

# Hexavalent Chromium Project Expert Technical Review

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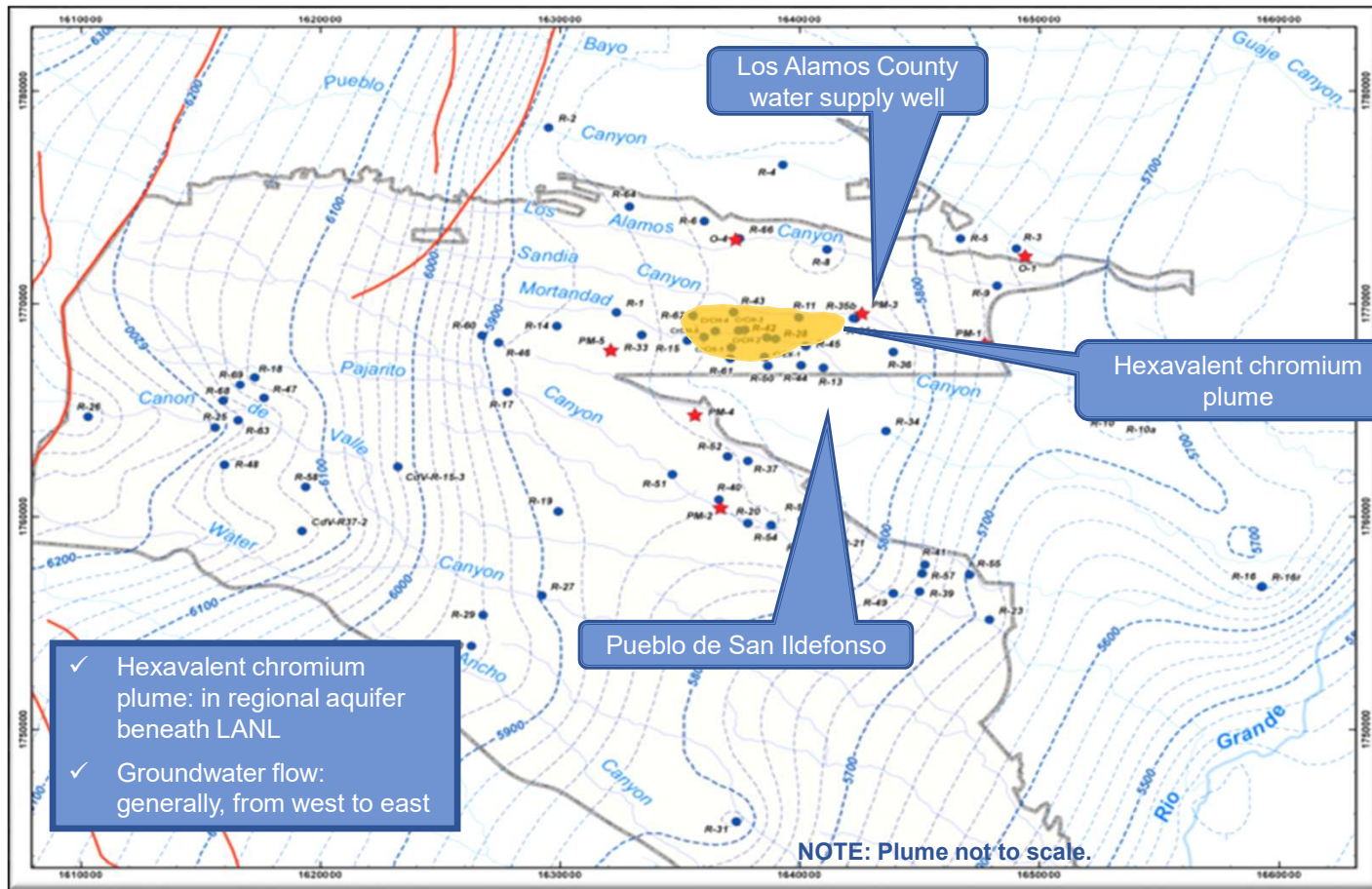


# Origin of Hexavalent Chromium Plume

- Source of plume was a non-nuclear power plant at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL)
- Water containing potassium dichromate was periodically flushed from plant's cooling towers into Sandia Canyon from 1956-1972
- Up to 160,000 lbs. of hexavalent chromium was released during this period, a fraction of which migrated into the regional aquifer
- Current measurements estimate plume is ~1 mile long x ½ mile wide



