechanical, electrical, or constructed system, including drawings, plans, diagrams and specifications which are signed and sealed by a professional engineer;

(b) process and instrumentation diagrams;

(c) mechanical arrangement plans and elevations, drawn to scale, showing proposed wells, manifolds, piping details, instrumentation and sampling ports;

(d) details of vapor or fluid extraction or injection wells, as appropriate, including screen length and placement in relation to ground surface, normal and low water table elevations and geologic strata, screen slot size, depths and specifications of the filter pack and seal, and drilling method;

(e) equipment and parts list and specifications including a spare parts list, performance requirements, maintenance requirements and schedule;

(f) electric power requirements including a one-line diagram and schematics;

(g) operation and maintenance commitments and schedules for all facets of the remediation system; and

(h) all other plans, diagrams and specifications that are necessary to properly construct and operate the remediation system in accordance with the remediation plan including but not limited to requirements for:

(i) trenching and protection from traffic;

(ii) concrete repair and replacement;

(iii) restoration of property; and

(iv) location and protection of underground utilities.

(2) for excavation and disposal plans:

(a) plan view of proposed excavation relative to contaminant plume;

(b) cross-sections of proposed excavation depicting overburden, contaminated material to be removed and backfill;

(c) volume calculations and slope stability analysis;

(d) description of excavation and backfill procedure to be performed in conformance with OSHA and ASTM standards and regulations;

(e) traffic control plan;

(f) description of post-excavation confirmation sampling;

(g) proposed final grade plan;

(h) post-excavation grade survey; and

(i) all other plans, diagrams and specifications that are necessary including but not limited to requirements for:

(i) trenching and protection from traffic;

(ii) concrete repair and replacement;

(iii) restoration of property; and

(iv) location and protection of underground utilities.

[20.5.120.2020 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

[The address of the department's Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau, Remediation Section is: 2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505.]

#### **20.5.120.2021 REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FINAL REMEDIATION PLAN:**

**A.** Within 30 days of receipt of the final remediation plan and after the public comment period has ended, the department shall review the plan and shall either approve the plan or notify the owner and operator in writing of the deficiencies of the plan. If the secretary determines that a decision on the remediation plan must be

postponed due to significant comments from the public, the department must notify the owner and operator of such a postponement within 30 days, and may extend its review period for a period not to exceed 60 days unless otherwise provided in Subsection D of this section. All deadlines calculated from the end of the review period will be adjusted to reflect any extension.

**B.** The department may approve a final remediation plan and impose reasonable conditions.

**C.** If the department determines that the final remediation plan is inadequate, the owner or operator shall modify the plan to correct the deficiencies specified by the department and re-submit it within the time period specified by the department.

**D.** The department may provide notice of the submission of the remediation plan to persons other than the owner and operator and provide for public participation in the review process as the department deems appropriate or when there is significant public interest. In the event an informal public meeting, public hearing or other form of public participation is conducted, the department may postpone its decision on the final remediation plan until after a public hearing or meeting is held. Any public hearing or meeting that is held due to significant public interest shall be held within 60 days of determining that there is significant public interest.

[20.5.120.2021 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

#### **20.5.120.2022 IMPLEMENTATION OF FINAL REMEDIATION PLAN:**

**A.** Owners and operators shall implement the final remediation plan after department approval in accordance with a timeline approved by the department or the timeline set forth in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC. Owners and operators shall employ a professional engineer to ensure conformance with the final remediation plan, including excavation, installation, commissioning and operation of the system.

**B.** When the remediation plan includes mechanical or electrical equipment, engineered fill, pinning, shoring or slope stability analysis:

(1) a professional engineer shall supervise conformance with the final remediation plan including installation, commissioning and operation of the system;

(2) owners and operators shall operate the remediation system continuously until the remediation is terminated pursuant to this part, unless otherwise approved by the department; and

(3) owners and operators shall report to the department all interruptions of the operation of the remediation system greater than 72 hours.

**C.** Owners and operators shall obtain written approval from the department prior to implementing any change to the department-approved engineering design.

