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SUSANA MARTINEZ
Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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DAVE MARTIN
Secretary

RAJ SOLOMON, P.E.
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

June 24, 2011

Colonel Robert L. Maness
Base Commander
377 ABW/CC
2000 Wyoming Blvd. SE
Kirtland AFB, NM 87117-5606

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

RE: REQUEST TO MODIFY GROUNDWATER INVESTIGATION WORK PLAN, WELL-SCREEN LENGTHS, JUNE 20, 2011
BULK FUELS FACILITY SPILL
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, EPA ID# NM9570024423
HWB-KAFB-10-019

Dear Col. Maness and Mr. Pike:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received the U. S. Air Force's (Permittee) letter dated June 20, 2011, signed by Mr. Thomas Berardinelli, requesting a modification to the Groundwater Investigation Work Plan for the Bulk Fuels Facility Spill, Solid Waste Management Units ST-106 and SS-111. The Permittee proposes to increase the length of the well screens at 10 new wells yet to be constructed across the water table. The screen lengths are to be increased from 20 feet to 30 feet, due to the rising, and anticipated continuing rise, in the water table.

While such an increase in screen length would allow wells to monitor conditions at the water table for a longer period of time due to the rising water table, unacceptable dilution of groundwater samples can be undesired result of longer screen lengths. Nonetheless, NMED agrees with the proposed modification of well screen lengths provided that the wells are initially installed with no more than 15 feet of their screened intervals situated below the water table. Furthermore, should the saturated screen length increase to 25 feet or more after the wells are installed, the wells must be replaced if required by the NMED.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. William Moats of my staff at (505) 222-9551.

Sincerely,

John E. Kieling
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: R. Solomon, NMED Deputy Secretary
J. Davis, NMED RPD
W. Moats, NMED HWB
W. McDonald, NMED HWB
S. Brandwein, NMED HWB
B. Olson, NMED GWQB
L. Barnhart, NMED OGC
B. Gallegos, AEHD
R. Shean, ABCWUA
L. King, EPA-Region 6 (6PD-N)
File: KAFB 2011 and Reading
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