



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

File HAEB RED 4/11

Benito/Bruce

Attard 6-20-91

April 18, 1991

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Kathleen Sisneros, Director  
Water and Waste Management Division  
New Mexico Environmental Department  
1190 St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

Re: Holloman Air Force Base (NM6572124422)

Dear Ms. Sisneros:

On March 13, 1991, the State of New Mexico adopted a final rule on Delay of Closure for certain hazardous waste management units, including surface impoundments. According to this rule, a facility which lost interim status may submit a closure/post-closure permit application, which, if approved, would allow it to extend the final closure period to accept non-hazardous wastes.

EPA believes this rule is applicable to the sewage treatment system at Holloman Air Force Base. Within 90 days of the effective date of New Mexico's rule, Holloman would be required to submit a permit application. The permit application must include a closure plan for removing all hazardous liquids and sludges to the extent practicable, a schedule for achieving final closure, and a post-closure care plan.

Between now and June 11, 1991, an opportunity exists for Holloman, NMED, and EPA to reach an equitable, legal, and environmentally sound solution to a vexing problem. If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Dr. Ellen Graber of my staff at (214) 655-6790.

Sincerely yours,

Allyn M. Davis  
Director  
Hazardous Waste Division

cc: Col. Ira L. Hester  
833 CSG/CC  
Holloman AFB, NM 88330

Lt. Col. Craig Anderson  
HQ TAC/JA  
Langley AFB, VA 23665