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CAF B 04



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PUBLIC NOTICE 04-17



NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
HAZARDOUS WASTE BUREAU
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87505
NOVEMBER 17, 2004

EMERGENCY PERMIT
FOR CANNON AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO
EPA ID NO. NM75721241454

On November 4, 2004, Cannon Air Force Base (CAFB) informed the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) that it had explosives or munitions emergency stemming from items found at the Roosevelt County Sheriff's compound located at 1700 North Boston, Portales, New Mexico. CAFB requested that NMED issue an emergency permit to treat the unsafe military ordnance by detonation. CAFB's 27 CES/CED Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team had determined that certain military ordnance was unsafe for further storage, unsafe for transport on or across civilian motorways, and that local destruction within one day was required to render these ordnance items safe. CAFB informed NMED that it would destroy the unsafe ordnance at the sheriff's compound.

The ordnance was discovered in storage in the Sheriff's evidence room and includes two tear gas grenades (M7, 12.8 ounces), an HC smoke grenade (AN-M8, 12.8 ounces), and a riot-control grenade (Chicago Police Grenade, approx .5 pounds). CAFB proposed to destroy the items using 11.5 pounds of military explosives.

Based on all information provided and after considering the inherent dangers associated with handling waste military munitions, NMED issued CAFB an emergency permit on November 4, 2004 to explosively destroy the above noted items, pursuant to 20.4.1900 NMAC, incorporating 40 CFR 264.1(g)(8).

On November 4, 2004, CAFB informed NMED in a follow-up report that it had destroyed all unsafe ordnance and that there was no release of contamination because of this action.

For additional information, please contact:

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