



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 377TH AIR BASE WING (AFMC)
CERTIFIED MAIL: Z 142 825 507
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Barbara
EMERGENCY

8 March 1996

377 ABW/EMR
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland AFB, NM 87117-5659

Mr. Benito Garcia, Chief
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe NM 87502



Dear Mr. Garcia

The Stage 2D-2 RFI Report for AOC 6-2A (five radioactive emergency holding tanks) was originally scheduled to be submitted in February 1996, but has been delayed due to the time needed to get full Air Force approval for on-site evaporation of the water contained in the tanks; sample test results of the tanks' contents (water and minor sediment) indicate no RCRA wastes or radionuclides above background were detected. As a result, NMED recommended on-site evaporation of the water. This proposal required review and approval from three levels of Air Force oversight. Rather than continue to request a number of short-term extensions, Kirtland AFB awaited final Air Force approval prior to setting a completion date. We now have full Air Force approval and have submitted an addendum to the RFI workplan that describes how and where evaporation will be conducted.

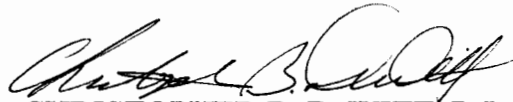
Tank removal (three 1,000-gallon capacity and two 10,000-gallon capacity) is scheduled to begin during the week of 1 April 1996. The water will be evaporated in the existing (abandoned) Manzano Sewage Treatment Facility sludge drying beds using a 30-mil liner. After the tanks are removed, the underlying soil will be sampled in order to complete RFI characterization. We do not anticipate any further delays in this project and are requesting an extension to 30 June 1996 to submit the RFI Report.

KAFB1741



Please call me at (505) 846-0053 so we may discuss any comments or concerns you have.

Sincerely



CHRISTOPHER B. DeWITT, R.P.G.
Chief, Restoration Branch
Environmental Management Division

cc:

NMED/HRMB (Mr. Steve Pullen)
Brown & Root Environmental (Mr. Mark Thacker)
AFCEE (Mr. Rod Arnold)
EPA Region 6 (Ms. Nancy Morlock)