ALBUQUERQUE BERNALILLO COUNTY WATER UTILITY AUTHORITY

BILL NO.

F/S R-12-13

1	RESOLUTION
2	AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE FOR
3	PROTECTING ALBUQUERQUE'S DRINKING WATER AND CONTIGENCY PLAN
4	COORDINATION.
5	WHEREAS, the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water
6	Authority) was established to provide safe and sustainable water supply for the
7	Albuquerque metropolitan area; and
8	WHEREAS, the Water Authority has worked diligently to conserve water usage
9	and invested more than \$500 million in the San Juan-Chama Drinking Water Project to
10	preserve and protect the aquifer and the regional water supply; and
11	WHEREAS, a former Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) bulk fuel facility leak has
12	created what may be the largest aviation gas and jet fuel spill in the history of the United
13	States (U.S.); and
14	WHERAS, the jet fuel plume has and continues to migrate from the source and
15	represents a potentially significant threat to the downgradient municipal water supply
16	wells; and
17	WHEREAS, a concentrated plume of aviation gas and jet fuel containing
18	benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, xylene, ethylene dibromide (EDB) and other organic
19	compounds is dissolving into the groundwater and extends at least a mile from its
20	source; and
21	WHEREAS, The U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
22	characterizes Ethylene Dibromide (EDB) breakdown in ground water as "hardly at all";
23	and
24	WHEREAS, the dissolved phase plume as represented by ethylene dibromide
25	(EDB) may arrive at the Water Authority's Ridgecrest Well Number 5 within five years;
26	and
27	WHEREAS, KAFB continues to investigate and is actively remediating the fuel
28	spill in the vadose zone using soil vapor extraction technologies; and,

1	WHEREAS, KAFB has not proposed to contain or extract the dissolved phase
2	fuel plume; and
3	WHEREAS, the Water Authority, KAFB and the New Mexico Environment
4	Department (NMED) have been working cooperatively and productively towards
5	ensuring that the drinking water supply for the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo
6	County is safe for consumption; and
7	WHEREAS, the U.S. Air Force has pledged to fund contingency projects, in the
8	event a Water Authority well or wells are impacted by the fuel plume; and
9	WHEREAS, the Water Authority and KAFB have executed an existing
10	Memorandum of Agreement providing the Water Authority reimbursements for costs
11	related to additional well sampling related to the KAFB bulk fuel facility spill.
12	BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WATER AUTHORITY:
13	Section 1. Water Authority will enter into a formal agreement with KAFB to
14	include activities related to monitoring, contingency planning and implementation in the
15	event that a Water Authority production well or wells are affected by the KAFB Bulk Fuel
16	Facility spill.
17	Section 2. Water Authority will work with KAFB and NMED on the placement of
18	additional monitoring wells, including early warning wells within the wellhead protection
19	areas, and assist with the modeling of the dissolved phase plume including the
20	proximity to the Water Authority's Ridgecrest Well Field and production zone.
21	Section 3. Water Authority will determine the cost of wellhead treatment, well
22	replacement, and related infrastructure costs to be considered in the contingency and
23	implementation plan.
24	Section 4. The Executive Director is authorized enter into an agreement with
25	KAFB to provide funding by KAFB for costs related to contingency planning and
26	implementation projects.
27	Section 5. Continued funding for the KAFB remediation shall be included as a
28	federal legislative priority for the Water Authority.
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