**D.** Following implementation of the final remediation plan, the owner or operator shall submit an “as-built” report signed and sealed by the project professional engineer including:

(1) any deviations from the drawings and specifications included in the final remediation plan;

(2) a tabulation of pertinent data including but not limited to flow rates, pressures, temperatures, contaminant concentrations and groundwater elevations at start-up, and boring logs and well completion diagrams; and

(3) information and documentation purchased major remediation equipment including, but not limited to, serial number, model and manufacturer, description, warranty information, operating manuals, maintenance requirements and purchase price.

[20.5.120.2022 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

#### **20.5.120.2023 QUARTERLY REPORTS ON THE REMEDIATION:**

**A.** Owners and operators shall submit written reports to the department on the operation of the remediation system. Owners and operators shall submit the reports quarterly unless a different reporting period is approved by the department, shall document all work performed during the preceding interval, and shall include the following information, as appropriate:

(1) tabulation of the current and historical results of all water quality analyses and water elevation data;

(2) evaluation of the performance and efficiency of each aspect of the remediation:

(a) the evaluation and all adjustments to system operation shall be performed, as appropriate, under the direct, responsible, supervisory control of an authorized representative of the qualified and a professional engineer; and

(b) owners and operators shall submit evidence that the performance of the remediation system meets the operating standards outlined in the final remediation plan;

- (3) verification based on calculations that the schedule is being met for source removal, protection of actual and potential receptors, achievement of target concentrations, quarterly and cumulative contaminant mass reduction totals to date in pounds and gallons of contaminants;
- (4) records of system operation, including but not limited to, periods of shut-down and equipment malfunctions; the maintenance procedures performed on the remediation system during the preceding quarter, including the names of the individuals performing the maintenance; and an operation and maintenance schedule for the next quarter;
- (5) NAPL recovery, both cumulative and quarterly, and details of its disposal;
- (6) effluent vapor concentrations over time;
- (7) evaluation and recommendations for improving the performance of the system to achieve the goals of remediation; and
- (8) other information required by the department.

**B.** Owners and operators shall submit the report within 30 days of the end of the reporting period or as otherwise approved by the department.

[20.5.120.2023 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2024 ANNUAL EVALUATION OF REMEDIATION:**

**A.** Owners and operators shall evaluate the effectiveness of the approach to remediation at the end of each year of operation and submit the evaluation to the department for review.

**B.** When the department determines that the approach to remediation is not effectively remediating contamination according to the identified risks to public health, safety and welfare or the environment, owners and operators shall propose an alternative approach or change in the existing remediation plan within 30 days of the department's determination of ineffectiveness. Within 30 days of the department's approval, owners and operators shall implement the approved changes.

**C.** After implementation of any modification, owners and operators shall repeat annually the evaluation process described in this section until monitoring to verify completion of remediation in accordance with 20.5.120.2026 NMAC commences.

[20.5.120.2024 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2025 MODIFICATION OF FINAL REMEDIATION PLAN:**

**A.** Owners and operators may petition the department to approve a modification of the final remediation plan for good cause.

**B.** The department may modify a final remediation plan only if it complies with applicable regulations, provides adequate protection of public health, safety and welfare and the environment, and the owners and operators comply with the public notice requirements of 20.5.120.2020 NMAC.

[20.5.120.2025 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2026 COMPLETION OF REMEDIATION:**

**A.** The department shall consider remediation complete when all of the following criteria are met:

- (1) no layer of NAPL greater than one-eighth inch in thickness is present on the water table or in any of the wells;
- (2) all applicable standards for soil, groundwater and surface water have been achieved;
  - (a) all electrical and mechanical components of the remediation system shall remain shut down during the monitoring period described in this subsection;
  - (b) the department shall approve the designation of certain monitoring wells as compliance wells; the applicable standards shall be achieved concurrently at all compliance wells for at least eight consecutive quarters unless otherwise as approved by the department; and
  - (c) for verification of remediation of soil to target concentrations, owners and operators shall install at least four soil borings, at least three of which are distributed throughout the previously most contaminated portion of the vadose zone, as approved by the department; and
- (3) any other conditions which threatened public health, safety and welfare or the environment have been remediated.

