

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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**Susana Martinez**  
Governor

**John Bemis**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Brett F. Woods, Ph.D.**  
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

**Fernando Martinez, Director**  
Mining and Minerals Division



May 10, 2012

## NEWS RELEASE

**CONTACT:** Jim Winchester, Communications Director, 505-231-8800

### **State Solicits Public Comment on Sampling and Analysis Plan for Proposed Cebolleta Uranium Mining Operation**

**Santa Fe** – The Mining and Minerals Division is soliciting public comments on a sampling and analysis plan submitted by Neutron Energy, Inc., for the proposed Cebolleta uranium mine. The plan will guide the collection of baseline data that can be used in a permit application for a new mine. The proposed Cebolleta Mine would be located on private property within the Cebolleta Land Grant in Cibola County, approximately 4 miles east of the village of Seboyeta, and 17 miles north of Laguna, New Mexico.

“The sampling and analysis plan is the first step in the development of a permit application for a new mining operation. The collection of baseline data is an essential component for a permit application,” stated Mining and Minerals Division Director Fernando Martinez. “Public comments on the plan submitted by June 8<sup>th</sup> will be provided to the applicant to assist in their preparation of a permit application.”

A sampling and analysis plan will guide the collection of baseline data on climate, air quality, geology, topography, soils, vegetation, wildlife, cultural values, surface and groundwater, and other environmental parameters related to the site. The baseline data must be included in any application for a new mining operation.

The plan may be reviewed or obtained at the address listed below or on the MMD website at <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/MMD/MARP/permits/CI009RN.htm> .

Additionally, a copy of the plan is available for review at each of the following locations:

NMSU Branch Library  
1500 North 3rd Street  
Grants, NM 87020

Chamber of Commerce  
Mining Museum  
100 North Iron Avenue  
Grants, NM 87020

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Anyone interested in providing comments on the plan should do so by **Friday, June 8, 2012**, by mailing written comments to the Mining and Minerals Division at:

Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department  
Mining and Minerals Division  
1220 South St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
Attention: Division Director

Phone: 505.476.3400 Fax: 505.476.3402

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