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HOUSE MEMORIAL 27

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012

INTRODUCED BY

Sheryl Williams Stapleton

A MEMORIAL

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR THE POSITIVE WORK THAT THE KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE AND THE STATE HAVE DONE IN PARTNERSHIP TO CLEAN GROUND WATER IMPACTED BY THE BULK FUEL FACILITY SPILL AND RECOGNIZING THE CONTINUING NEED FOR ADDITIONAL WORK.

WHEREAS, the bulk fuel facility on Kirtland air force base in Albuquerque is located in the northwestern portion of the base; and

WHEREAS, the facility and associated infrastructure operated from 1953 until 1999, during which time the fueling area was separated into a tank holding area, where bulk shipments of fuel were received, and a fuel loading area, where individual fuel trucks were filled; and

WHEREAS, Kirtland air force base removed the facility from

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1 service in 1999 due to line leakage; and

2 WHEREAS, the exact history of the leaks or releases is
3 unknown, and initially it was thought that the leaks only
4 affected surface soil; and

5 WHEREAS, investigations between 2004 and 2007 demonstrated
6 that the leaked fuel had reached the ground water table; and

7 WHEREAS, Kirtland air force base installed the first soil
8 vapor extraction unit in 2003 to begin treating soil
9 contamination related to the fuel spill and continued from 2004
10 to 2007; and

11 WHEREAS, in 2007, fuel was detected in the ground water
12 table off the air force base and additional vapor extraction
13 units were installed at various points above the fuel plume;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, further investigation shows that the fuel
16 contamination has migrated north of Kirtland air force base;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, in order to comply with the department of
19 environment's hazardous waste bureau requirements and to
20 understand the extent of contamination and how far
21 contamination has migrated from the original site, additional
22 ground water and soil vapor monitoring wells are being
23 installed both on and off the base; and

24 WHEREAS, new wells will be installed in the Siesta Hills
25 and Elder Homestead neighborhoods in the next few months, and

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1 these wells will be sampled quarterly to fill in information
2 gaps so a final remedy can be identified to address the fuel
3 leak;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that appreciation be
6 expressed for the positive work that the air force, the city of
7 Albuquerque and the state have done in partnership to clean
8 ground water and for the community's and neighbors' patience
9 during the testing phase; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the parties be requested to
11 continue their cooperative work until every last drop of ground
12 water and every last air vapor is ameliorated; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
14 transmitted to the secretary of the United States air force,
15 the secretary of defense, the New Mexico congressional
16 delegation, the secretary of environment and the mayor of
17 Albuquerque.