**B.** If any of the conditions of Paragraphs (1) through (3) of Subsection A of this section are not met, the department may require the owner or operator to perform additional remediation.



**C.** Notwithstanding the conditions in Subsection A of this section, owners and operators may continue to operate the mechanical and electrical components of the remediation system when it is effectively reducing contaminant concentrations, as determined and approved by the department.

**D.** Termination of remediation in accordance with this section does not relieve owners and operators of any other liability or responsibility they may have under this part or any other federal, state or local law or regulation.

**E.** Following department approval, owners and operators shall decommission the electrical and mechanical components of the remediation system and properly abandon wells that are no longer needed for remediation or monitoring, in accordance with federal, state and local laws and regulations.  
[20.5.120.2026 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2027 NO FURTHER ACTION DETERMINATION:**

**A.** A no further action determination is a technical determination issued by the department that documents that the owner or operator of a site has met all applicable remediation standards and that no contaminant will present a significant risk of harm to public health, safety and welfare and the environment.

**B.** Any owner or operator may request that the department evaluate a site for a no further action determination by submitting a written request to the department. The request shall include the following, if requested by the department:

- (1) description of the site including a historical overview and generalized description of businesses, structures, vegetation, other prominent features, and location of the site;
- (2) surveyed plat of the site, site map with legal description, or both;
- (3) completed current environmental conditions table listing all areas of environmental concern on the site subject to remediation; the table shall include the following information about each area of environmental concern:

- (a) remedial action taken, date, regulatory agency;
- (b) residual contaminants of concern;
- (c) clean-up status; and
- (d) clean-up standards for contaminants of concern;

- (4) chronology of events for each area investigated or remediated; and
- (5) other relevant documents, as requested by the department.

**C.** Owners and operators shall receive approval of a determination for no further action status for the release when all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) groundwater and surface water contamination related to the release is less than or equal to WQCC and EIB standards, and where there had been groundwater contamination related to the release, the applicable standards have been achieved concurrently at all compliance wells for at least eight consecutive quarters unless otherwise approved by the department;
- (2) soil contamination is less than or equal to applicable standards; and
- (3) any other conditions which did threaten public health, safety and welfare or the environment have been adequately mitigated.

**D.** Owners and operators shall receive approval of a request for no further action determination for the release when subsurface water does not meet the definition of "subsurface water" in 20.6.2.7 NMAC or is unprotected pursuant to Subsection A of 20.6.2.3101 NMAC, if NAPL and contaminant saturated soil have been adequately remediated in accordance with this part and any other conditions which threatened public health, safety and welfare or the environment have been adequately mitigated.

**E.** Upon completion of an assessment by the department that a site qualifies for a no further action determination, the department shall issue a no further action determination letter.

**F.** Any of the following may result in a reversal of a no further action determination:

- (1) new information becomes available or circumstances arise indicating that an unacceptable risk to public health, safety and welfare or the environment exists; or
- (2) change in use or reasonable foreseeable future use of land or resources, including a change from less sensitive land use to more sensitive land use, such as from commercial or industrial to residential, and including the drilling of water supply wells in the vicinity of remaining contamination.

[20.5.120.2027 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

**20.5.120.2028 REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME:**

**A.** For good cause shown, the department may extend the time for complying with any deadline set forth in this part. The request for an extension of time shall specify the reason for the request, the actions taken to comply with the deadline and the period of time for which the extension is requested.

**B.** The department shall not grant an extension for more than 30 days at a time unless the department determines additional time is warranted. The department may place conditions on the extension.

**C.** Lack of diligence or failure of owners and operators to comply with this part shall be grounds for denying a request for an extension of time.

