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STATE OF NEW MEXICO
Environment Department

SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR

Butch Tongate, Cabinet Secretary

J.C. Borrego, Deputy Secretary

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

August 7, 2017

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

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Public Meeting Sept. 28 to Discuss KAFB Bulk Fuels Facility's Risk Assessment
6 p.m. at the African American Performing Arts Center in Albuquerque

Santa Fe—The Air Force and the New Mexico Environment Department will host an informational meeting to discuss the Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility leak Risk Assessment report at 6 p.m. on Sept. 28, 2017 at the African American Performing Arts Center in Albuquerque, NM.

The Risk Assessment report evaluates potential fuel leak-related threats to all human exposure pathways, including drinking water supply. The report is now available for community and stakeholder review at www.kirtlandjetfuelremediation.com. The Air Force provided the report to NMED last month, and it is under active review by the agency.

New Mexico Environment Secretary Butch Tongate said, "We believe the September meeting offers a great opportunity for the public to better understand the role the Risk Assessment plays in determining the optimum final remediation plan for the Kirtland Bulk Fuels Facility leak."

NMED's project experts will be on hand to provide technical and regulatory background, as the full regulatory review of the report will not be finalized until after Sept. 28, 2017 when all public input will have been received and considered. The report supports future decision-making by NMED and the Air Force by assessing any potential fuel leak-related risk to human health and the environment--as the current interim cleanup measures are progressing.

"We want the public to understand how the Risk Assessment report helps decision-makers to connect the dots and determine the best path forward. We plan to provide an overview of the key findings in the report, explain the technical details of the project, and most importantly, engage with the community regarding their questions and concerns," said Kate Lynnes, KAFB Bulk Fuels Facility project senior advisor.

Also under active review by the Environment Department is the Bulk Fuels Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Facility Investigation (RFI) which is posted for public review as well. NMED's preliminary findings on this report are highlighted in an August 3, 2017 letter to KAFB requiring the Air Force to more fully address the data and characterization issues associated with recent hydrogeologic changes to the area.

(more)



New Mexico Environment Department Deputy Secretary J.C. Borrego wrote, "As presented in the June 2017 hydrogeology working group meeting, the rate of water table rise has accelerated from two - three feet per year to nearly five feet in the past six months." In the letter, Borrego calls for further Work Plan development through working group meetings to address project areas affected by the changing hydrogeology:

- Addressing submerged monitoring and sentinel wells,
- Providing more comprehensive analysis of certain data trends, and
- Developing a better delineation of the of the light, non aqueous phase liquid (LNAPL) portion of the fuel leak's plume.

"We will be scheduling other meetings concerning the RFI report, once the technical working group has provided feedback on the key issues," said Secretary Tongate. "In the meantime, we wanted to confirm the RFI report's availability to the public, as we encourage continuing stakeholder involvement on the KAFB Bulk Fuels Facility leak."

Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority and the City of Albuquerque representatives will also be available at the September 28, 2017 Risk Assessment report meeting.

The African American Performing Arts Center is located at 310 San Pedro Drive NE in Albuquerque, NM. For more information, please contact 377th Air Base Wing Public Affairs at 505-846-5991 or Air Force Civil Engineer Center Public Affairs at 866-725-7617 or afcec.pa@us.af.mil.

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For your Twitter Feed: KAFB Bulk Fuels Facility's Risk Assessment Report-Public Meeting-9/28-6pm@African American Perf Arts Ctr www.kirtlandjetfuelremediation.com #NM #NMED

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For your Facebook Feed: Public Meeting Sept. 28 to discuss KAFB Bulk Fuels Facility's Risk Assessment 6 p.m. at the African American Performing Arts Center in Albuquerque. The Air Force and the New Mexico Environment Department will host an informational meeting to discuss the Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility leak Risk Assessment report at 6 p.m. on Sept. 28, 2017 at the African American Performing Arts Center in Albuquerque, NM. The Risk Assessment report evaluates potential fuel leak-related threats to all human exposure pathways, including drinking water supply. The report is now available for community and stakeholder review at www.kirtlandjetfuelremediation.com. The Air Force provided the report to NMED last month, and it is under active review by the agency.

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