



SUSANA MARTINEZ
Governor
JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



ENTERED



2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303
Phone (505) 476-6000 Fax (505) 476-6030
www.env.nm.gov

RYAN FLYNN
Cabinet Secretary
BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

June 24, 2016

Colonel Douglas W. Gilpin
Commander, 27th Special Operations
Mission Support Group
110 E. Alison Avenue, Suite 1098
Cannon Air Force Base

**RE: APPROVAL WITH MODIFICATIONS
2015 ANNUAL GROUNDWATER MONITORING REPORT
MELROSE AIR FORCE RANGE
EPA ID NO. NM5572124456-1
HWB-MELR-16-001**

Dear Colonel Gilpin:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the *2015 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report, Melrose Air Force Range (Report)*, dated March 23, 2016. NMED has reviewed the Report and hereby issues this Approval with the following modifications.

Modifications:

1. Tables 5a and 5b, Summary of Spring and Fall 2015 Groundwater Chemical Analytical Data

NMED's Comment: The cited United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) utilized for chemical of concern (COC) screening are dated May 2009 in Tables 5a and 5b. The current EPA MCLs are dated November 2015. The discrepancy does not change the conclusions of the Report; however, the Permittee must ensure the current EPA and NMED screening levels are utilized for

comparison with site data in future Reports.

Additionally, mercury concentrations were reported as being less than laboratory detection limits in samples collected from monitoring wells MWQ-2, MWQ-14, MWQ-18, MWQ-19, MWQ-20, MWQ-21, and MWQ-22. The February 2015 Groundwater Monitoring Field Sampling Plan indicates these wells were not scheduled for mercury analysis. In future reports, if analysis of groundwater for a COC was not conducted, the table must reflect the analysis was not performed.

2. Figures 10 and 12, Groundwater Flow Direction Chinle Formation, April and October 2015

NMED's Comment: The potentiometric surface map contours for the wells completed in the [Dockum] Formation appear to be five-foot intervals. The figures list the contours as ten-foot intervals. In future reports, groundwater potentiometric surface maps must be presented at a scale which most precisely portrays the potentiometric surface data collected for Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 130 and SWMU 114. In addition to the provided groundwater flow direction figures, the potentiometric surface across the facility for the [Dockum] Formation in the central portion of the range also must be provided.

3. Figures 14 and 15, Parameter Concentrations Maps, April and October 2015

NMED's Comment: Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) concentrations reported in Figure 14 and Figure 15 do not match the data reported in the analytical summary tables for monitoring wells MAO1MW001, MAO1MW002, MAO1MW003, MAO1MW004, MW114MW004, and MWQ-24. Table 5a Summary of Spring 2015 Groundwater Chemical Analytical Data provides the correct values for the Spring sampling event and Figure 14. The correct TDS concentration value for Figure 14 at monitoring well MAO1MW001 is 1,710 milligrams per liter (mg/L); for monitoring well MAO1MW002 the correct concentration is 1,490 mg/L; for monitoring well MAO1MW003 the correct concentration is 1,500 mg/L; for monitoring well MAO1MW004 the correct concentration is 922 mg/L; and at monitoring well MWQ-24 the correct concentration is 230 mg/L. The TDS concentration reported for Figure 15 at monitor well MW114MW004 did not match Table 5b Summary of Fall 2015 Groundwater Chemical Analytical Data. The correct concentration for the Fall sampling event at MW114MW004 is 8,580 mg/L. Provide replacement pages with the corrected data no later than **August 1, 2016**.

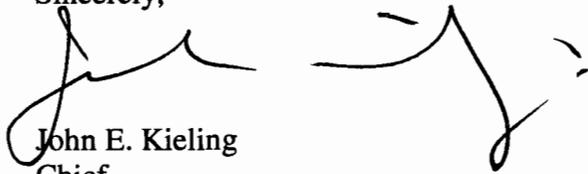
4. Excel Format Data Tables

NMED's Comment: All data tables must be provided as Microsoft Excel format files for all future Report submittals.

Colonel Gilpin
June 24, 2016
Page 3

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Gabriel Acevedo at (505) 476-6043.

Sincerely,

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

John E. Kieling
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
B. Wear, NMED HWB
G. Acevedo, NMED HWB
L. King, EPA 6PD-N
R. Lancaster, CAFB
A. Lafuente, CAFB
S. Kottkamp, CAFB

File: MELR 2016 and Reading, MELR-16-001