



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
377TH AIR BASE WING (AFGSC)**

6 October 2023

Colonel Michael J. Power, USAF  
Commander  
377th Air Base Wing  
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE  
Kirtland AFB NM 87117



Mr. Ricardo Maestas  
Hazardous Waste Bureau (HWB) Acting Chief  
New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1  
Santa Fe NM 87505-6303

Dear Mr. Maestas

The Air Force (AF) received the New Mexico Environment Department's letter dated May 2, 2023 providing approval of the Tier 1 Screening Level Ecological Risk Assessment (SLERA) Open Detonation (OD) Treatment Unit and establishing a due date of October 13, 2023 for submittal of a Tier 2 SLERA.

An in-depth review of the SLERA analytical data by an AF project chemist/risk assessor was completed as part of the Tier 2 AF review process. The project chemist recommended that a Weight of Evidence (WOE) analysis be performed. NMED guidance provides three options advancing from the Tier 2 SLERA: proceed to a Tier 3 evaluation, perform additional evaluation under a WOE analysis, or perform a corrective measure or other remedial actions. The WOE will consist of analyzing multiple lines of evidence to support a site-specific determination for the next steps.

As the NMED guidance is not clear on where the WOE analysis is incorporated in the SLERA process, AF requested NMED input on where best to include the WOE analysis; NMED indicated that including the WOE analysis in the Tier 2 SLERA report was acceptable. To accomplish the WOE analysis and update the Tier 2 SLERA for submittal, a contract modification is needed to secure additional required funding and an extension of the current suspense date of October 13, 2023 is requested.

The Air Force is respectfully requesting a 90-day extension to the OD Unit Tier 2 SLERA, establishing a revised due date of January 11, 2024. This extension request will allow time required to secure additional funding, complete the WOE analysis and to incorporate this study into the Tier 2 report.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Scott Clark at (505) 846-9017 or via email at [scott.clark@us.af.mil](mailto:scott.clark@us.af.mil) or Mr. Darren Knight at (661) 203-7714, or via email at [john.knight.15@us.af.mil](mailto:john.knight.15@us.af.mil).

Sincerely

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MICHAEL J. POWER, Colonel, USAF  
Commander

cc:  
NMED-HWB (Eads)  
AFCEC-CZR (Segura, Renaghan, Cash, Clark)  
EPA Region 6 (King)  
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