



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
FORT WINGATE DEPOT ACTIVITY
P.O. BOX 268
FORT WINGATE, NM 87316



June 10, 2013

Mr. John Kieling
Chief, Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303

Dear Mr. Kieling:

Due to the munitions removal activities associated with Parcel 3 under Section III of the Permit, the Army proposes to temporarily discontinue groundwater monitoring of wells located in Parcel 3 until 2015. The Army discussed this request during a conference call with the New Mexico Environment Department – Hazardous Waste Bureau on 3 April 2013.

Work associated the Hazardous Waste Management Unit (HWMU) removal began in mid April of 2013 and will to continue through 2014. The contractor will work five days per week (Monday through Friday) – ten hours per day, for the duration of the project. The Groundwater Monitoring contractor work hours are similar to that of the HMWU project contractor, Monday through Friday – eight hours per day.

The munitions removal work at the HWMU requires strict adherence to Department of Defense (DOD) protocols to ensure the safety of personnel involved with Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) removal activities, and more importantly, those personnel not associated with MEC removal. One of these protocols is the establishment of fragmentation Safety Arcs. Safety Arcs are based on the “*Munitions with the Greatest Fragmentation Distance*” (MGFD) in the unlikely event of an unintentional detonation. For this reason only essential personnel are allowed within these designated Safety Arcs per DODI (DOD Instruction) 6055.9M. Because groundwater sampling technicians are not essential personnel as defined by DODI 6055M, they are not authorized entry into any Safety Arc during MEC removal activities in the HWMU. Due to safety considerations and DOD protocol, the Army proposes a temporary moratorium of sampling groundwater, and measuring of groundwater elevations, from monitoring wells located in or near Parcel 3 until MEC removal activities are accomplished.

When MEC removal activities are completed, the Army will re-establish required groundwater monitoring activities in Parcel 3. Until then, groundwater monitoring activities will be restricted to the northern portion of Fort Wingate Depot Activity

(FWDA) parcels to avoid interference with the HWMU MEC removal contractor's schedule and daily operations.

The Army appreciates your consideration of our proposal and cooperation with ongoing environmental restoration activities at FWDA.

If you have questions or require further information, please call me at (330) 358-7312.

Sincerely,



Mark Patterson
BRAC Environmental Coordinator

CF:

Shannon Duran, NMED, HWB
Dave Cobrain, NMED, HWB
Richard Cruz, FWDA
Chuck Hendrickson, U.S, EPA Region 6
Jarvis Williams, Navajo Nation
Rose Duywenie, Navajo BIA
Angela Kelsey, BIA
Eldine Stevens, DOI/BIA
Ben Burshia, DOI/BLM
Judith Wilson DOI/BLM
Darrel Tsabetsaye, Pueblo of Zuni
Clayton Seoutewa, SW BIA
Bill O'Donnell, ACSIM
Steven Smith, USACE
Lura Micki Gonzales, FWDA
Pat Ryan, SAIC