



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS 27TH SUPPORT GROUP (TAC)

CANNON AIR FORCE BASE, NM 88103

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CAFB

92



24 JAN 1992



Mr. Benito Garcia, Chief
Hazardous & Radioactive Materials Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
1190 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87502

RE: Status Update on Landfill 5 Compliance Order
Cannon AFB, NM7572124454

Dear Mr. Garcia

Cannon AFB is providing an update on our progress towards satisfying the requirements of the Compliance Order dated 29 Oct 90. This update was requested by Dr. Herb Grover on 14 Jan 92 during a meeting with Mr. Jim Richards. The following actions have been taken by Cannon AFB to fulfill the requirements of the order.

1. One of the requirements was to document the deviations from the approved closure plan. We provided a list of 12 significant deviations in a letter dated 28 Dec 90.
2. The second requirement was to determine the exact location of Cell 3 within Landfill 5. During March 1991 we attempted to conduct three separate geophysical surveys including an electromagnetic conductivity survey, a magnometer survey and a gradiometer survey. These surveys, however, did not adequately define the cell boundaries. Our next step was to use geophysical methods (spot digging and trenching with a backhoe). This method helped us to locate the approximate locations of 25 cells within the landfill. A complete report which included a map was submitted to you on 13 Jun 91.
3. The results of this geophysical investigation indicated that the cap did not cover all of Cell 3. The investigation showed that the cell was much longer than originally thought and slightly west of where the cap was constructed. We decided to conduct a followup investigation which would concentrate on just Cell 3. This investigation took place from 14 - 17 Jan 92. The preliminary results indicate that Cell 3 is approximately 800' long by 40' wide and that there is a 10' separation between cells. A final geophysical report is being prepared and will be submitted in about two weeks.
4. Cannon AFB is sending \$50,000 to the Corps of Engineers in Albuquerque to design a modification to the existing cap. The design engineer from the Corps visited the site from 14-15 Jan 92 in order to

see the excavations first hand. The design schedule which is being developed will be submitted for your review in the coming weeks.

Please contact Lt Gregg Demers or Mr. Jim Richards (784-4639) if you require any additional information.

Sincerely



DAVID E. BENSON, Colonel, USAF
Commander

cc: Dr. Herb Grover, NMED
HQ TAC/DEV