



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U. S. ARMY GARRISON COMMAND
1733 PLEASANTON ROAD
FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79916-6816

FB04

March 3, 2004

ENTERED

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

Directorate of Environment

Ms. Sandra Y. Martin, Acting Bureau Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303



RE: NMED Hazardous Waste Inspection of Fort Bliss, February 11, 2004

Dear Ms. Martin:

This letter describes the corrective actions taken by Fort Bliss to address the two potential violations listed in the attached Inspection Report.

1. Potential Violation: Failure to perform sampling for soil and analysis for the month of August 2003 as described in the Open Detonation Treatment Unit permit. 264.278 and 264.601(b)(1)(8)(11)

Permit Attachment A, page 6: *“Annual sampling will occur in August, and biannual sampling, if required, will be performed in August and February.”*

Fort Bliss has now had the Corps of Engineers specify in the contract that future sampling events at the OD Unit will be conducted in August in accordance with permit conditions (see attached Scope of Work dated February 17, 2004).

The Fort Bliss Range Scheduling Office at Davis Dome verified that, because of training at the Demo Range near the OD Unit, access to the Unit was prohibited on the following days: August 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, and 20, 2003. In addition, August 29 was a holiday for Fort Bliss Soldiers. Therefore, it was difficult for the contractor to coordinate the expanded sampling event with the following:

- access to the Unit, which is an impact area for guided rockets, large-caliber munitions, and ballistic aerial targets
- scheduling with a subcontractor (personnel and equipment) for deep soil boring
- scheduling with the 741st Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company for an unexploded ordnance sweep and for military escort during the sampling event

As a result of scheduling difficulties, sampling was conducted on September 9, 2003.

2. Potential Violation: Failure to post warning signs every 300 feet attached to fence at OD area. Module II D 264.14(b)(c) (Attachment B Security Plan)

Permit Module II, page 2: *“Warning signs, for example: “Danger-Explosive Disposal Range-Keep Out” shall be posted at the road entry point and where the perimeter approaches roads or active areas. The signs must be written in English and Spanish and must be legible from a distance of 25 feet (8 meters) and shall also be seen from any approach to the facility. In addition, the warning signs shall be posted at 300-foot (91-meter) intervals around the OD Range perimeter in accordance with HWMR-7, Part V, § 264.14(c).”*

Permit Attachment B, pages 2, 3: *“Four warning signs will be maintained within 100 feet (30.5m) of the perimeter of the OD unit. These are printed in both English and Spanish to read as follows: ‘DANGER, NO UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL, KEEP OUT’ AND ‘PELIGRO, NO PERMITIDA LA ENTRADA SIN AUTHORIZACION.’ The signs will be posted at the road entry point and where the perimeter approaches roads or active areas. The signs will be written in English and Spanish and will be legible from a distance of 25 feet (8 meters) and should also be seen from any approach to the treatment unit. In addition, the warning signs will be posted at 300-foot (91-meter) intervals around the OD unit perimeter in accordance with HWMR-7, Part V, § 264.14(c). Any illegal immigrants who enter the active portion of the OD treatment unit during the disposal of hazardous waste munitions would be detected by the disposal ordnance team and escorted off the premises. During non use periods, the OD treatment unit contains no material or objects that pose a threat to human life or livestock.” [Emphasis mine.]*

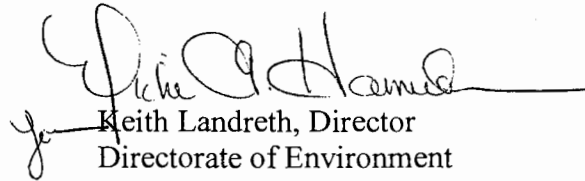
Fort Bliss actually exceeds the requirement for signs within the 100-foot perimeter. There are five large warning signs, one located at the road entry point and four in other locations around the OD Unit. These signs were repainted in 2001 and are legible and intact.

On February 18, Fort Bliss personnel used a measuring wheel to determine the perimeter of the OD Unit. At a distance one foot outside the fence, the perimeter is 1,476 feet; therefore, there should be five signs at ~300-foot intervals. There are four signs on the fence, all legible, intact, and at proper intervals, with the exception of a 600-foot gap toward the southeast. The sign formerly on the southeast side of the fence was removed (circumstances unknown), but the bolts and metal plates used to attach the sign were found on the ground inside the fence (see photo 1); and the washers were on the ground outside the fence (see photo 2). To correct this situation, Fort Bliss has ordered two new signs. As soon as the signs are ready, Fort Bliss will attach two more signs on the fence, for a total of six signs at ~250-foot intervals. Lock washers will be added to ensure security of sign placement.

