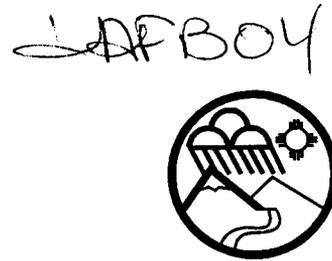




BILL RICHARDSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
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RON CURRY
SECRETARY

DERRITH WATCHMAN-MOORE
DEPUTY SECRETARY

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

October 22, 2004

Ms. Deborah Hartell
Chief, Environmental Flight
49 CES/CD
550 Tabosa Avenue
Holloman Air Force Base, NM 88330-8458

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF NO FURTHER ACTION STATUS FOR THE DRONE
CRASH SITE: WHITE SANDS NATIONAL MONUMENT, NEW
MEXICO
TASK #: HWB-HAFB-04-007**

Dear Ms. Hartell:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Hazardous Waste Bureau (HWB) has completed review of Holloman Air Force Base (HAFB) Drone Crash Site Soil Cleanup Report dated May 2004. The drone, which crashed on February 10, 2003, was carrying between 1,000 and 1,5000 gallons of jet fuel on board. On May 5th through 7th, HAFB crash recovery team collected the wreckage, placed small debris into crates and large parts into a flatbed truck and transported them to HAFB where they were stored. Subsequently HAFB excavated 65 cubic yards of petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated soils, conducted confirmatory soil sampling at the sides and bottom of the excavation, and submitted the report with laboratory results to HWB, and to the White Sands National Monument (WSNM) Office. The excavated soils were transferred to the commercial land farm operating at Newman, New Mexico for disposal.

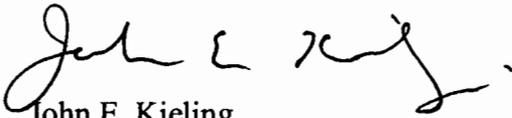
Following review of the subject report, and pursuant to its authority under the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act, N.M.S.A. 74-4-1 *et seq.*, and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, NMED has made a determination that the cleanup has met no further action criteria and currently poses no threat to the environment or the public. WSNM indicated during a telephone call with HWB staff that the site was remediated to their satisfaction. However, should future information

Deborah Hartell
October 14, 2004
Page 2 of 2

reveal that additional remedial action is required at the subject site; the NMED will require HAFB to initiate those activities. Granting of this NFA status for the above referenced site may therefore not be the final remedy and does not absolve HAFB from further cleanup responsibilities should they become necessary at a later date.

If you have any questions, please contact Cornelius Amindyas of my staff at (505) 284-8617.

Sincerely,



John E. Kieling
Manager
Permits Management Program

cc: James Bearzi, NMED HWB
Cornelius Amindyas, NMED HWB
Laurie King, EPA Region 6
James Harris, EPA Region 6
Bill Conrod, WSNM

File: HAFB 04 and Reading