



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

May 15, 2012

Colonel John Kubinec
Base Commander
377 ABW/CC
2000 Wyoming Blvd. SE
Kirtland AFB, NM 87117-5606

John Pike
Director, Environmental Management Services
377 MSG
2050 Wyoming Blvd. SE, Suite 116
Kirtland AFB, NM 87117-5270

**RE: REQUIREMENT FOR CHARACTERIZATION PLAN
BULK FUELS FACILITY SPILL, SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNITS ST-
106 AND SS-111, KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, EPA ID# NM9570024423
HWB-KAFB-10-019**

Dear Col. Kubinec and Mr. Pike:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is providing this letter as clarification to the April 13, 2012 NMED letter providing conditional approval of characterization wells to be installed for the Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility project.

Once the U.S. Air Force (Permittee) has completed the installation of the cluster wells approved in the April 13, 2012 letter, and has evaluated the analytical data of groundwater samples collected from these wells, the information will be used to determine the locations of additional wells to define the concentration and extent of the ethylene dibromide (EDB) contamination. These additional wells will provide coverage at the northern and eastern portion of the plume.

The analytical data of the groundwater samples from the approved cluster wells shall be immediately provided to NMED once data validation has been completed. NMED will then coordinate with the Permittee to determine the appropriate locations of the additional wells to expedite their installation on an iterative basis. Pursuant to Section 6.5.17 of the Permittee's Hazardous Waste Operating Permit, the Permittee is required to determine the concentrations of contamination throughout the plume. Knowing the concentration of contamination within the plume is vital to determine appropriate interim measures and eventually the final remedy.

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NMED is committed to working with the Permittee in an expeditious manner to approve the locations and installation of the additional wells to determine the extent of the EDB contamination.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter please contact me, at (505) 476-6035, or Mr. William Moats of my staff at (505) 222-9551.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: J. Davis, NMED HWB
W. Moats, NMED HWB
W. McDonald, NMED HWB
S. Brandwein, NMED HWB
J. Schoepner, NMED GWQB
S. Reuter, NMED PSTB
B. Gallegos, AEHD
R. Shean, ABCWUA
L. King, EPA-Region 6 (6PD-N)
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