As an added note, during the outbrief on February 12, NMED inspectors recommended that the signs be replaced every year because “sun fades the signs very quickly.” As you can see in photos 3, 4, and 5, which were taken on February 18, the signs are definitely legible and in good condition.

Fort Bliss has a strong commitment to environmental regulatory compliance, and the protection of public health and safety is inherent in our mission. I can assure you that matters addressed in the potential violations presented at the exit briefing on February 12 are a concern to the United States Army and the Fort Bliss leadership and have received the appropriate level of attention. If you have any questions regarding this update to the inspection, please do not hesitate to telephone Ms. Pat McKernan, 915 568-6077, or Ms. Elza Cushing, 915-568-1041.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith Landreth", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right. The signature is written over the printed name and title.

Keith Landreth, Director
Directorate of Environment

Enclosures

**Investigation of the McGregor Range OD Site
Fort Bliss, New Mexico**

**CONTRACT No.
Task Order No.**

**SCOPE OF WORK
02/17/2004**

1.0 DESCRIPTION OF TASK

The Architect-Engineer (A-E) shall furnish all services, materials, supplies, labor, superintendence, plant, equipment, and travel required to plan, perform and document the investigation of the McGregor Range Open Detonation (OD) Treatment Unit as required by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) in the Fort Bliss Part B, Subpart X, RCRA Permit. The evaluation shall be based upon the abbreviated sampling plan approved by NMED as part of the 1998 Permit Modification.

2.0 SCOPE

The work under this task order requires the A-E to prepare the Site Investigation for the OD Treatment Unit in accordance with the following tasks.

2.1 Task No. 1 -- Preparation of Pre-Work Plans.

The A-E shall modify the previously prepared work plans for similar activities, as necessary, to implement the work required in the RCRA Part B, Subpart X Permit to investigate the nature and extent of contamination at the OD Treatment Unit. The addendum to the plans shall be submitted in draft and final versions according to the schedule of deliverables provided in section 3.0. Comments shall be annotated within 7 calendar days of receipt and corrections, if necessary, shall be provided within 10 calendar days.

2.2 Task No. 2 -- Site Sampling.

The A-E shall provide personnel and equipment necessary to perform the soil sampling required as a part of the Part B permit application. This sampling will be conducted as follows.

2.2.1 Because of the inherent hazardous nature of the PEP materials and the potential for unexploded ordnance (UXO), no sampling will be done at the site until a sweep has been conducted for UXO. Fort Bliss explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) specialists from the 741st EOD, using established procedures, will do the UXO sweep since they control access to the Unit. The A-E will coordinate with the 741st EOD to obtain their support with access and the UXO sweep.

2.2.2 Discreet soil samples will be collected from the OD area. All samples will be taken using a non-sparking (plastic or brass) scoop or other sampling device if so directed by the 741st EOD. Sampling personnel will record the location of each sample with respect to permanent stations, the date, names of sampling personnel, and other pertinent information. All sampling will be done in accordance with the Sampling and Analysis Plan.

Soil samples will be collected from a depth between 1 inch (2.5 cm) and 6 inches (15.2 cm) at the following locations:

- . 1 discrete sample at the bottom of the OD pit in the excavation,
- . 3 discrete samples from the sides of the OD pit,
- . 4 discrete samples around the perimeter of the OD pit (outside of the pit) to evaluate the effect of kick out,
- 2 discreet samples approximately 200 west of the perimeter,
- . 3 discreet samples approximately 700 feet from the center of the Unit which will serve as outer monitoring points

Soil samples will be collected from a depth of surface to 6 in (15.2 cm), and from 6 in (15.2 cm) to 1 ft (0.3 m) at the following locations:

- . 8 discreet random samples in the bottom of the OD treatment unit (but not in the pits)
- . 8 discreet samples from the Unit perimeter (outside the OD treatment unit),

2.3 Task No. 3 -- Analysis Requirements.

2.3.1 Analysis of Samples.

The constituents of concern at the OD treatment unit primarily consist of metals and residues of explosives (based on previous sampling conducted at the Unit). All samples will be analyzed for the list of constituents provided in Table 1, using the methods indicated. Analyses shall be performed using standard, or normal laboratory turn around times using QA/QC procedures outlined in the Work Plan.

