



NEW MEXICO
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT

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CARLA L. MUTH
Deputy Secretary

January 8, 1988

TO: Commenters on Rinchem Company, Inc.
Hazardous Waste Storage Permit Application
NMD 002208627

Re: Response to Comments

On August 9, 1987, the EID announced its intention to issue a permit to the Rinchem Company, Inc., 6133 Edith Blvd, N.E., Albuquerque, and invited the public to comment on the proposed permit. As a result of the response from the public, certain changes were made to the draft permit. These changes were incorporated and the permit issued on January 8, 1988. Any person adversely affected by this decision may request a review of this decision in accordance with the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Management Regulations, Section 303.G.

The final decision to issue the permit was made after careful consideration of all the comments made by the public. The concerns expressed by most commenters were either location or potential environmental impact, particularly to groundwater. Since there is no disposal of hazardous wastes at this site, and the facility is designed to retain any potential spill or leak within its leak collection system, there will be no groundwater impacts. Consequently, regulations requiring groundwater protection and monitoring measures are inapplicable to this facility. However, issuance of this permit allows the EID to require other safety measures such as contingency planning, notification to local authorities and emergency response units, and comprehensive training for Rinchem personnel. Without the permit the EID lacks authority to require these efforts.

The concerns about environmental impact are similarly addressed by the EID in the permit. The contingency and closure plans require cleanup of all spills and the posting of financial surety to ensure the availability of funds to pay for closure. These things are not required if a permit is not issued. Therefore the EID believes that environmental protection is enhanced by issuance of this permit.

Rinchem Company, Inc.
Response to Comments
January 8, 1988

The comments received on the draft permit were discussed by the EID letter of November 10, 1987, mailed to all commenters who included a return address. The comments incorporated into the final permit are as follows:

1. Several typographical errors and grammatical redundancies were corrected.
2. Regulatory cites throughout were changed to HWMR-4 which will become effective prior to the effective date of the permit. A copy of HWMR-4 was added to the permit as attachment K.
3. A cross-reference between federal regulations (40 CFR) cited in the permit and HWMR-4 was added as attachment J.
4. A requirement to check the spill collection sump after precipitation events was added to the inspection plan, permit attachment C.
5. Two record keeping requirements of the regulations were added in permit paragraph II.K.1.
6. Permit paragraph II.N. was rewritten to specify the current building. Expansion beyond the current building will require permit modification.
7. A maximum aggregate quantity of 500 drums of waste was added to permit paragraph III.B.2.
8. The closure plan, permit attachment F, was modified to require scrubbing with a detergent and water solution, and additional sampling was specified.

Thank you for your input to the permitting process.



Michael J. Burkhart, Director
Environmental Improvement Division

cc: Tanga Winkle, EPA (6H-HS)
Rinchem Company, Inc.