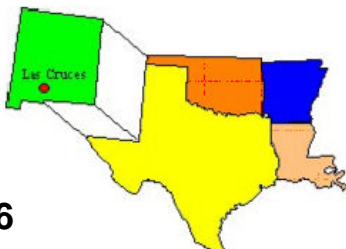


**Griggs & Walnut Ground Water  
Plume Site  
(Dona Ana County)  
New Mexico**

**EPA REGION 6  
CONGRESSIONAL  
DISTRICT 02**



**Contact:  
Petra Sanchez 214-665-6686**

**EPA ID# NMD0002271286  
Site ID: 0605116**

**Updated: November 2006**

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### **Current Status**

- The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) documents were finalized in October. EPA has developed a draft Proposed Plan for the GWP Technical Review Team (City of Las Cruces, Dona Ana County, New Mexico Environment Department) to review and comment before releasing to the public. The Proposed Plan will identify the preferred alternative for addressing the ground water contamination. A public meeting is tentatively scheduled for early December, after the Proposed Plan is finalized to discuss the project alternatives identified in the Proposed Plan. A community Fact Sheet is also scheduled to be released in early December, providing the community an update on project activities.
- The ROD is scheduled for release by January 2007.

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### **Benefits**

The affected ground water is contaminated with PCE. The affected area lies in the vicinity of Griggs Avenue and Walnut Street and affects the municipal water supply. As a result of sampling detections, the City of Las Cruces (City) maintains a sampling program, in addition to sampling required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The City also enacted a blending program to maintain meeting the Drinking Water Standards for PCE.

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### **National Priorities List (NPL) History**

Site Hazard Ranking System (HRS) Score: 50  
Proposed Date: January 11, 2001  
Final Date: June 14, 2001

**Location:** The Site is located within the City, in an area approximately 2,500 feet by 4,000 feet. The affected wells range from 576 feet to 730 feet deep. The depth to water in the affected wells ranges from 102 to 250 feet.

The center of the Site was taken to be the latitude, halfway between the northern and southern most wells and longitude halfway between the eastern and western most wells. The coordinates of the site are 32 degrees, 19 minutes, 08 seconds latitude and 106 degrees, 45 minutes and 16 seconds longitude.

The current boundary was defined by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) using ground-water samples from four municipal supply wells, 16 monitoring wells, and one private well, all meeting observed release criteria. The SDWA Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) is exceeded in one municipal supply well and 14 monitor wells. The exact extent of the plume has not yet been defined but is estimated to be 1.5 miles

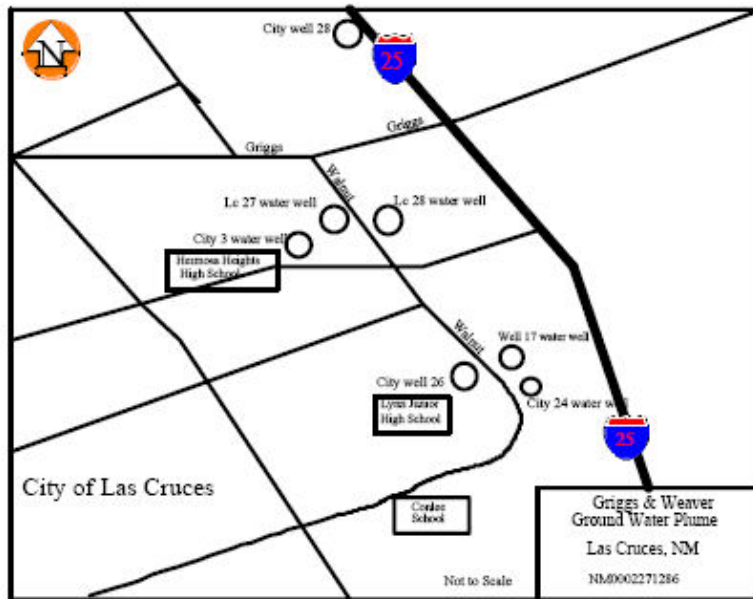
by 1.5 miles and lies within the central district of the City. The plume extends vertically from the water table to the depth of the water supply wells. To date, only the dissolved-phase of the contaminant has been detected. No non-aqueous phase liquids (NAPLs) have been found. Dissolved PCE was detected both up-gradient and down-gradient from the affected municipal supply wells. The City supplies water to the community from 28 wells.

Population: The population of Las Cruces is approximately 83,000 individuals.

Setting: The City municipal water supply utilizes a total of 28 wells to provide drinking water to approximately 83,000 residents in the community. The City's water supply wells are completely within the Santa Fe Group aquifer. The Santa Fe Group aquifer is a sole source aquifer for the region and produces most of the ground water used in metropolitan and industrial centers, as well as a significant proportion of the ground water used to supplement surface irrigation supplies. The Griggs and Walnut Plume (GWP) is centered near the intersection of Griggs Avenue and Walnut Street. Four municipal drinking water supply wells are currently impacted at the Site, although only one, Well No. 18 (out of service since 1996), has demonstrated concentrations of PCE above the MCL.

- Principal Pollutants: Perchloroethylene, commonly referred to as PCE or perc.

## Site Map



## Human Health and Ecological Considerations

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A risk assessment has been completed for the site and determined PCE could pose a current or future risk to human health in the absence of any remedial action, should ground water be ingested.

## Record of Decision

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A Record of Decision will be issued following completion of the RI/FS.

## Site Contacts

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