2.3.2 Quality Control / Quality Assurance Samples.

A minimum of one sample per 20 field samples will be taken in triplicate for QA/QC purposes. These samples shall be designated as field sample, QC sample, and QA sample. The field samples and QC sample will be sent to a laboratory certified by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The QA samples will be sent to a laboratory to be named by the government. The A-E is responsible for all materials and labor associated with the collection and shipping of the QA samples.

2.4 Task No. 4 -- Preparation of Reports.

The A-E will prepare a report evaluating the activities and results of the compliance investigation. This report will include a description of the purpose of the sampling and its objectives, a description of field activities, copies of the analytical results, data validation report, conclusions derived from the sampling and analytical results and a comparison among current and previous data obtained for this site. The report shall also include an engineering analysis of the impacts of the activities and recommendations based on those conclusions. The report should include sufficient figures and tables to support the conclusions and recommendations. The report shall be submitted in draft and final versions according to the schedule of deliverables provided in section 3.0

3.0 SCHEDULE/DELIVERABLES

The following deliverables are due in accordance with Table 2, Schedule of Deliverables. The number of copies stipulated below shall include one reproducible original. Each final submittal shall also include two copies of each report and associated data in both accessible digital format (i.e. Word, Excel, or other approved format) and non-accessible (PDF) format. The number of days is calculated in calendar days, unless otherwise noted. Two copies of the final Report plus 1 electronic copy, the copy of the laboratory results and QC data and one copy of all other submittals shall be made directly to the Government Technical Manager. All other copies shall be furnished directly to Fort Bliss Directorate of Environment (ATTN: Ms. Pat McKernan).

4.0 SITE LOCATION

Fort Bliss, Texas and New Mexico

5.0 GOVERNMENT FURNISHED PROPERTY AND SERVICES

5.1 Access.

The Government shall provide access to files which contain information pertinent to the programs. It will be the A-E's responsibility to determine the usefulness of the records.

**Table 1
Soil Sample Analyses**

Analyte	Analytical Method ⁽¹⁾	Samples Required ⁽³⁾
Inorganic:		
Nitrate/Nitrite (as N)	EPA 353.2	47
Metals (Total):		
Cadmium Chromium Copper Lead Strontium Zinc	Antimony Barium Beryllium Iron Potassium Silver	SW846 6010
		47
Arsenic	SW846 7060	47
Mercury	SW846 7471	47
Selenium	SW846 7740	67
Organics:		
Dioxins (2)	SW846 8280	7
HMX RDX 2, 4, 6-Trinitrotoluene 2, 4-Dinitro toluene 2, 6-Dinitrotoluene	SW846 8330	47
Picric Acid Nitroglycerine	SW846 8330 MODIFIED	47

(1) SW846 = Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste - Physical/Chemical Methods, Environmental Protection Agency, SW846

EPA = Methods for Chemical Analytes of Water and Wastes, Environmental Protection Agency, 1979, Revised 1983

(2) Sampling locations to be selected based on the results of historical sampling and will correspond to those locations where explosive constituents have been reported .

(3) Includes QC Samples. Contractor shall all provide containers for QA samples.

**Table 2
Schedule of Deliverables**

Items of Work Required	Completion Schedule	Copies
Preparation of Pre-investigation Plans		
1. Preparation of Pre-investigation Plan Addendum	30 Days after Notice to Proceed	4
2. Correction to Pre-investigation Plan (if required)	14 Days after receipt of comments on plan	4
Site Sampling		
3. Initiation of Field Work	Sampling shall be conducted in August in accordance with the Permit. Sample dates shall be approved by the government and in accordance with permit requirements.	
4. Laboratory Results and QC Data	105 days after initiation of field work	1
5. Draft Report	105 Days after initiation of field work	6
6. Final Report	14 days after receipt of comments on the draft report	6

5.2 Security.

Any document reviewed or obtained by the A-E shall be considered protected and "For Official Use Only". This information may not be shared with Third Parties without written consent of the Government. Each request shall be made to the Technical Manager and include necessity and justification for sharing this information.

