



November 19, 2008

DCN: NMED-2008-016

Mr. David Cobrain  
Hazardous Waste Bureau  
2905 Rodeo Park Dr. E/Bldg 1  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

RE: Draft Technical Review Comments on the Site-Specific Background Values McGregor Range Camp Area, Fort Bliss, New Mexico.

Dear Mr. Cobrain:

This letter serves as a deliverable and contains draft technical review comments on the *Site-Specific Background Values McGregor Range Camp Area*, Fort Bliss, New Mexico (October 2008), herein referred to as the Soil Background Document. The approved *Sampling and Analysis Plan for McGregor and Dona Ana Range SWMU Sites* (January 2008), was used as reference for the review.

In addition, the letter of approval with modifications from the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) dated April 11, 2008 for the above Sampling and Analysis Plan was reviewed to ensure that the conditions outlined in the approval letter had been met. The following addresses each of the conditions outlined in the approval letter.

- Comment 1. This comment has been adequately addressed. The date of the sampling and Analysis Plan is shown as 2008 (Section 2.2 of the Soil Background Document).
- Comment 2. The comment has been adequately addressed. Appendix A provides boring logs for each of the sample locations showing soil horizon, depth of sample, and descriptions of soil type.
- Comment 3. The comment has been adequately addressed. Samples were collected and homogenized in disposable plastic bowls (Section 3.3 of the Soil Background Document).
- Comment 4. The comment has been adequately addressed. All sampling equipment (bowls and scoops) were disposable and new equipment was used for each sample (Section 3.3 of the Soil Background Document).
- Comment 5. The Soil Background Document provides a description of all activities associated with the collection and analysis of soil samples for the purpose of defining

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Comments should not be evaluated as a final work product.*



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a background data range. No deviations from the Sampling and Analysis Plan were noted during the review of the Soil Background Document. Samples were collected and analyzed in accordance with the approved plan and reference values were calculated using the ProUCL software.

The only concern noted with the data was for barium in soil horizon A. The data appear to be much lower than anticipated. The facility may wish to review the quality assurance report from the laboratory to ensure data integrity. Otherwise, no technical comments were noted during the review.

If you or any of your staff have questions, please contact me at (801) 451-2864 or via email at [paigewalton@msn.com](mailto:paigewalton@msn.com).

Thank you,

Paige Walton  
AQS Senior Scientist and Project Lead

cc: Cheryl Frischkorn, NMED (electronic)  
Joel Workman, AQS (electronic)