

HAFB 95



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MARK E. WEIDLER
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DEPUTY SECRETARY

May 15, 1995

Mr. Howard E. Moffitt
Deputy Base Civil Engineer
49 CES/CEV
550 Tabosa Avenue
Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico 88330-8458

Dear Mr. Moffitt:

This letter serves to update the policy of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) in regard to soil and groundwater concerns at Holloman Air Force Base (HAFB). These concerns were addressed initially in NMED's letter of January 25, 1993.

NMED has previously agreed in a November 2, 1992 letter from the Underground Storage Tank (UST) Bureau to HAFB that a basewide soil cleanup standard of 1000 parts per million (ppm) of Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) is allowable at UST sites involving release of petroleum hydrocarbons. This 1000 ppm TPH standard is also a solid waste land disposal standard (New Mexico Solid Waste Management Regulations, EIB/SWMR-4, Section 708). This TPH standard is acceptable to NMED provided that there are no RCRA hazardous constituents present in soils for which calculated risk-based levels would be more stringent. Sufficient confirmatory analyses must be performed at each site to ensure that hazardous constituent concentrations are not exceeded in soils containing no more than 1000 parts per million TPH.

Remediation of existing contamination in unprotected groundwater will not be required by NMED at HAFB, unless a situation occurs in which a human or ecological receptor is or may be exposed to unacceptable risk from contact with the contaminated water. NMED agrees that, in cases where the Total Dissolved Solid (TDS) content renders the water non-potable, direct ingestion of the water by humans is not a plausible exposure scenario. However, additional or continued contamination of the groundwater is not and will not be acceptable to NMED. To implement this policy, existing soil and groundwater contaminant plumes must be adequately characterized. Monitoring wells defining contaminant plumes must be sampled at least annually for the contaminants present to determine if a

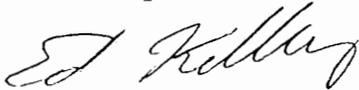
Mr. Howard E. Moffitt

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release has occurred and the source of any release. If contaminants at any point in a plume increase in concentration, or if additional contaminants are discovered, further investigation may be required to locate and remove the source. Additionally, NMED will insist on remediation of any groundwater contamination resulting from current or future activities at HAFB.

Sincerely,



Ed Kelley, Ph.D., Director
Water and Waste Management Division

EK:RK:rk

cc: Benito Garcia, Chief, HRMB
Marcy Leavitt, Chief, GWPRB
Ronald Kern, HRMB
Dennis McQuillan, GWPRB
Steve Pullen, HRMB
David Morgan, GWPRB
David Neleigh, EPA Region VI, 6H-PN



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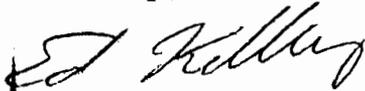
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