

KAFB 91

ENTERED



BRUCE KING
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Harold Runnels Building
1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
(505) 827-2850

JUDITH M. ESPINOSA
SECRETARY

RON CURRY
DEPUTY SECRETARY

October 7, 1991

Dear Concerned Citizen:

Enclosed is a legal notice of approval of closure plans submitted by Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) for their sewage lagoons, pond and effluent irrigation area (golf course). If you have any questions or comments, please address them to me at the above address. Note that the comment period is from October 14, 1991 to November 14, 1991.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joseph O. Kennedy".

Joseph O. Kennedy
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau

CC: Edward Horst, RCRA Program Manager
Bruce Swanton, Technical Group Supervisor

KAFB1165



LEGAL NOTICE

NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
HAZARDOUS AND RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS BUREAU

PUBLIC NOTICE No. 46

DATE OF PUBLIC COMMENT
PERIOD: 9/30/91 -
10/30/91

NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPROVE CLOSURE PLANS FOR KIRTLAND AIR
FORCE BASE SEWAGE LAGOONS, POND AND EFFLUENT TREATMENT AREA.

The State of New Mexico is authorized to operate a hazardous waste management program in lieu of the Federal program for those portions of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) in effect prior to the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (HSWA). The HSWA impose additional requirements on hazardous waste facilities, and these requirements will be administered and enforced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) until the State of New Mexico receives authorization for those requirements.

Under the authority of RCRA, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) proposes to approve closure plans submitted by Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB), as per HWMR-6, §265.112, for their sewage lagoons, golf course pond and golf course. The latter two units have received secondary treated sewage effluent from the sewage lagoons.

The sewage lagoons and golf course pond system were constructed in 1962. The lagoons received sewage generated from operations on the base. This lagoon system acted as a primary treatment system, and provided the main golf course pond with the "grey water" for irrigation of the Tijeras Arroyo Golf Course. Sampling of the sewage lagoon and pond revealed that a small amount of trichlorethane (TCA) was released into the system from an unknown upstream source at KAFB or Sandia National Laboratory. Since the discovery of the TCA, the units became the subject of a compliance order issued in 1986 which required that closure plans be submitted to the NMED. The effluent treatment area was also subject to the compliance order since it received effluent from the pond.

The proposed closure plans document that hazardous waste and hazardous constituents will either no longer be present upon completion of closure, or steps will be taken to render the constituents immobile. The plan specifies that the contaminated sludge and soil, if any, will be excavated and disposed of off site at a licensed disposal facility. If contamination exists in the soil below the sludge, then the soil will be excavated to a depth that shows no contamination which would present a risk to human

health or to the environment. If this cannot be done, then KAFB will not be allowed to clean-close the unit(s) and will have to implement post-closure care as per HWMR-6, §265.117- §265.120. As part of post-closure care, KAFB will install an impermeable cover for the unit(s) and groundwater will be monitored at the unit(s) for a minimum period of 30 (thirty) years. If hazardous constituents are detected in the groundwater around the unit(s), KAFB will be triggered into the appropriate monitoring and/or corrective action as per HWMR-6, §265.90- §265.94

These units received hazardous waste and the plans prescribe decontamination of the units (if necessary) to a level that eliminates any threat to human health and the environment.

The closure plans are available for review at the Albuquerque Main Public Library, located at 501 Copper Ave. NW. The review and comment period is 10/14/91 through 11/14/91.

Any person who wishes to comment on the proposed closure plans or to request a public hearing must submit written comments or request, including the commentor's name and address, to Joseph Kennedy, at the address shown above. Request for public hearing shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. Only comments and/or request received by November 14, 1991 will be considered.

NMED will provide a 30-day notice of any public hearing, if scheduled. All written comments on the proposed closure plans received before the above date or made during a public hearing, if held, will be considered in formulating a final decision. NMED may modify the closure plans based on the comments received. NMED will notify KAFB and each person who submitted written comments during the comment period or during the public hearing, if held, of the final decision.

If, after consideration of all written comments and comments at a public hearing, if held, this proposed action becomes a final decision, NMED will approve the closure plans. These closure plans will regulate activities conducted by KAFB concerning closure of the units and will require that all activities comply with applicable State and Federal law, as well as with the conditions of the closure plans.

This notice satisfies the requirements of HWMR-6, 40 CFR §265.112(d)(5).