



NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
111 SOUTH GEORGE MASON DRIVE
ARLINGTON, VA 22204-1373

February 8, 2024

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Dear [REDACTED]

The Army National Guard appreciates your inquiry into the ongoing investigation at the New Mexico Army National Guard Santa Fe Army Air Support Facility (AASF) and encourages and welcomes community involvement in our Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) restoration process. We will soon formally solicit community interest in forming a restoration advisory board, a formal mechanism for community engagement in the restoration process.

The Army National Guard follows CERCLA for the environmental work at the Santa Fe AASF mentioned in your letter. As part of the CERCLA process, the Army National Guard completed a Preliminary Assessment, a historical review of activities and specifically Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) use at this facility. AFFF is commonly known as firefighting foam, which is used to put out fuel fires at military installations, airports, and other industrial applications globally. The Preliminary Assessment was finalized August 2020, and is available at www.nationalguard.mil/Environmental/PFAS.

Based upon the findings of that initial effort, the Army National Guard initiated on-installation sampling in the form of a Site Inspection to determine if a release of AFFF had occurred. This sampling effort was coordinated with the New Mexico Environmental Department, who participated in the planning and finalization of the findings. Although contamination was identified in shallow groundwater, samples of the regional aquifer were found to be unimpacted. The Site Inspection final report is available at the link above.

Additional sampling to determine the nature and extent of contamination in groundwater and soil is planned this year in a Remedial Investigation. If, at any point during this work our results indicate that the activities at the Santa Fe AASF may have impacted downgradient drinking water wells, we will immediately initiate a request to sample those drinking water wells. ARNG G-9 takes the health of its community seriously and will act immediately if releases associated with our activities have impacted drinking water above 70 parts per trillion Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS).

If you would like to share the well locations and data mentioned in your letter, we would welcome that information.

Please contact the undersigned at (703) 607-1277 or armyguardcleanup@army.mil if you have any questions and/or concerns.

Sincerely,

Brian R. Hunsaker
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
Chief, Cleanup & Restoration Branch
G-9, Army National Guard

cc:

Mr. Gregory Lyssy United States Environmental Protection Agency Senior Project Manager

Mr. David Carr Region 6 United States Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Coordinator for the Army Regional Environmental and Energy Office

Mr. John Rhoderick New Mexico Environment Department

Mr. Chris Fritzsche New Mexico Army National Guard

Mr. Loren Deakin New Mexico Army National Guard