6.0 MEETINGS

Meetings, as required, will be held in conjunction with other trips to El Paso or at the contractor's office. Meetings will not last more than 3 hours.

7.0 SPECIAL CONDITIONS

7.1 Performance of Work.

7.1.1 The A-E shall furnish sufficient technical, supervisory, and administrative personnel at all times to ensure prosecution of the work in accordance with the delivery schedule.

7.1.2 Professional level skills and management practices are required in the performance of this Contract. Accordingly, the A-E shall establish an effective quality plan that complies with the Contract requirements. One copy of the Quality Control Plan ADDENDUM shall be furnished to the Contracting Officer with the Work Plan.

7.1.3 Meetings shall be held whenever requested by the Contracting Officer or the A-E for discussion of questions and problems relating to the work required under the Contract.

7.2 Project Coordinators and/or Managers.

7.2.1 The A-E shall appoint a project coordinator and/or manager to serve as a single point of contact and liaison between the A-E and the Contracting Officer and/or his representative for all work required under the Contract. Upon award of the Contract, the A-E shall immediately furnish the name of the designated individual to the Contracting Officer, in writing. The project coordinator and/or manager will be responsible for the complete coordination of all work developed under the Contract. All work will be accomplished with the adequate internal controls and review procedures which will eliminate conflicts, errors, and omissions, and ensure the technical accuracy of all designs, drawings, and specifications.

7.2.2 The Government Technical Manager for this project is Richard P. Smith, Tulsa District (telephone number, 918-669-4956). Any questions regarding the technical work under this Contract should be directed to Mr. Smith. Any questions about contract procedures should be directed to the Contracting Officer or his representative.

7.3 Conferences and Confirmation Notices.

7.3.1 The A-E shall provide a record of all conferences (including predesign, on-board review, and site visit conferences), meetings, discussions, verbal directions, telephone conversations, etc., participated in by the A-E and/or his representatives on matters relative to the Contract and the work.

These records, entitled, "CONFIRMATION NOTICES," shall be numbered sequentially and shall fully identify participating personnel, subject discussed, and any conclusions reached. The A-E shall forward to the Government Technical Manager, as soon as possible after preparation, a reproducible copy of each confirmation notice.

7.3.2 Distribution of the confirmation notices and conference minutes will be made by the Government.

7.4 Site Visits, Inspections, and Investigations.

The A-E and/or his representative(s) shall visit and inspect/investigate the site of the identified project as necessary and required during the preparation and accomplishment of the work. All work and data developed under the Contract shall be related to the current site conditions and to other proposed work within the specific project area. Additional work shall be accomplished only at the direction of the Contracting Officer. All travel, costs, and expenses incurred by the A-E and/or his representative(s), including consultants for such design site visits, inspections, and investigations, are included in the lump sum price of the Contract.

7.5 Travel.

If the A-E and/or his representative(s) are required to travel to locations not specifically covered in the lump sum price of the Contract, the Government will reimburse the A-E for the transportation, including commercial aircraft where necessary, and allow for such travel not to exceed the then-current daily rates for Government employees, including per diem, mileage, etc., in lieu of all other expenses. Transportation by automobile on such required travel shall be likewise reimbursed. Travel time and mileage will be determined in accordance with Joint Travel Regulations. All travel shall be either authorized or approved in writing by the Contracting Officer.

Should the A-E, or any representative thereof, remain in a travel status in excess of six (6) days at any one time, not including the time consumed in travel, the cost for such excess travel status shall be at the expense of the A-E, unless otherwise ordered in writing by the Contracting Officer.

7.6 Progress Report and Payment Requests.

A Progress Report shall be submitted to the Government Technical Manager once each month that work is performed during the Contract period. The reports shall give the status, on a percentage basis, of the total amount of work completed.

The Progress Report should be mailed to:
Tulsa District, Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CESWT-EC-ER (R. Smith)
1645 S. 101st E. Ave
Tulsa, OK 74128-4609

Or electronically provided to: richard.p.smith@swt03.usace.army.mil

A Payment requests with a Progress Report shall also be submitted to the HTRW Design Center, ER Support Section once each month, as appropriate, and percent claimed will coincide with the Progress Report.

