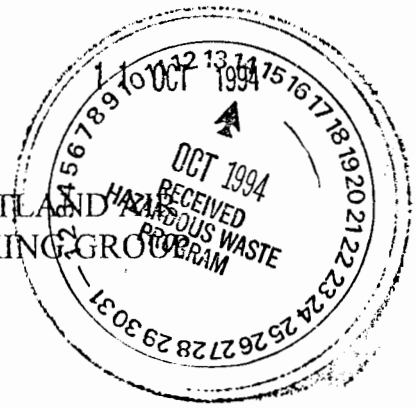


DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
Headquarters 377th Air Base Wing (AFMC)



MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS, BERNALILLO COUNTY/KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP

FROM: 377 ABW/EM
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland AFB NM 87117-5659

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Bernalillo County/Kirtland Air Force Base Environmental Working Group (BC/KAFB EWG)

- XII
1. PLACE: Los Vecinos Community Center, Tijeras, NM
 2. TIME/DATE: 1830, 25 August 1994
 3. CHAIRPERSON: Ms. Ann Newsted, The East Manzano Alliance (TEMA)
 4. ATTENDANCE: See Attachment 1
 5. INTRODUCTION/APPROVAL OF MAY MINUTES. Ms. Newsted called the meeting to order at 1837. The 25 May 1994 BC/KAFB EWG minutes had been mailed to members and were available at the meeting. The May minutes were approved as written.
 6. LETTER TO CONGRESSMAN STEVEN SCHIFF. Ms. Kari Paseur, base environmental public affairs officer, explained that Congressman Schiff did not send a letter to the base about a Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB). Kirtland, knowing that a staffer from the congressman's office had attended a previous EWG discussion, mailed a letter to Congressman Schiff explaining the Air Force's perspective on the subject. No response letter was received from the congressman. The base's 4 May 1994 letter to Congressman Schiff was passed out at the EWG meeting in May.
 7. DISCUSSION OF A RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) FOR THE AIR FORCE AT KIRTLAND:

a. Ms. Paseur stated that the Air Force does not want to abolish the EWG, but modify it to satisfy the requirements of a RAB. Discussion topics at RAB meetings can include non-restoration issues, just as the EWG has operated. The DOD, EPA, and AF



have said that military bases should set up RABs instead of SSABs. Ms. Paseur said that the AF does not allow funding to pay community members to participate in RABs (e.g., honoraria). However, Mr. Christopher DeWitt, Acting Chief, Restoration Branch, stated it may be possible for the base to pay for some restoration-related training for community members. He also believes the RAB can operate with a rotating co-chair arrangement and have extra members join. Ms. Newsted stated the Air Force advisory group needs more diversification than the present EWG membership and should have some Blacks and Hispanics. Ms. Paseur said the base plans to invite other community stakeholders to join (e.g., Pueblo of Isleta, Mesa del Sol, Chamber of Commerce, and neighborhood associations surrounding the base). This is in keeping with the RAB intent to have a wide diversity of community members.

b. Mr. Paul Robinson, Southwest Research and Information Center, said that community members of the RAB should receive money to participate in the advisory group. Environmental Management Division officials answered that this is not possible. Mr. Robinson also wants flexibility in the RAB process and for community members to act in a real "advisory" role to the Air Force. He would like to see the Air Force combine its advisory group with DOE at Kirtland in areas of mutual overlap and interest. Major Scott Streifert, new Director of Environmental Management, agreed to look into ways that Kirtland and DOE issues can be discussed together to avoid duplicity for the community members. There may be areas where mutual DOE-AF briefing topics and training can be conducted at one time for community members.

NOTE: 377 ABW/EM has asked higher headquarters for guidance on the RAB-SSAB issue.

