



SUSANA MARTINEZ
Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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



DAVE MARTIN
Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 25, 2012

Thomas A. Ladd, Director
Environment and Safety Directorate
U.S. Army White Sands Missile Range
White Sands Missile Range
New Mexico 88002-5000

**RE: APPROVAL WITH MODIFICATIONS
REVISED RCRA FACILITY INVESTIGATION REPORT FOR THE
STALLION RANGE CENTER FORMER FIREFIGHTER TRAINING AREA
JUNE 2011
WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE
EPA ID# NM 2750211235
HWB-WSMR-10-002**

Dear Mr. Ladd:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has completed its review of White Sands Missile Range's (the Permittee) *Revised RCRA Facility Investigation Report for the Stallion Range Center Former Firefighter Training Area* (Report), dated June 2011. NMED hereby issues this approval with the following modifications.

Comment 1

The redline strike-out version of the revised Report does not match the final version of the submitted revised Report. It appears that errors were found in the redline strike-out version such as text passages, dates, units and references. These errors were corrected in the final revised Report; however, the redline strike-out included with the revised Report was not updated accordingly. In all future submittals the Permittee must ensure red line strike-out versions of documents exactly match the submitted documents. No response is necessary.

Mr. Thomas Ladd
White Sands Missile Range
January 25, 2012
Page 2 of 3

Comment 2

**Section 3.2.3 Statistical Evaluation to Determine Background Metals Values, page 20;
Appendix G (Statistical Evaluation of Background Data):**

Post-excavation confirmation sampling results indicate that all site samples were below New Mexico Soil Screening Levels (NMSSLs) for Residential exposure for all Chemicals of Potential Concern (COPC) and pass risk screening.

It is not necessary to calculate site specific background levels for metals if no samples exceed NMSSLs for Residential exposure and cumulative risk has been evaluated in accordance with Section 5.0 of the NMED *Technical Background Document for Development of Soil Screening Levels Rev 5.0*, August 2009 and is less than 1×10^{-5} for carcinogens and the Hazard Index is less than 1 for non-carcinogens. A copy of this document can be found on NMED's website: http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/HWB/documents/NMED_SSG_August_2009_Dec09TableA-1_clean.pdf If the site passes the risk screening for both carcinogenic and non-carcinogenic COPCs then there is no need to determine site specific background levels for metals. No response is necessary.

The Permittee is advised that NMED is in the process of updating the Soil Screening Guidance (SSG) and anticipates the new version to be released January 2012. Major changes to the SSG include updating the soil screening levels (SSLs) for new toxicity data and adding mutagenicity. In addition, the Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH) and the Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) guidance have been combined with the SSG and will no longer exist as individual guidance. In future documents, the Permittee must use the most recent version of the SSG for the evaluation of site data regardless of the proposed use of the NMED 2006 TPH and 2009 SSG guidance in the work plan.

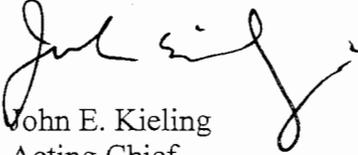
Comment 3

Based on the information provided in the revised Report the site has achieved the applicable cleanup levels and the Permittee has met residential risk levels. NMED does not require further corrective action at this site.

Mr. Thomas Ladd
White Sands Missile Range
January 25, 2012
Page 3 of 3

If you have questions regarding this Approval with Modifications, please contact Lane Andress of my staff at 505-476-6059.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
L. Andress, NMED HWB
Benito Avalos, WSMR

File: WSMR 2012 and Reading
WSMR-10-002