



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE LEGAL OPERATIONS AGENCY

6 January 2016



HQ AFLOA/JACE
1500 W. Perimeter Road., Suite 1500
Joint Base Andrews, MD 20762

Douglas Meiklejohn, Esq.
New Mexico Environmental Law Center
1405 Luisa Street, Suite #5
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-4074

Dear Mr. Meiklejohn

We have received your November 13, 2015, notice under 42 U.S.C. § 6972(a)(2)(B) with respect to the bulk fuel facility at Kirtland Air Force Base, and I am responding on behalf of the Secretary of Defense and Secretary of the Air Force. The Air Force is committed to developing and implementing a robust and sustainable remediation plan for the facility, and we have been diligently working with the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), the City of Albuquerque, the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Authority (ABCWA) and other stakeholders to meet that goal. The comprehensive approach we are actively developing in concert with NMED and other stakeholders will address all phases of the jet-fuel contamination, including the dissolved-phase ethylene dibromide plume and residual contamination in the source area. The Air Force's goal is to ensure that the remedial actions being taken are, and will remain, protective of the citizens of Albuquerque, their drinking water resource, and the environment.

Our efforts have yielded significant progress in addressing the contamination and ensuring the protection of the members of the local community. The Air Force has quarterly meetings concerning the facility attended by representatives of the Air Force, NMED, ABCWA, the City of Albuquerque, and members of the public. We encourage you and your clients to attend these public meetings to learn about the remedial actions we've taken and plan to take. Attendees at these meetings have the opportunity to voice their concerns about proposed remedial actions. Alternatively, if you prefer, we welcome you to contact our counsel, Ms. Stephanie Talbert, United States Department of Justice at Stephanie.Talbert@usdoj.gov or (303) 844-7231 to schedule a meeting to discuss your clients' concerns.

Sincerely

JAMES E. KEY III, Colonel, USAF
Chief, Environmental Law and Litigation Division

KAFB4346



cc:

SECAF

HAF/JA

377 ABW/CC (Froehlich)

NMED (Flynn, Tongate, McQuillan, Roberts)

NMED-HWB (Kieling, Cobrain)

New Mexico Attorney General (Balderas)

EPA (McCarthy)

EPA Region 6 (Curry)