



*State of New Mexico* **ENTERED**  
**ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**Hazardous Waste Bureau**



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**BUTCH TONGATE**  
Cabinet Secretary  
**J. C. BORREGO**  
Deputy Secretary

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

August 11, 2017

Adam M. Kusmak  
Chief, Installation Flight Management  
49<sup>th</sup> CES/CEI  
550 Tabosa Avenue  
Holloman AFB, NM 88330

**RE: APPROVAL WITH MODIFICATIONS  
RISK ASSESSMENT FOR SD-27, PAD 9 DRAINAGE PIT (SWMU 141), JULY  
2016  
HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE, NM, EPA ID# NM6572124422  
HWB-HAFB-16-022**

Dear Mr. Kusmak:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has reviewed the Holloman Air Force Base (Permittee) February 9, 2017 response to NMED's Notice of Disapproval (NOD) dated November 7, 2016 for the above referenced Risk Assessment Report (the Report). NMED hereby conditionally approves the Report with the following modifications, acknowledging that submittal of a revised Report is proposed.

1. The Permittee's response to comment #2 of the NOD states that burrowing wildlife will not be included as a receptor in the revised ecological risk assessment. The rationale provided for this is that the kit fox (the lone key receptor chosen for evaluation) only needs to be evaluated for a site that is greater than 267 acres in size. Site SD-27 is approximately 2 acres in size. However, current NMED guidance (see below) states that the deer mouse and horned lark are key receptors that must be evaluated at all sites, regardless of size, as well as plant receptors, as is proposed.

The Permittee shall include evaluation of the deer mouse, horned lark and the plant community as key receptors in the revised ecological risk assessment.

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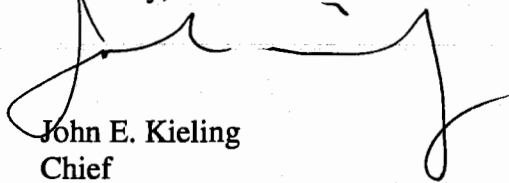
2. The response to comment #4 states that Section 4.2.1 of the Report will be revised to follow the NMED (2015) risk evaluation guidance for screening sites with multiple contaminants. This guidance has been superseded by NMED's March 2017 *Risk Assessment Guidance for Site Investigations and Remediation*.

The Permittee shall follow this current guidance when revising the risk assessment.

The revised Report, which is subject to NMED review and final approval of the risk assessment, must be submitted no later than **November 17, 2017**.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. David Strasser of my staff at (505) 222-9526.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB  
C. Amindyas, NMED HWB  
D. Strasser, NMED HWB  
C. Schick, HAFB  
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File: HAFB 2017 and Reading  
HWB-HAFB-16-022