# Protecting Los Alamos County & Pueblo de San Ildefonso Water Quality

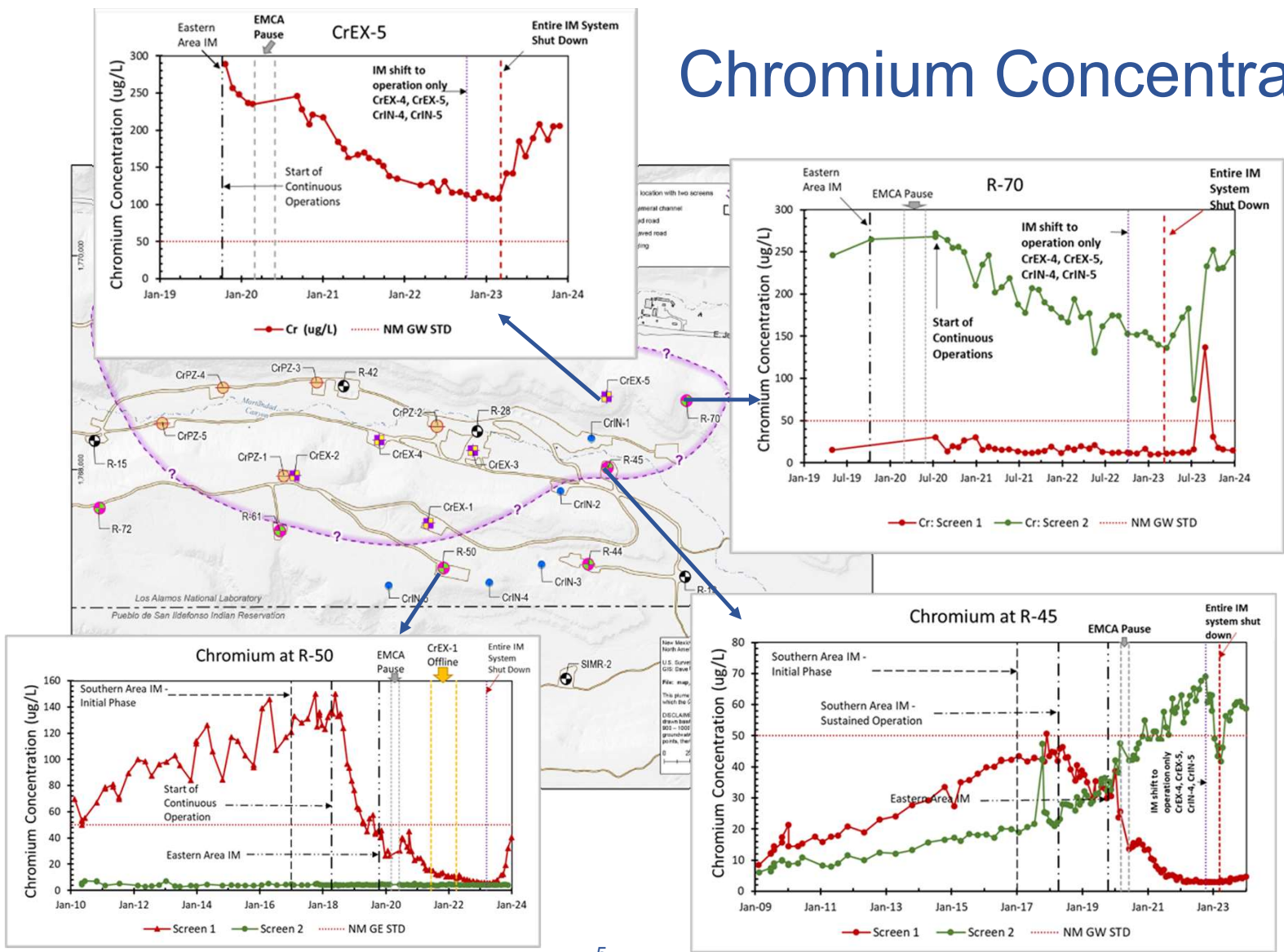


# Status of Chromium Interim Measures (IM)

- December 2022, NMED directed EM-LA to cease injection
- March 2023, EM-LA ceased injection per regulatory direction and thus operation of the IM
  - Extraction not feasible without injection
- Monitoring and extraction well data shows increasing chromium concentrations since IM was shut down
- EM-LA conducting three-party technical meetings with EM-LA, NMED, and Pueblo de San Ildefonso



# Chromium Concentration



# Expert Technical Review

- Acting on recommendation from New Mexico Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Committee in August 2023 meeting
- EM-LA and NMED engaging experts to conduct technical review of scientific assumptions for operation of the IM
- Environmental impacts of prolonged system shutdown present urgent need to resume partial operations during technical review
- Experts will share their conclusions with EM-LA and NMED after the review to help the agencies determine a path forward

