

## **Guidelines for Comments & Oral Remarks at NMED Air Quality Hearing**

These guidelines are intended to assist preparing written comments and live remarks for the 9-11 February 2022 public hearing regarding a permit for a concrete batch plant (CBP) on Highway 220 near Highway 48. Attendees will have one five-minute time period over the 3-day hearing for spoken comments, but may submit written comments as often as they wish.

For verbal comments, please consider the following in tailoring your presentation.

1. The primary focus should be on matters related to air quality, and how the CBP will affect the nearby area. This specifically related to the fugitive dust that is an unavoidable part of the operation. Address the impacts of dust on your property as well as to your health, both physical and emotional. Point out impacts of dust clouds that are unavoidable during high winds (e.g., night sky viewing) and outdoor activity.
2. Please specify any and all special health issues that are especially impacted by the CBP air pollutants. Remember that the crystalline silica that is released is a known carcinogen and can produce irreparable lung damage. If you already have an ailment affecting your respiratory system, this becomes more of a factor for you. Also, the contaminants impact the health of the elderly more significantly, especially if you have a significant health issue, like heart disease.
3. It's okay to mention concerns regarding water consumption, potential ground water contamination, threats to endangered species in the White Mountain wilderness, and other indigenous wildlife in the area. Likewise, you can object to the noise, road congestion, and other factors that concern you. Just remember that the hearing is focused on air quality issues, so these issues are of less/little concern to NMED and the Air Quality Bureau.
4. If others who speak before you cover much of what you intended to cover, it's okay to simply state that you concur and support what they have said, and then concentrate on what your unique concerns are.

For written comments, all but the last suggestion above applies. To submit written comments, either e-mail them to Hearing Clerk Madai Corral at [Madai.Corral@state.nm.us](mailto:Madai.Corral@state.nm.us) before or during the hearing. You may consider requesting a "return receipt" (or "read receipt") if your mail system supports this (e.g., Yahoo does not), and recipients generally must "okay" sending the notification but may choose not to.