



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR



ENTERED
JAMES C. KENNEY
CABINET SECRETARY

Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested

February 21, 2022

Colonel Jason F. Vattioni
Commander
377th Air Base Wing
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland AFB, NM 87117

Melissa Clark
377 MSG/CEIE
2050 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland AFB, NM 87117

**RE: APPROVAL WITH MODIFICATIONS
FINAL WP-026 - BASE SEWAGE LAGOONS AND GOLF COURSE POND (SWMU WP-026)
AQUIFER TEST WORK PLAN, NOVEMBER 2021
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO
EPA ID# NM9570024423
HWB-KAFB-21-012**

Dear Colonel Vattioni and Ms. Clark,

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received the U.S. Air Force (Permittee) Kirtland Air Force Base (Facility) *Final WP-026 - Base Sewage Lagoons and Golf Course Pond (SWMU WP-026) Aquifer Test Work Plan, November 2021* (Work Plan) on December 1, 2021. NMED has reviewed the Work Plan and hereby issues this Approval with the following modifications:

1. Section 5.2.1, Aquifer Test Procedure

Permittee Statement: "Phase 1 of the aquifer test will be considered complete after approximately 24-hrs of pumping or if the pumped well is drawn down to 2 ft of water, if that occurs prior to 24-hrs."

NMED Comment: Twenty-four hours of pumping is typically not sufficient to properly characterize a low-volume aquifer. The Permittee must extend the duration of Phase 1 of the aquifer test from 24 hours to a minimum of 72 hours. Based on the extended duration of the aquifer test, the pumping rate should be decreased from 0.25 gallons per minute (gpm) to 0.20 gpm. If the pumped well is drawn down to 2 feet of water within the 72-hour time frame, the Permittee should proceed with Phase 2 of the aquifer test. The groundwater discharge containment systems must be adjusted accordingly.



2. Section 6.2, Schedule

NMED Comment: The schedule does not propose a submittal date for the Aquifer Test Report mentioned in the previous section. For clarification, the Aquifer Test Report must be submitted to NMED as an independent document. In addition, the Schedule mentions submittal of a Draft Well Completion Report to NMED. NMED does not review draft documents; therefore, all documents submitted to NMED for review must be complete final versions.

The Permittee must submit the Aquifer Test Report to NMED no later than **September 30, 2022**. The Aquifer Test Report must comply with the KAFB Permit and NMED's *General Reporting Guidelines for Corrective Action Documents*, which can be found at <https://www-archive.env.nm.gov/hazardous-waste/guidance-documents/>.

This approval is based on the information presented in the document as it relates to the objectives of the work identified by NMED at the time of review. Approval of this document does not constitute agreement with all information or every statement presented in the document.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Cristina Eads at (505) 490-5808.

Sincerely,

Rick Shean

Digitally signed by Rick
Shean
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Rick Shean, Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
C. Eads, NMED HWB
B. Wear, NMED HWB
L. King, EPA Region 6 (6LCRRC)
S. Clark, KAFB

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