8. REPORT ON A PRESENTATION ENTITLED "GEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AND HYDROGEOLOGIC MODEL DEVELOPMENT IN SUPPORT OF DOD AND DOE ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS ON KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE:"

a. Lt Col (USAF, Ret) George Pratt is not going to Budapest to present this paper. The main author is Mr. Duane Gibson, Sandia National Laboratories, who may have to submit the paper for the conference proceedings if his trip is not funded.

b. The paper is still being written and can be distributed to EWG members when it is finalized and cleared for public release. Mr. DeWitt stated the paper contains information about local Albuquerque hydrology which is already known and has appeared in previous reports. It was suggested that Mr. Gibson be invited to discuss his paper at the next EWG meeting.

NOTE: Mr. Gibson has agreed to do this.

9. REPORT ON AIR FORCE CONCERNS ABOUT THE PROPOSED AIRPORT EXPANSION. Lt Col Norman D. Norman, Jr., Kirtland's Airfield Manager, discussed the proposed new runway for the Albuquerque Airport and initial concerns the Air Force had concerning noise, base overflights, and impact on constructing new Air Force facilities-- all of which have been settled. He explained the agreements made between airport authorities and base officials on how the new runway would operate. The base is in favor of the airport expansion.

10. REPORT ON A PLUTONIUM VULNERABILITY STUDY AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS VULNERABILITY CONDUCTED BY DOD ON KAFB RELATIVE TO AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS:

a. Ms. Paseur stated that she had not found anyone who knows of any plutonium vulnerability study done by the DOD or Air Force specifically for Kirtland related to a possible aircraft accident. The Air Force Safety Agency is not aware of any such study either. They said no plutonium vulnerability study has been done for Kirtland or for any specific base. The DOE and DOD have set limits on the number of weapons that can be carried on any one aircraft, anywhere, so that the hazard to the public is at the absolute minimum level. Information on specific weapons, the amounts of plutonium, etc., is classified and cannot be released.

b. Maj Streifert stated that no hazardous materials vulnerability study, per se, has been done for Kirtland related to a possible aircraft accident. However, he believes the vulnerability is very low because of the base's emergency response planning and protective measures. The fire department and the Environmental Management Division know where the hazardous materials are being used and stored on the base. The Air Force has instituted a new system of centralized procurement and receiving, and now tracks the storage and use of all hazardous materials on base. Detailed information about hazardous materials on Kirtland are reported to city and state officials.

11. SITE-RANKING AND STAGE 2A WORK PLAN ON THE CLEANUP OF SWMUs:

a. Mr. DeWitt relayed that the work plan was completed December 1993; copies were distributed to EWG members. The Air Force knows there are shortcomings in the work plan that will require additional characterization of the sites.

b. Mr. DeWitt told EWG members the Air Force is revamping its risk evaluation process for cleanup sites and the RAB will play an integral part in the process. The Air Force will provide RAB members copies of its risk evaluation forms for restoration sites and solicit community comments about which sites to clean up first. This new process will be implemented in the next year.

NOTE: The EPA Region 6 issued a Notice of Deficiency (NOD) on the Stage 2A Work Plan. The Air Force received it 30 Sep 94 and has 60 days from that date to respond to the NOD.


12. AIR FORCE SLIDE PRESENTATION DESCRIBING ONGOING ACTIVITIES UNDER KIRTLAND'S INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM: Mr. DeWitt showed pictures of current investigative work at various base sites. Investigations conducted by the Air Force's contractor, Halliburton NUS, using a geoprobe, hollow-stem auger, and radar/sonar equipment for underground sensing were highlighted. Mr. DeWitt stated that the petroleum/oil contamination problem at ST-219 is especially bad.

13. NEW SITES AND NON-PERMIT SITES, AND PROPOSED SITE PLANS. Because the meeting was running late, the photo slides of the new sites and non-permit sites were not shown. However, Mr. DeWitt described them and handed out a list (Attachment 2). The slides will be shown at the next meeting.

14. The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) will chair the next EWG meeting in Albuquerque (location to be announced) on Thursday, 17 November 1994, at 1900. The NMED chair will publish the agenda. Suggested discussion items are: Air Force slide presentation covering new sites, information about the new contracting arrangement with the Corps of Engineers and Enserch, Inc., and future land use plans as they affect the restoration program (determining the level of cleanup for specific sites).

