



**Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
Governor

**Howie C. Morales**  
Lt. Governor



**NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

**Hazardous Waste Bureau**  
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**James C. Kenney**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Jennifer J. Pruett**  
Deputy Secretary

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

July 16, 2020

Colonel Robert A. Masaitis  
Commander, 27th Special Operations Wing  
100 Air Commando Way, Suite 100  
Cannon Air Force Base  
New Mexico 88103-5214

**RE: DENIAL  
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD EXTENSION REQUEST  
DRAFT RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT HAZARDOUS WASTE PERMIT  
MELROSE AIR FORCE RANGE  
MELROSE AIR FORCE RANGE, NEW MEXICO  
EPA ID NUMBER: NM5572124456  
HWB-MELR-16-003**

Dear Colonel Masaitis:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the Melrose Air Force Range (Permittee) request for a time extension for the public comment period on *the Draft Melrose Air Force Range Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Hazardous Waste Permit*, dated July 9, 2020 and received on July 13, 2020. The 60-day public comment period began on May 29, 2020 and will end on July 28, 2020.

The request states that “[t]he extension will allow sufficient time for review of the permit conditions, generation of permittee comments, command approval, and submission of comments to NMED within the public comment period.” The request does not provide any detail regarding the reason that the actions stated cannot be completed within the public comment period. The current comment period is 15 days longer than the length of time required by regulation [20.4.1.901.A(3) NMAC]. Therefore, the Permittee’s request to extend the public comment period is hereby denied.

Colonel Masaitis

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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (505)476-6035 or Dave Cobrain of my staff at (505) 476-6055.

Sincerely,

**Kevin  
Pierard**

Digitally signed  
by Kevin Pierard  
Date: 2020.07.16  
09:41:33 -06'00'

Kevin M. Pierard, Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: Stephanie Stringer, Director, NMED RPD  
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB  
B. Wear, NMED HWB  
G. Acevedo, NMED HWB  
L. King, EPA Region 6 (6LCRRC)  
C. Gierke, CAFB

File: MELR 2020 and Reading