

HAFB 00



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**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

June 30, 2000

Brigadier General William J. Lake
USAF Commander
Headquarters, 49th Fighter Wing (ACC)
Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico 88330

RE: VERIFICATION OF COMPLETION OF CLOSURE: SEWAGE LAGOONS A THROUGH G

Dear General Lake:

The New Mexico Environment Department's Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau (NMED/HRMB) has reviewed and recommended for approval the *Final Closure Report for Sewage Lagoon Closure, Holloman AFB July 1999*, the *Deed Notification Summary for Lagoons Long-Term Groundwater Monitoring Program January 2000*, and the *Final Completion Closure Site at Holloman AFB, New Mexico June 2000* including the revised Drawing for the Sewage Lagoons Closure Report. These documents were submitted in accordance with the approved closure plan and NMED conditions for closure for the former Sewage Lagoons A through F and sewage Lagoon G (Site WP-49).

Based on NMED approval of these documents, and the inspection of Ponds A through G conducted by NMED staff on January 12, 2000, NMED verifies that final closure of the lagoons has been completed in accordance with the approved closure plan and closure plan conditions for these units.

Please note that NMED's conditional approval of the risk-based closure of Ponds A through F is based on a criterion of restricted open space, and is contingent on maintenance of the cover placed over the soils and sludges in Ponds A through F to eliminate the exposure pathways for

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these sites. The US Air Force/HAFB may not use Ponds A through F for a less restrictive land use unless the potential risks associated with the new land use are reevaluated, and submitted to and found acceptable by NMED. Conditions for approval of these ponds are:

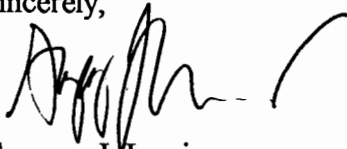
- 1) The cover and drainage system constructed to divert the stormwater run-off that typically accumulates just outside the northern boundaries of the former lagoons must be maintained in good conditions; and
- 2) A fence around the lagoons must be maintained in good condition in order to protect the integrity of the cover.

The risk-based closure (No Action) of Pond G is approved to maintain the crucial wildlife environments that have been created at this pond. The Pond G closure meets human health criteria for the protection of current workers, hunters, and trespassers.

With regard to Closure Condition No. 6, NMED accepts filing the deed notification with the Real Property Office at HAFB rather than with the local zoning authority. NMED notes that, in accordance with National Contingency Plan, this notification is required to be maintained by HAFB throughout the life of the facility plus fifty years.

Please contact Ms. Stephanie Kruse of my staff at 827-1558 ext. 1016 if you have any questions or comments regarding this closure verification.

Sincerely,



Gregory J. Lewis
Director
Water and Waste Management Division

GJL:jk(HRMB)

cc: James P. Bearzi, NMED HRMB
John E. Kieling, NMED HRMB
Stephanie Kruse, NMED/HRMB
Cornelius Amindyas, NMED/HRMB
Debbie Brinkerhoff, NMED/HRMB
Howard Moffitt, HAFB
Jose Gallegos, HAFB
David Neleigh, EPA