[20.5.120.2028 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

#### **20.5.120.2029 RECORDKEEPING AND RETENTION:**

**A.** Owners and operators of a hazardous waste UST system where a release has occurred shall retain records documenting compliance with all applicable requirements of 20.5.120 NMAC. If the owner and operator are separate persons, only one person is required to maintain the records required by the section, however both parties are liable in the event of non-compliance.

**B.** Records to be maintained shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) 72-hour report;
- (2) 14-day report;
- (3) NAPL Assessment report;
- (4) interim removal of contaminated soil report;
- (5) minimum site assessment, preliminary investigation report;
- (6) secondary investigation report;
- (7) final remediation plan;
- (8) groundwater monitoring reports;
- (9) operation and Maintenance reports.

**C.** Records shall be maintained for a minimum period of 10 years following a no further action determination as set forth in 20.5.120.2027 NMAC.

[20.5.120.2029 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

#### **20.5.120.2030 REPORTING:**

**A.** Owners and operators shall provide to the department all reports as required in 20.5.120 NMAC in accordance with the timeline or deadlines as set forth in Subsection E of 20.5.120.2000 NMAC.

**B.** Owners and operators shall ensure all reports, plans and requests required in 20.5.120 NMAC contain at a minimum, in addition to the requirements set forth in 20.5.120.2002, 20.5.120.2003, 20.5.120.2005, 20.5.120.2006, 20.5.120.2009, 20.5.120.2011, 20.5.120.2012, 20.5.120.2015, 20.5.120.2019, 20.5.120.2020, 20.5.120.2023, 20.5.120.2024, 20.5.120.2029 and 20.5.120.2030 NMAC.

- (1) release name and address;
- (2) facility identification and release identification numbers;
- (3) workplan and deliverable identification numbers as applicable;
- (4) owner and operator name and address, and
- (5) date report was completed.

[20.5.120.2030 NMAC - N, 07/24/2018]

#### **HISTORY OF 20.5.120 NMAC:**

**Pre-NMAC History:** The material in this part was derived from that previously filed with the commission of public records - state records center and archives.

EIB/USTR-13, Underground Storage Tank Regulations - Part XIII - Corrective Action For Hazardous Substance UST Systems, filed 6/13/90.

**History of Repealed Material:** 20 NMAC 5.13, Environmental Protection, Underground Storage Tanks, Corrective Action for UST Systems Containing Other Regulated Substances (filed 12/30/99), repealed 8/15/03. 20.5.13 NMAC, Petroleum Storage Tanks, Corrective Action for UST Systems Containing Other Regulated Substances (filed 7/16/03), repealed 6/15/09.

20.5.13 NMAC, Petroleum Storage Tanks, Corrective Action for UST Systems Containing Other Regulated Substances (filed 6/15/09), repealed 7/24/18.

#### **Other History:**

EIB/USTR-13, Underground Storage Tank Regulations - Part XIII - Corrective Action For Hazardous Substance UST Systems, (filed 6/13/90) reformatted, renumbered and replaced by 20 NMAC 5.13, Underground Storage Tanks, Corrective Action for UST Systems Containing Other Regulated Substances, effective 11/05/95.

20 NMAC 5.13, Underground Storage Tanks, Corrective Action for UST Systems Containing Other Regulated Substances, (filed 12/30/99) replaced by 20.5.13 NMAC, Petroleum Storage Tanks, Corrective Action for UST Systems Containing Other Regulated Substances, effective 8/15/03.

20.5.13 NMAC, Petroleum Storage Tanks, Corrective Action for UST Systems Containing Other Regulated Substances, (filed 7/16/03) was replaced by 20.5.13 NMAC, Petroleum Storage Tanks, Corrective Action for UST Systems Containing Other Regulated Substances, effective 6/15/09.

20.5.13 NMAC, Petroleum Storage Tanks, Corrective Action for UST Systems Containing Other Regulated Substances, (filed 7/16/03) was reformatted, renumbered, and replaced by 20.5.120 NMAC, Petroleum Storage Tanks, Corrective Action for UST Systems Containing Other Regulated Substances, effective 7/24/18.