



STATE OF NEW MEXICO

Environment Department

SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR

Ryan Flynn, Cabinet Secretary

Butch Tongate, Deputy Secretary

NEWS RELEASE

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NMED's mission is to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations.

NM Environment Inks \$750,000 Agreement with U.S. Air Force to Reimburse the State for Environmental Regulatory Oversight

Santa Fe – Today the New Mexico Environment Department and U.S. Air Force executed a Memorandum of Agreement worth \$750,000 to fund continuing regulatory activities associated with clean-up of the jet fuel leak at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque. The agreement resolves a Notice of Violation that the Environment Department issued on January 15, 2015 after the Air Force failed to meet a December 2014 deadline for installation and implementation of an interim measure for cleanup of the Ethylene Dybromide (EDB) plume.

Environment Secretary Ryan Flynn said, "We will not rest until the contamination is completely removed from the groundwater. We are very pleased with the last two years' worth of progress including, most recently, the treatment of over 16 million gallons of contaminated water since last June."

"We all share the same goal – complete cleanup of the contamination and protection of the city's drinking water supply," said Kathryn Lynnes, the Air Force's Senior Advisor for the project. "The funding that the Air Force is extending to NMED through this agreement will help ease the financial burden associated with providing the dedicated regulatory oversight and review required by a project as complex and extensive as the bulk fuels facility."

Under the direction of the Environment Department, the Air Force's treatment of the groundwater plume began in June when the first groundwater extraction well began pumping and the temporary treatment system went online. The Air Force has drilled two additional extraction wells and all three wells are now being connected to the full-scale groundwater treatment system. In addition, multiple measures have been implemented in the source area to remove fuel contamination. Almost 5,000 tons of soil contaminated with fuel constituents has been removed through three separate excavation events. Soil vapor extraction (SVE) has vacuumed approximately 570,000 gallons of fuel from soil in the source area. The operation of SVE has also facilitated biodegradation of an additional 200,000 gallons of fuel.

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For Twitter:

NM Environment Inks \$750k Agrmt w/ USAF to Reimburse State for Environmental Regulatory Oversight
<http://bit.ly/1N4ixkO> #NewMexico

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