



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION VI
INTERFIRST TWO BUILDING, 1201 ELM STREET
DALLAS, TEXAS 75270

June 10, 1986



V

Colonel Boyce W. Wiltrout
Commander
27CSG/DE
Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico 88103

RECEIVED

JUN 17 1986

HAZARDOUS WASTE SECTION

RE: RCRA Part B Permit Application
Cannon Air Force Base
EPA I.D. Number: NM7572124454

Dear Colonel Wiltrout:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 6 has received your letter of May 21, 1986, requesting an extension of the due date to respond to the Notice of Deficiency (NOD) issued by the EPA on April 30, 1986. The request for an extension of the due date is denied.

An enclosure with your letter outlined four questions you had regarding the EPA's NOD. In an effort to assist you in coming into compliance, enclosed are EPA's responses to your questions.

If you need further assistance, please call me or have your staff call Mr. William Honker at (214) 767-8941.

Sincerely yours,

Allyn M Davis

Allyn M. Davis
Director
Hazardous Waste Management Division

Enclosure

cc: Peter Pache, Manager
New Mexico Environmental
Improvement Division

*original in Part B file
11/16/87 ASGordon*

Enclosure

Cannon's Comment.

1. Our position is that almost all of the sites identified in the Phase I IRP Report do not fall under the reach of RCRA (including the 1984 amendments). In general comment #1 the following statements appear: "A file review by EPA...revealed at least 41 SWMUs...under the jurisdiction of RCRA regarding corrective action for releases... Also, the file review indicated CAFB knows of releases at the facility from these SWMUs." Our questions are:
 - a. Would you please identify the "41 SWMUs" mentioned in the comment.

EPA's Response.

1. Landfill No. 1
2. Landfill No. 2
3. Landfill No. 3
4. Landfill No. 4
5. Landfill No. 5 (with the exception of Cell 3)
6. Fire Department Training Area No. 1
7. Fire Department Training Area No. 2
8. Fire Department Training Area No. 3
9. Fire Department Training Area No. 4
10. Engine Test Cell Overflow Pit
11. Engine Test Cell Leaching Field
12. Blown Capacitors Site
13. Stormwater Collection Point
14. Sanitary Sewage Lift Station Overflow
15. Sludge Weathering Pit
16. AGE Drainage Ditch
17. Solvent Disposal Site
18. Entomology Rinse Area
19. MOGAS Spill
20. Underground Waste Oil Tank - Facility 4028
21. Underground Tank, 2,000 gallons
22. Melrose Bombing Range
23. Oil/Water Separators (of which Cannon indicates there are 21).

Cannon's Comment.

- b. For each of the 41 SWMUs, please state your rationale and legal authority (law and regulation) for concluding the site (unit) is required to be included in our Part B Permit Application.

EPA's Response.

Section 3004(u) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments states:

"CONTINUING RELEASES AT PERMITTED FACILITIES - Standards promulgated under this section shall require, and a permit issued after the date of enactment of the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 by the Administrator or a State shall require, corrective action for all releases of hazardous waste or constituents from any solid waste management unit at a treatment, storage, or disposal facility seeking a permit under this subtitle, regardless of the time at which waste was placed in such unit. Permits issued under section 3005 shall contain schedules of compliance for such corrective action (where such corrective action cannot be completed prior to issuance of the permit) and assurances of financial responsibility for completing such corrective action."

In addition, 40 CFR Part 264.101 states:

"§264.101 Corrective action for solid waste management units.

- (a) The owner or operator of a facility seeking a permit for the treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste must institute corrective action as necessary to protect human health and the environment for all releases of hazardous waste or constituents from any solid waste management unit at the facility, regardless of the time at which waste was placed in such unit.
- (b) Corrective action will be specified in the permit. The permit will contain schedules of compliance for such corrective action (where such corrective action cannot be completed prior to issuance of the permit) and assurances of financial responsibility for completing such corrective action."

Solid waste management unit, hazardous waste, hazardous constituents, and release are defined below.

- (1) A solid waste is defined in 40 CFR Part 261.2. Materials excluded from regulation as solid wastes are defined in 40 CFR 261.4(a).
- (2) A solid waste management unit (SWMU) is defined as any unit, which at a minimum, includes any landfill, surface impoundment, waste pile, land treatment unit, ditch, incinerator, tank, (including storage, treatment, and accumulation tanks), sump, container storage unit, injection well, wastewater treatment unit, elementary neutralization unit, transfer station, and recycling unit that receive, or have received, solid or hazardous waste at any time.
- (3) Hazardous wastes are those wastes characterized or listed in 40 CFR Part 261 Subpart C.

