



SUSANA MARTINEZ
Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



Hazardous Waste Bureau

2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303
Phone (505) 476-6000 Fax (505) 476-6030
www.nmenv.state.nm.us



DAVE MARTIN
Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

JAMES H. DAVIS, Ph.D.
Director
Resource Protection Division

October 29, 2012

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND INTENT TO APPROVE
A CLASS 3 PERMIT MODIFICATION TO THE HOLLOWAN AIR
FORCE BASE HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY PERMIT**

Dear Interested Citizen:

Enclosed is a **Public Notice** regarding the intent to approve a proposed Class 3 permit modification to the United States Air Force/Holloman Air Force Base's (the Permittee's) Hazardous Waste Facility Permit. The U.S. Air Force is owner and operator of Holloman Air Force Base. The Permittee is located at the following addresses: Holloman Air Force Base, 550 Tabosa Avenue, Holloman AFB, NM, 88330-8458.

The enclosed Public Notice provides locations where the administrative record, including the Permit Modification Request, Fact Sheet/Statement of Basis, and related documents for this action can be reviewed, and provides procedures for submitting comments and requesting a Public Hearing. Comments and requests for Public Hearing will be received through **5:00 p.m. MST on December 28, 2012.**

Any person seeking additional information regarding this notice or the draft permit may contact:

Mr. David Strasser, Environmental Specialist
New Mexico Environment Department
5500 San Antonio NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109

E-mail: david.strasser@state.nm.us
Telephone: (505) 222-9526
Fax: (505) 222-9510

Sincerely,

John E. Kieling
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau



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PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 12-03

**NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
HAZARDOUS WASTE BUREAU
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO
October 29, 2012**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND INTENT TO APPROVE A PERMIT
MODIFICATION TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE/HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE'S
RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT (RCRA)
HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY PERMIT
EPA ID# NM6572124422**

Under authority of the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act (Section 74-4-1 et seq., NMSA 1978, as amended) and the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Management Regulations (20.4.1 NMAC), the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) can approve or deny hazardous waste permits, closure plans, permit modifications, and amendments. Under this authority, NMED intends to approve, pending public input into this decision, a Class 3 permit modification to the RCRA Facility Permit (the Permit) issued to the United States Air Force/Holloman Air Force Base (the Permittee).

Holloman Air Force Base (HAFB) is located in south central New Mexico, in the north-central part of Otero County, approximately 75 miles north-northeast of El Paso, Texas. HAFB has a population of 6,000 and occupies approximately 59,827 acres in the northeast quarter of Section 1, Township 17 South, Range 8 East. The U.S. Army's White Sands Missile Range testing facilities and White Sands National Monument occupy additional land extending north and west from the base. Private and publicly-owned lands border the remainder of HAFB. The major highway servicing HAFB is Highway 70, which runs southwest from the town of Alamogordo and separates HAFB from publicly-owned lands to the south. Alamogordo, which has a population of approximately 35,000, is located approximately 7 miles east of the base.

HAFB was first established in 1942 as Alamogordo Army Air Field (AAF). From 1942 through 1945, Alamogordo AAF served as the training grounds for over 20 different flight groups, flying primarily B-17s, B-24s, and B-29s. After World War II, most operations had ceased at the base. In 1947, Air Material Command announced the air field would be its primary site for the testing and development of un-manned aircraft, guided missiles, and other research programs. On January 13, 1948, the Alamogordo installation was renamed Holloman Air Force Base, in honor of the late Col. George V. Holloman; a pioneer in guided missile research. In 1968, the 49th Tactical Fighter Wing arrived at HAFB and has remained since. Today, HAFB also serves as a training location for the German Air Force's Tactical Training Center.

The Permittee is located at the following address: Department of the Air Force, Headquarters, 49th Fighter Wing (ACC), Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, 88330. The Permittee's primary contact for the action is: Mr. David Scruggs, Chief, Environmental Flight, 49 CES/CEV, 550 Tabosa Avenue, Holloman AFB, NM, 88330-8458.

