



State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



Hazardous Waste Bureau

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CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

July 31, 2018

Adam Kusmak
Chief, Installation Management Flight
49th CES/CEI
550 Tabosa Avenue
Holloman AFB, NM 88330

**RE: APPROVAL WITH MODIFICATIONS
FINAL FISCAL YEAR 2017 GROUNDWATER MONITORING REPORT,
SS018 – VOC SPILL SITE (AOC-H), FEBRUARY 2018
HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE, EPA ID # NM6572124422
HWB-HAFB-18-005**

Dear Mr. Kusmak:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has reviewed the above referenced Groundwater Monitoring Report (Report) received from Holloman Air Force Base (Permittee) on March 7, 2018. The Report is hereby approved with the following modifications:

1. The Permittee is proposing interim measures (IM) for this site to address groundwater impacts. An IM Work Plan has been submitted and is pending NMED review. The subject Report recommends continued groundwater monitoring upon completion of IM but does not specify the frequency at which monitoring will occur. The March 2015 Groundwater Monitoring Work Plan for Site SS018 (AOC-H), approved by the NMED on May 29, 2015, states that, following completion of IM, groundwater monitoring shall be performed quarterly for a minimum period of two years, depending on the IM results.
2. NMED notes that groundwater samples for inorganics (metals) were not filtered. In both "Approval With Modifications" letters for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 and FY2016 Groundwater Monitoring Reports, NMED required that all future groundwater samples for metals, except mercury, be filtered (dissolved). Again, only unfiltered samples were collected

Mr. Adam Kusmak

July 31, 2018

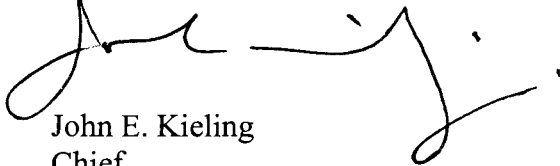
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in FY2017. All future groundwater samples for metals (except mercury) should be filtered. In addition, total mercury shall be analyzed for using SW-846 Method 7470A. Results for mercury have not been reported to date.

3. The third paragraph of Section 5.3 of the Report discussing total metals results states “[t]otal arsenic was the only total or dissolved metal detected at concentrations exceeding its applicable screening level.” This statement is erroneous for two reasons; 1) dissolved metals analyses were not conducted and 2) according to Table 5-4 of the Report, seven total metals, including arsenic, exceeded either the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission Standards for Groundwater, the EPA Maximum Contaminant Levels, or the NMED *Risk Assessment Guidance for Site Assessment and Remediation* tap water screening levels. These metals include boron, iron, lithium, arsenic, chromium, manganese and vanadium.

The first quarterly report for groundwater monitoring activities at AOC-H must be submitted no later than ninety-days following completion of IM activities. Please call David Strasser of my staff at (505) 222-9526 if you have any questions regarding this letter.

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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HAFB-18-005