- (4) Hazardous constituents are those constituents listed in Appendix VIII of 40 CFR Part 261.
- (5) A release is defined as any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposal into the environment.

| <u>Unit</u> | <u>Rationale</u> |
|--|--|
| Landfill No. 1 | hazardous waste and hazardous constituents |
| Landfill No. 2 | hazardous waste and hazardous constituents |
| Landfill No. 3 | hazardous waste and hazardous constituents |
| Landfill No. 4 | hazardous waste and hazardous constituents |
| Landfill No. 5 | hazardous waste and hazardous constituents |
| Fire Training Area No. 1 | hazardous constituents |
| Fire Training Area No. 2 | hazardous constituents |
| Fire Training Area No. 3 | hazardous constituents |
| Fire Training Area No. 4 | hazardous constituents |
| Blown Capacitors Site | hazardous constituents |
| Engine Test Cell Overflow Pit | hazardous constituents |
| Engine Test Cell Leaching Field | hazardous constituents |
| Stormwater Collection Point | hazardous constituents |
| Sanitary Sewage Lift Station Overflow | hazardous waste and hazardous constituents |
| Sludge Weathering Pit | hazardous constituents |
| AGE Drainage Ditch | hazardous constituents |
| Solvent Disposal Site | hazardous waste and hazardous constituents |
| Entomology Rinse Area | hazardous constituents and, possibly hazardous waste |
| MOGAS Spill | hazardous constituents |
| Underground Waste Oil Tanks, Facility 4028 | hazardous constituents |
| Underground Tank, 2,000 gallons | hazardous constituents |
| Melrose Bombing Range | hazardous constituents |
| Oil/Water Separators | hazardous constituents |

Cannon's Comment.

1.d. Specifically what "releases" are you referring to in this comment?

EPA's Response.

- Site 18, spill of JP-4 which contains hazardous constituents
- Site 9, signs of spillage in the area of the underground storage tank
- Site 14, oil/grease in soil sample
- Site 15, releases from the synthetic engine oil bowser

Cannon's Comment.

1.e. What documents did you consider in the file review referred to in the comment identified above?

EPA's Response.

CERCLA file NMO1571, which included the IRP Phase I.

Cannon's Comment.

2. If you considered the Phase I Installation Restoration Program (IRP) Document as a source document in your answer to question 1, what legal authority allows our Phase I IRP to be controlling over information provided in the Part B Permit Application for purposes of your completeness review?

EPA's Response.

The Part B permit application, dated February 15, 1985, and additional information dated June 13, 1985, was the source document for the review performed by EPA. It was found the Cannon did not supply any information regarding SWMUs and releases from SWMUs in the Part B. In order to expedite the RCRA permit for Cannon's facility EPA performed a file review to determine if any information on SWMUs was available in the Regional Office. EPA discovered a substantial amount of information, though incomplete for RCRA, in the IRP, Phase I and the CERCLA file. Phase I of the IRP was not used as the source document for the Part B review only a supplemental document when the Part B was found to be exceptionally deficient.

Cannon's Comment.

3. In general comment #4, you state the proposed groundwater monitoring wells are not acceptable for the reasons listed in the comment. Would you please identify specifically which groundwater monitoring wells you are referring to?
 - a. If you were referring to wells dug to monitor the sewage lagoons and one closed landfill (site #5), would you please state what your legal basis was for concluding that these wells were required to comply with EPA regulations rather than New Mexico regulations for groundwater monitoring wells?
 - b. One closed landfill (site #5) has previously been determined to fall under the RCRA program which you have authorized New Mexico to oversee. Cannon AFB and the New Mexico Environmental Improvement Division (EID) have previously negotiated a compliance schedule for that site and installation of groundwater monitoring wells in compliance with New Mexico EID regulations as they now exist was part of that negotiated compliance schedule for that site. If you were not previously aware of the history of these wells, we request you reconsider your comments about them.

EPA's Response.

The proposed groundwater monitoring well information was found in documents entitled "Installation Restoration Program Phase II, Stage I, Task Description Cannon AFB", dated July 18, 1984, Section A.1., and "Presurvey for Phase II Installation Restoration Program Draft Final Report" by Radian Corporation, undated. These documents did not specify the location of the proposed well(s) and, in fact, described different well construction parameters.

EPA does not have any information on the wells installed at Landfill No. 5 in the RCRA files. Since, Cannon has repeatedly failed to submit Revision 2 of the Part B to EPA, EPA does not have any information on the wells installed to monitor the sewage lagoon. These wells were installed as part of Cannon's required compliance with HWMR-2 and are not a concern of EPA permitting at this time unless they are located so as to detect releases from any SWMUs.

Cannon's Comment.

4. Please identify by location and description the "RCRA surface impoundment for holding ignitable wastes for emergency purposes" that is mentioned in specific comment #9.

EPA's Response.

Sewage Lift Station Overflow - Site 13