



New Mexico Environment Department

Kirtland Bulk Fuels Facility Spill Update

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ABCWUA Water Authority Board Meeting





Kirtland Air Force Base Bulk Fuels Facility Spill

Soil Vapor Sampling at KAFB BFFS



- Soil-vapor monitoring is ongoing at the site. NMED required the Air Force to change their soil vapor sample collection methods in a letter dated August 31, 2021.
- The required changes in sampling methods have not yet been implemented at the site.

- NMED sent the Air Force a letter requesting a Soil Vapor Monitoring Work Plan which includes the NMED required changes on September 16, 2022.

- The due date for this work plan is March 1, 2023 and is to be updated annually April 1st of every year.



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- In 2015 changes to the soil vapor sampling protocol and analyses were implemented at the site which likely resulted in non-representative site data.
 - Sampling purge volumes were reduced from 10 well volumes to 1 well volume, which corresponds with significant reductions in soil vapor concentrations at the site.
 - Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) fractions which were historically monitored in soil vapor at the site were removed from the soil vapor analyses.
- The required changes, as outlined in NMED's August 31, 2021 letter, are to:
 - Purge three well volumes from each monitoring well prior to the collection of soil gas samples. Currently the Air Force is purging less than one well volume.
 - Resume analyses for TPH fractions as TPH is a better indicator of the total mass of hydrocarbons in soil vapor. The analytical results can then be compared to historical data.



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- On October 25, 2022, NMED sent the Air Force a letter clarifying NMED's required changes to their soil vapor sample collection methods.
- These required changes:
 - Do not constitute additional site characterization but only a change in sampling methodology; therefore, do not require a new work plan to implement.
 - Will result in the collection of soil vapor samples that are representative of subsurface conditions at the site.
 - Are requirements of the Permit (Part 1.23.1, 6.5, and 6.5.16) and are in accordance with standard EPA Guidance and Industry Standard practices.
- The required changes in sampling methods must be implemented at the site immediately; meaning with the next soil vapor sampling event conducted at the BFFS site.



Questions?



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Thank You!