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Governor

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**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

October 8, 2019

Timothy J. Davis
Chief, Environmental Office
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
White Sands Test Facility
P.O. Box 20
Las Cruces, NM 88004-0020

Attention of: RE-19-146

**RE: APPROVAL
REQUEST FOR A "CONTAINED-IN" DETERMINATION FOR DRILL CUTTINGS ASSOCIATED
WITH MONITORING WELL PL-12
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION JOHNSON SPACE CENTER
WHITE SANDS TEST FACILITY
DOÑA ANA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
EPA ID #NM08800019434
HWB-NASA-17-020**

Dear Mr. Davis:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Johnson Space Center White Sands Test Facility (Permittee) *Request for a "Contained-In" Determination for Drill Cuttings Associated with Monitoring Well PL-12 Drilling at WSTF [White Sands Test Facility]* (Request), dated October 1, 2019.

The drill cuttings were generated during the drilling of replacement monitoring well PL-12 and represent cuttings generated below the groundwater table within the mapped groundwater contaminant plume. Drill cuttings were separated from the drilling fluids and collected in a 30 cubic yard roll-off container (Container #9223). The drill cuttings

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have been managed as a hazardous waste with Resource Conservation and Recovery Act waste codes F001 and F002.

Based on the waste characterization sampling results provided with the Request, the drill cuttings from monitoring well PL-12 do not exhibit properties of a characteristic hazardous waste as defined in 40 CFR Part 261 Subpart C. Additionally, all applicable 40 CFR Part 261 Subpart D listed hazardous waste (F001 and F002) were not detected above laboratory detection limits.

NMED has reviewed the Permittee's Request and determined that the drill cuttings may be managed as a non-hazardous waste. The drill cuttings must be disposed at an appropriate waste disposal facility.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John E. Kieling" with a small "for" written below it.

John E. Kieling
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
B. Wear, NMED HWB
G. Acevedo, NMED HWB
L. King, EPA 6LCRRC
M. Zigmond, NASA WSTF

File: NASA WSTF 2019 and Reading