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Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested

January 30, 2023

Colonel Terence G. Taylor
Commander, 27th Special Operations Wing
100 Air Commando Way, Suite 100
Cannon Air Force Base
New Mexico 88103-5214

**RE: NFA-1 WORK PLAN AND UNIFORM FEDERAL POLICY –
QUALITY ASSURANCE PROJECT PLAN ADDENDUM SITE INSPECTIONS
CANNON AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO
EPA ID #NM7572124454
HWB-CAFB-MISC**

Dear Colonel Taylor:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the Cannon Air Force Base (Permittee) *NFA-1 Work Plan and Uniform Federal Policy-Quality Assurance Project Plan Addendum Site Inspections* (Work Plan) dated November 21, 2022 and submitted by the Permittee as a "courtesy copy". NMED appreciates the Permittee's submittal of the document.

As previously clarified by NMED, per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) releases to the environment a Cannon Air Force Base (CAFB) must be investigated under the December 2018 *Cannon Air Force Base Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit* (Permit). PFAS are emerging contaminants of concern that meet the statutory definition for hazardous waste defined in New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act Section 74-4-3.K, Section 1004(5) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, and Section 6903(5) of the United States Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and are defined as such in the Permit as required by 40 Code of Federal Regulations 270.32(b)(2) for protection of human health and the environment.

Based on the release of PFAS and potential release of other contaminants of concern at the locations identified in the Work Plan as AFFF [Aqueous Film Forming Foam] release sites, NMED will likely add the sites to the Permit in the future as either Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) or Areas of Concern (AOCs). Furthermore, the Permittee's intent to investigate PFAS releases at AFFF-Release Areas 12 and 13 under a "Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)-like process" may result in the collection of data that is not valid for use during risk assessment required by the Permit. Finally, the Work Plan does not meet the minimum format requirements established by Permit Section 6.2, Investigation

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Hazardous Waste Bureau - 2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6313
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Work Plan, nor does it address other contaminants of concern potentially released at the sites that are also regulated by the Permit.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Gabriel Acevedo at (505) 690-5760.

Sincerely,

Rick Shean

Digitally signed by
Rick Shean
Date: 2023.01.30
07:56:46 -07'00'

Rick Shean
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
B. Wear, NMED HWB
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File: CAFB 2023 and Reading