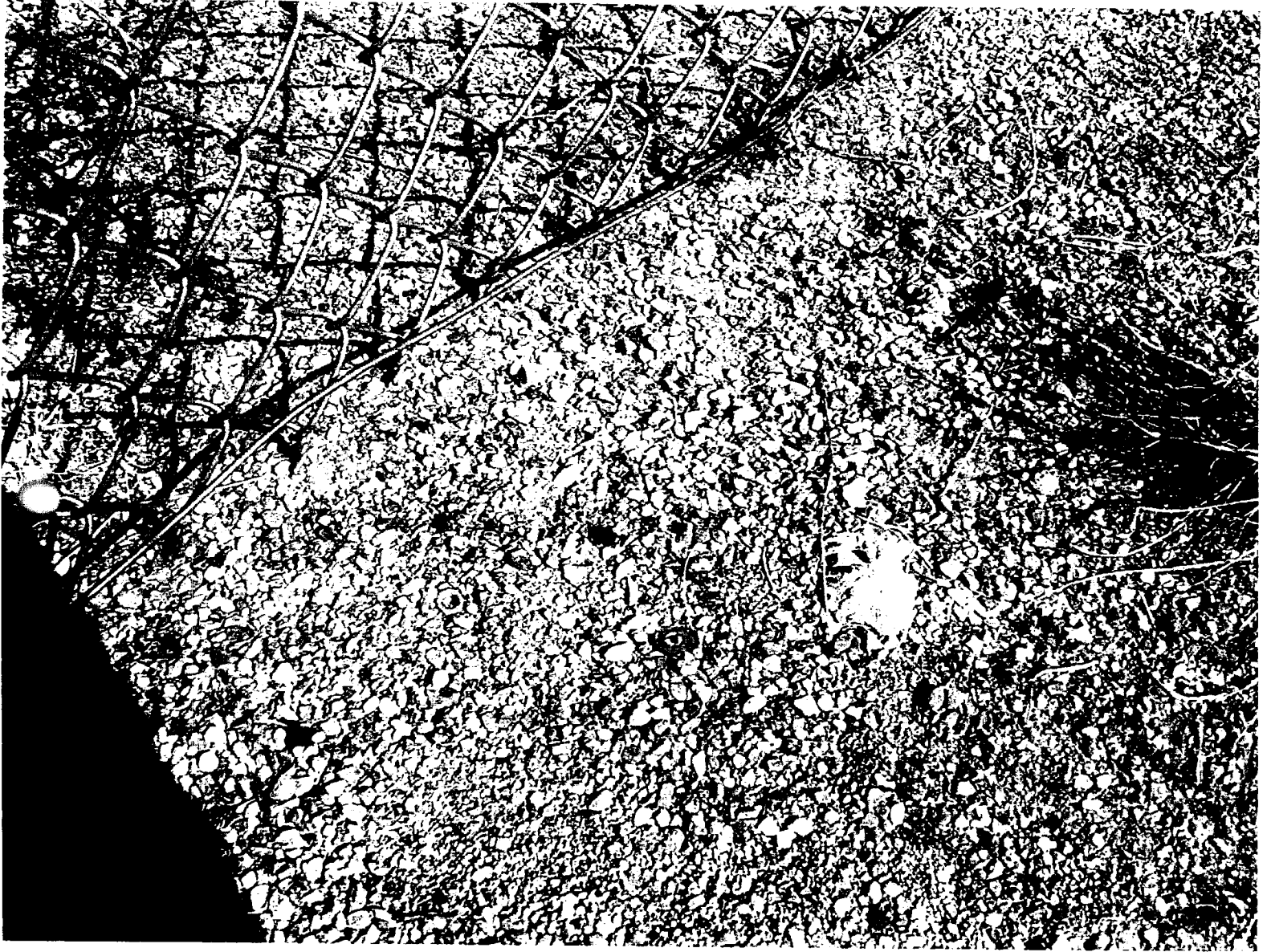
The payment requests should be mailed to:

Tulsa District, Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CESWT-EC-EE (G. Wilkins)
1645 S. 101st E. Ave
Tulsa, OK 74128-4609

1



2



3



4



DANGER

Unauthorized Personnel
Keep Out

PELIGRO

No Permitida
La Entrada Sin Autorizacion

5

