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CABINET SECRETARY

Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested

April 4, 2024

George H. Cushman
Headquarters, Department of the Army
Office of the DCS, G-9
Army Environmental Office, Room 5C140
600 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-0600

**RE: APPROVAL
RESPONSE NO. 1 TO DISAPPROVAL
2024 INTERIM NORTHERN AREA GROUNDWATER MONITORING PLAN
FORT WINGATE DEPOT ACTIVITY
MCKINLEY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
EPA ID# NM6213820974
HWB-FWDA-24-001**

Dear Mr. Cushman,

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is in receipt of the Fort Wingate Depot Activity (Permittee) *Response No. 1 to Disapproval, 2024 Interim Northern Area Groundwater Monitoring Plan* (Response), dated March 29, 2024. NMED has reviewed the Response, and hereby issues this Approval.

The Response states, “[i]n light of the NMED disapproval of the 2024 Interim Groundwater Monitoring Plan, the Army is proceeding with monitoring under the Final 2022 Interim Northern Area Groundwater Monitoring Plan, Revision 2, approved by NMED letter HWB-FWDA-20-004 dated August 3, 2021. However, the Army is incorporating the analytical changes authorized by NMED in the March 19, 2024, letter. Specifically, the Army is updating the analyte list for specific wells as directed/approved by NMED. The attached table indicates the analytical changes for specific wells and identifies the comment number in the NMED March 19, 2024, letter based on the revision.”

According to the table titled as *April 2024 – Sampling Matrix Updated based on NMED March 19, 2024 letter*, the comments pertinent to the analytical changes provided in the NMED’s March 19, 2024 *Disapproval* (i.e., Comments 25, and 36 through 60) are adequately addressed. NMED acknowledges that the changes are incorporated in the 2024 groundwater monitoring and sampling events.

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Hazardous Waste Bureau - 2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6313
Telephone (505) 476-6000 - www.env.nm.gov

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The Permittee must submit the revised 2024 Interim Northern Area Groundwater Monitoring Plan and the Response No. 2 letter that addresses all comments contained in the NMED's March 19, 2024 *Disapproval* no later than **April 30, 2024**, as stated in the Response.

This approval is based on the information presented in the document as it relates to the objectives of the work identified by NMED at the time of review. Approval of this document does not constitute agreement with all information or every statement presented in the document.

Should you have any questions, please contact Michiya Suzuki of my staff at 505-690-6930.

Sincerely,

Ricardo Maestas
Digitally signed by Ricardo
Maestas
Date: 2024.04.04 12:17:18 -06'00'

Ricardo Maestas
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: N. Dhawan, NMED HWB
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