At HAFB, investigation and remediation of Solid Waste Management Units/Areas of Concern (SWMUs/AOCs) is conducted under both the Air Force's Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) and the RCRA Corrective Action Program. The ERP program [formerly the Installation Restoration Program (IRP)] was initiated in 1983 and the RCRA Facility Assessment was conducted in 1987. The Permit was issued in 1991 and became effective on September 25, 1991 and was reissued on February 24, 2004. Since the Permit became effective, investigations and remediation of SWMUs/AOCs at the facility have been conducted under the Permit's RCRA Facility Investigation and Corrective Action guidelines. Table A of Appendix 4-A of the Permit identifies SWMUs/AOCs at the facility requiring corrective action. Table B of Appendix 4-A of the Permit contains SWMUs/AOCs not currently requiring corrective action. Initially, approximately 236 potential SWMUs and 29 AOCs were listed on Table A. Currently, 63 sites remain on Table A. The remaining sites have been transferred through this process to Table B.

If approved, a proposed Class 3 permit modification would grant Corrective Action Complete Without Controls (CAC) status for eighteen (18) SWMUs/AOCs and move these sites from Table A to Table B. In addition, at the Permittee's request, fourteen (14) previously unidentified former underground storage tank (UST) sites and two (2) previously unknown potential groundwater contamination sites to be added as AOCs to Table A.

NMED's approval of the 18 SWMUs/AOCs proposed for CAC by the Permittee is on the basis that: the SWMU/AOC cannot be located, does not exist, or is a duplicate SWMU/AOC, or; no release to the environment has occurred or is likely to occur in the future from the SWMU/AOC, or; the SWMU/AOC has been characterized or remediated in accordance with current applicable state and/or federal regulations, and the available data indicate that contaminants pose an acceptable level of risk under current and projected future land use.

SWMU/AOCs that are proposed for CAC include: 1) SWMU 39 (FT-31), Building 1092 Oil/Water Separator; 2) SWMU 105 (LF-19), Golf Course Landfill; 3) SWMU 108 (LF-23), MOBSS Landfill Disposal Trench; 4) SWMU 115 (LF-22), West Area Landfill #1, PCB Disposal Area; 5) SWMU 116 (LF-21), West Area Landfill #2; 6) SWMU 127 (FT-31), Building 1092 Waste Oil Tank; 7) SWMU 130 (SS-46), Taxiway 4 Tank 28, JP-4 Underground Waste Tank; 8) SWMU 135 (FT-31), Building 1092 Oil/Water Separator Drainage Tank; 9) SWMU 170 (FT-31), Fire Department Training Area #1; 10) AOC-2, Sewage Drainage Pit NE of Building 864; 11) AOC-F (SS-68), Asphalt Tank Spill Are; 12) AOC-N (SS-48), Building 137 Military Gas Tank Leak; 13) AOC-P (OT-44), Building 301 Fuel Tank Leak; 14) AOC-R (SS-06), JP-4 Fuel Line Spill Site; 15) AOC-S (BHUST), Leaking Underground Storage Tank; 16) AOC-V (SS-57), Officer's Club; 17) AOC-PRI-2 (OT-35), PRI Building 1264 Solvent Burn Area; and 18) AOC-PRI-5 (OT-35), PRI Building 1264 Solvent Burn Area

The sixteen AOCs that are proposed to be added to the permit include: 1) AOC-UST-221 (TU/US-C503), Building 221 UST; 2) AOC-UST-298 (TU/US-C508), Building 298 UST; 3) AOC-UST-300 (TU/US-C500), Building 300 UST; 4) AOC-UST-301 (TU/US-C504), Building 301 UST; 5) AOC-UST-684 (TU/US-C516), Building 684 UST; 6) AOC-UST-882 (TU/US-C514), Building 882 UST; 7) AOC-UST-889 (TU/US-C515), Building 889 UST; 8) AOC-UST-898 (TU/US-C513), Building 898 UST; 9) AOC-UST-901 (TU/US-C506), Building 901 UST; 10) AOC-UST-1097 (TU/US-C505), Building 1097 UST; 11) AOC-UST-1113 (TU/US-C501), Building 1113 UST; 12) AOC-UST-1272 (TU/US-C507), Building 1272 UST; 13) AOC-UST-2395 (TU/US-C502), Building 2395 UST; 14) AOC-UST-7003 (TU/US-C518), National

