



Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Howie C. Morales
Lt. Governor

NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



Hazardous Waste Bureau

2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6313
Phone (505) 476-6000 Fax (505) 476-6030
www.env.nm.gov



James C. Kenney
Cabinet Secretary

Jennifer J. Pruett
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

May 7, 2019

Colonel Stewart A. Hammons
Commander, 27th Special Operations Wing
110 E. Alison Avenue, Suite 1098
Cannon Air Force Base
New Mexico 88103

**RE: UPDATE TO GROUNDWATER MONITORING FIELD SAMPLING PLAN
MELROSE AIR FORCE RANGE
EPA ID# NM5572124456-1
HWB-MELR-18-001**

Dear Colonel Hammons:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) revised its Water Quality Regulations for Ground and Surface Water Protection at 20.6.2 New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) effective December 21, 2018. The revised regulations include changes to groundwater quality standards (20.6.2.3103 NMAC) including, but not limited to, trichloroethylene, 1,1,1-trichloroethane and 1,1-dichloroethylene and additions to the toxic pollutant list (20.6.2.7.T(2) NMAC) including, but not limited to, 1,4-dioxane and sulfolane.

As required by NMED under the authority of the October 1994 *RCRA Hazardous Waste Facility Operational Permit for Melrose Bombing Range* (Permit), groundwater monitoring must continue a Melrose Air Force Range (MAFR) for the foreseeable future as an interim measure in compliance with with Permit Module IV, Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments Permit Conditions, Section E, Corrective Action, until all corrective action is complete at all Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) and Areas of Concern at the MAFR.

Due to the recent updates to the New Mexico Groundwater Quality Regulations, an update of the MAFR *Groundwater Monitoring Field Sampling Plan* (GWFSF) is required. The GWFSF analytes of concern list must be updated for compliance with current State of New Mexico and

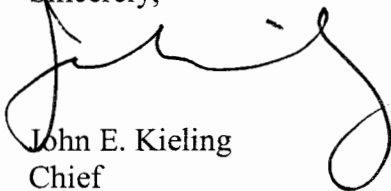
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federal standards as outlined in this letter and dictated by historical and current usage of the range by the USAF that may potentially contribute to contamination of groundwater. Sampling of groundwater and data collection at MAFR must continue on a semiannual schedule for the MAFR SWMU groundwater quality monitoring well network and annually at some additional groundwater quality network monitoring wells. Data collection at water level only wells must also continue. The updated MAFR GWFSF must be submitted to the NMED no later than **July 1, 2019**.

The Permittee must update the GWFSF annually to include changes in the groundwater monitoring conducted at MAFR. If no updates are made for a specific calendar year, the Permittee must submit a letter stating that no updates were made to the GWSP for that specific calendar year for NMED approval. Beginning with sampling year 2021, the annual update to the GWFSF or a letter stating that no changes were made to the plan must be submitted no later than **May 30 of the prior year** (e.g., May 30, 2020 for sampling year 2021). This should provide ample time for revisions to be made, should they be required, prior to the start of the sampling year.

Please contact Gabriel Acevedo of my staff at (505) 476-6043 if you have questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: D. Cobrain, NMED
B. Wear, NMED
G. Acevedo, NMED
L. King, EPA Region 6
R. Lancaster, CAFB
S. Kottkamp, CAFB
C. Gierke, CAFB
M. Fuchs, CAFB
D. Canales, CAFB

File: MELR 2019 and Reading