

ENTERED



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RYAN FLYNN  
Cabinet Secretary  
BUTCH TONGATE  
Deputy Secretary

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

May 20, 2015

Heather L. Buono, Colonel  
Commander, 27th Special Operations Mission  
Support Group  
27 SOCES/CEIE – Environmental  
402 S Chindit Blvd, Bldg 102  
Cannon AFB, NM 88103

**RE: DISAPPROVAL  
ANNUAL GROUNDWATER MONITORING REPORT, MELROSE AIR FORCE  
RANGE, DECEMBER 2014  
EPA ID# NM5572124456  
HWB-MELR-15-001**

Dear Col. Buono:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received the *Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report, Melrose Air Force Range, December 2014* (Report) on March 3, 2015. NMED has accepted the submittal for review in accordance with the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Permit and Corrective Action Fee Regulations, 20.4.2.201.B(2) NMAC. NMED has reviewed the Report and hereby issues this Disapproval with the following comments.

**1. Section 3.1, Agricultural Wells, p. 3-2**

**Permittee's Statement:** "In several instances total depth [of the agricultural wells] has been measured, but construction details, lithologic data, and screened intervals are unknown (Table 1)."

**NMED's Comment:** The twelve agricultural wells are not included in Table 2 rather than Table 1. Correct the statement.

**2. Section 7.2, Groundwater Elevation, Gradient, and Flow Velocity**

**NMED's Comment:** Add figures that include groundwater elevations for all wells where water level measurements were obtained, including the agricultural wells and MWQ-4, in

order to depict the spatial variability of groundwater elevations for both the April and October measurements.

**3. Section 8.1.1, Spring 2014 – Annual Groundwater Quality Network, and Section 8.1.2, Spring 2014 – Semiannual Groundwater Quality Network**

**NMED's Comment:** Add figures that list arsenic, cyanide, and hexavalent chromium concentrations for all wells in the semi-annual and annual groundwater quality networks, in order to depict the spatial variability of these constituents for both the April and October measurements.

**4. Table 2, Summary of Groundwater Elevation and Depth To Groundwater Data:**

**NMED's Comment:** Table 2 shows that water levels were measured for the semi-annual network, annual network, water level only network, and MWQ-4. The water level measurement of MWQ-4 was not discussed in the text. The *Final Work Plan, Annual Groundwater Monitoring, Melrose Air Force Range, New Mexico, January 2010* response to comment 7 states, "The sampling team in the field will confirm whether or not the depth of well MWQ-4 can be determined; therefore, it will remain in the sampling network for this round of sampling." Discuss whether MWQ-4 will be added to the water level only network of wells and provide the rationale for doing so.

**5. Figure 5, Annual Monitoring Well Network**

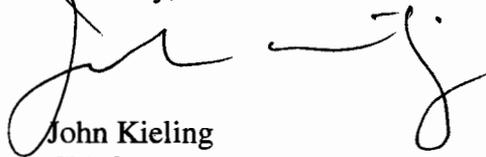
**NMED's Comment:** MWQ-4 is not depicted on Figure 5. Add all wells where water levels were measured to the figure.

A revised Report that corrects all of the deficiencies noted in this Disapproval must be submitted no later than **July 20, 2015**. The revised Report must be accompanied by a response letter that details where the Disapproval comments were addressed that cross-references NMED's numbered comments. The Permittee must also submit an electronic redline-strikeout version of the Report that shows where all changes were made to the Report.

Col. Buono  
May 15, 2015  
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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Naomi Davidson at (505) 476-6022.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Kieling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke.

John Kieling  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB  
N. Davidson, NMED HWB  
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB  
B. Chavez, CAFB  
R. Lancaster, CAFB  
L. Peters, CAFB

File: MELR 2015 and Reading, 2014 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report