15. The meeting was adjourned at 2115.


KARI J. PASEUR
Recorder


SCOTT E. STREIFERT, Major, USAF
Director
Environmental Management Division

Attachments:

1. Attendance List
2. New Sites List

ATTENDANCE LIST

ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP MEETING
 LOS VECINOS COMMUNITY CENTER, TIJERAS NM
 25 AUGUST 1994

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Denise Underwood	377 ABW/JA	846-4217
Mark J. Gradkowski	Halliburton NUS	247-4933
Christopher B. DeWitt	377 ABW/EMR	846-0053
Scott E. Streifert	377 ABW/EM	846-2751
Rodney C. Arnold	AFCEE/ERD	210-536-5288
Sue Umshler	KAO/DOE	845-6671
Lloyd Aker	NMED	845-5933
Craig Adams	377 ABW	846-4259
Chris Tuttle	377 ABW/EMN	846-0029
Harry M. Davidson	377 ABW/EMN	846-0042
Ann Newsted	PO Box 850, Tijeras	281-9448
Kevin Walter	Halliburton NUS	247-4933
Rita Senko	Halliburton NUS	247-4933
William P. Moats	NMED	845-5824
William McDonald	NMED/AIP	845-5825
Nancy Morlock	EPA Region 6	214-665-6650
Stephen Pullen	NMED/HRMB	827-4308
Ellen Schumacher	NMED	845-5823
Terry Townes	FCDNA	846-5947
Bradley T. Flinders	FCDNA/FCIN	846-6779
Tom Norris	377 ABW/CCA	846-4116
Michael J. Rusden	377 Med Gp/SGPB	846-4259
John St. Ledger	OAS/XRA	846-8233
Lana Marcussen	TEMA	344-4772
Lt Col Dave Norman	377 ABW/OTM	846-8338
Paul Robinson	SW Research & Info	262-1862
Kay Peterson	FCDNA/FCXP	846-8629
Kari Paseur	377 ABW/PA	846-0053

LIST
NEW SITES AND NON-PERMIT SITES
(25 Aug 94)

AF Weapons Laboratory's "ART" Laser Facility:

Drain Pit - located behind Bldg 765).

Buried Drum (55 gallon) - located near Bldg 768.

Trestle Site:

Oil-Water Separator located at tow vehicle maintenance rack - located north of Trestle.

Fuel Spill Pit Containment Area - located northwest of Trestle.

Bldg 20451 Laundry Facility:

Site of former base laundry and dry-cleaning facility - located on Wyoming Blvd.

Manzano Landfill (Landfill D):

Located southwest of Manzano Weapons Storage Area.

Recently discovered during trenching operations to lay a new telephone cable for southeast part of Kirtland.

New Mexico Engineering Research Institute (NMERI):

Two waste/disposal pits and numerous small pits and trenches - located near Solar Tower.

Radium Dump/Slag Metal Pile:

Site where WWII German and Japanese aircraft were used as targets for machine gun exercises - located west of Starfire Optical Range (southeast Kirtland).

Radium in ground came from instrument dials onboard the aircraft.

South Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Range Mine Shafts:

Military may have placed test objects in old mining shafts and then detonated them.

Three mine shafts - located near Starfire Optical Range.

Sewage Lagoons (and Golf Course Main Pond):

Two lagoons - located west of Trestle.

Not on RCRA permit because they are being regulated by NMED for closure.

Radiation Training Sites #1 through 8:

Sites contain thorium hydroxide sludge - located near Base Golf Course.

Sites are not on RCRA permit because they are under permit from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. DOD uses these sites to provide one-of-a-kind training to personnel on how to respond to a nuclear accident. Kirtland is only place this important training is conducted.

Interservice Nuclear Weapon School (which became part of FCDNA in October 1993) has not re-seeded the sites with thorium hydroxide since 1990 and has no intention of re-seeding them in the future.

Four sites still being used for training. Four sites are inactive/no longer used.