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Governor

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**NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

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James C. Kenney
Cabinet Secretary

Jennifer J. Pruett
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

August 18, 2020

Colonel David S. Miller
Base Commander
377 ABW/CC
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland AFB, NM 87117

Lt. Colonel Wayne J. Acosta
Civil Engineer Office
377 Civil engineer Division
2050 Wyoming Blvd SE, Suite 116
Kirtland AFB, NM 87117

**RE: REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION
DISAPPROVAL COMMENT 4
WORK PLAN FOR SHALLOW SOIL VAPOR SAMPLING
BULK FUELS FACILITY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNITS ST-106 AND SS-
111 KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO
EPA ID# NM6213820974
HWB-KAFB-19-014**

Dear Colonel Miller and Lt. Colonel Acosta:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the Kirtland Air Force Base (Permittee) July 16, 2020 request for clarification (Request) concerning Comment 4 found in the May 26, 2020 Disapproval of the Work Plan for Shallow Soil Vapor Sampling, Bulk Fuels Facility, Solid Waste Management Units ST-106/SS-111. In the Request, the Permittee states, "[c]omment 4 does not accurately reflect the administrative record on the Risk Assessment and does not accurately represent the path forward mutually agreed to by NMED and the Air Force as detailed in this letter."

Based upon the contents of the July 16 Request, the Permittee may have interpreted

Comment 4 more broadly than NMED intended. Comment 4 of the May 26, 2020 Disapproval is specifically in reference to the 2017 Risk Assessment associated with the vapor intrusion pathway. The vapor intrusion pathway portion of the 2017 Risk Assessment was not approved by NMED and may not be referenced in the soil vapor workplan nor relied upon in decision-making regarding shallow soil vapor monitoring. During a discussion on May 7, NMED and the Permittee agreed to delay any further effort on the soil vapor risk assessment until the Corrective Measures Evaluation (“CME”) phase of the project and acknowledged that, as the final data are processed, previously approved risk assessments may need to be updated during the CME phase based on more recent data. NMED attempted to reflect the May 7 discussion in Comment 4.

I hope this clarifies Comment 4 contained in the May 26, 2020 Disapproval. As a reminder, the Permittee response to the May 26, 2020 Disapproval is due on August 27, 2020. Please reference this clarification correspondence in your response.

Should you have any questions please contact me at (505) 476-6035.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Pierard, Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
B. Wear, NMED HWB
L. Andress, NMED HWB
L. King EPA Region 6 (6LCRRC)
S. Kottkamp, KAFB
K. Lynnes, KAFB

File: KAFB 2020 Bulk Fuels Facility Spill and Reading