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ENTERED
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CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 2, 2014

Vicki G. Hamilton, R.A.
Chief, Environmental Division
Directorate of Public Works
Department of the Army
Headquarters, U.S. Army Garrison Command
1741 Marshall Road
Fort Bliss, TX 79916-3803

**RE: APPROVAL
FINAL REPORT FOR THE COVER AND BORROW AREA
INVESTIGATION OF THE ORO GRANDE LANDFILL (SWMU-
25/FTBL-014)
FORT BLISS, NEW MEXICO
EPA ID #NM4213720101
HWB-FB-13-002**

Dear Ms. Hamilton:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has reviewed the Department of Army's (Permittee) *Final Letter Report for the Cover and Borrow Area Investigation of the Oro Grande Landfill (SWMU-25/FTBL-014)*, Fort Bliss, New Mexico (status report), dated September 6, 2013 and received September 10, 2013.

In accordance with NMED's comments in the letter titled *Approval with Modification RCRA Facility Investigation Report Oro Grande Landfill (SWMU 25/FTBL-14), Fort Bliss, New*

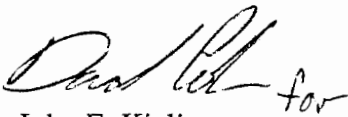
Mexico (February 3, 2010), the Permittee conducted additional trenching to the center of the landfill to determine the thickness of buried waste. According to the information provided in the status report dated November 21, 2011, the waste was found to range in thickness from approximately one foot to ten feet, with an estimated volume of 2,075 cubic yards. The status report determined three types of closure options: to close in place with a standard engineering cover; to close in place with an arid exemption/evapotranspiration (ET) cap; or to completely remove the waste and transport it to a permitted landfill. The status report concluded that due to geotechnical characteristics of the landfill and borrow cover material the two best options were to close in place with an ET cap or to remove and dispose the waste in the permitted landfill.

In the cover letter dated September 6, 2013, the Permittee states "the best option for Fort Bliss would be complete removal of waste from SWMU-25/FTBL-014, and the disposal of the removed waste at a permitted municipal solid waste landfill". NMED agrees and notes that any waste or soil removed must be tested and characterized in accordance with a Department approved sampling and analysis plan (SAP) in accordance to 40 CFR 268.7 and 268.9 prior to disposal in a municipal landfill.

The Permittee has fulfilled its obligation to conduct additional trenching to determine the thickness of buried waste. The Permittee must submit a closure plan, in accordance to the regulations 40 CFR 264 Subpart, no later than October 10, 2014.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Siona Briley at (505) 476-6049.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: J. Valdez, NMED HWB
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
S. Briley, NMED HWB
V. Hamilton, DoA, Ft. Bliss
J. Lady, DoA, Ft. Bliss

File: Fort Bliss (SWMU 25), Corrective Action Status Report September 2013
FB-13-001