Radar Test Facility UST; 15) AOC-838 (SS-72), TCE Groundwater Contamination Upgradient of LF-20; and 16) AOC-1088 (SS-73), TCE in Groundwater Upgradient of SS-61.

PUBLIC REVIEW OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

The Administrative Record for this proposed action consists of the HAFB Permit Modification Request, Fact Sheet/Statement of Basis, this Public Notice, the draft Permit that consists of the proposed Tables A and B, and the referenced supporting documentation. The Administrative Record may be reviewed at the following location during the public comment period. Please contact Pam Allen at (505) 476-6064.

NMED – Hazardous Waste Bureau
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303
(505) 476-6000
Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

The HAFB Permit Modification Request, the Fact Sheet/Statement of Basis, the Public Notice, and the draft Permit may also be reviewed at the following locations during the public comment period:

NMED-District 1 Albuquerque Office
5500 San Antonio NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109
(505) 222-9500
Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Alamogordo Public Library
920 Oregon Avenue
Alamogordo, New Mexico 88330
(575) 439-4140
Monday – Thursday, 10:00 am to 8:00 pm,
Friday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and
Saturday 11:00 am to 5:00 pm

A copy of the Fact Sheet/Statement of Basis, the Public Notice, and the draft Permit that consists of the proposed Tables A and B are also available electronically on the NMED website at: <http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/HWB/hafbperm.html> under Corrective Action Complete. To obtain a copy of the Administrative Record or a portion thereof, in addition to further information, please contact Ms. Pam Allen at (505) 476-6064, or at the Santa Fe address given above. NMED will provide copies, or portions thereof, of the administrative record at a cost to the requestor.

NMED issues this public notice on **October 29, 2012** to announce the beginning of a 45-day comment period that will end at **5:00 p.m. MST, December 28, 2012**. Any person who wishes to comment on this action or request a public hearing should submit written or electronic mail (e-mail) comment(s) with the commenter's name and address to the address below. Only comments and/or requests received on or before **5:00 p.m. MST, December 28, 2012** will be considered.

John E. Kieling, Chief
NMED – Hazardous Waste Bureau
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303
Or via e-mail: john.kieling@state.nm.us
Ref: Holloman AFB – 18 Corrective Action Complete

Written comments must be based on the administrative record. Documents in the administrative record need not be re-submitted if expressly referenced by the commenter. Requests for a public hearing shall provide: (1) a

clear and concise factual statement of the nature and scope of the interest of the person requesting the hearing; (2) the name and address of all persons whom the requestor represents; (3) a statement of any objections to the proposed action, including specific references; and (4) a statement of the issues which such persons propose to raise for consideration at the hearing. Written comment and requests for Public Hearing must be filed with Mr. John Kieling on or before **5:00 p.m. MST, December 28, 2012**. The NMED will provide a thirty (30) day notice of a public hearing, if scheduled.

The NMED must ensure that the approved final Permit is consistent with the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Management Regulations. All written comments submitted on the draft Permit will become part of the administrative record, will be considered in formulating a final decision, and may cause the draft Permit to be modified. NMED will respond in writing to all significant public comment. The response will specify which provisions, if any, of the draft Permit have been changed in the final Permit decision, and the reasons for the change. This response will also be posted on the NMED website in addition to NMED notifying all persons providing written comments.

After consideration of all written public comments received, NMED will issue, or modify and issue, the Permit. If NMED modifies and issues the Permit, the Permittee shall be provided by mail a copy of the modified Permit and a detailed written statement of reasons for the modifications. The NMED Secretary will make the final Permit decision publicly available and shall notify the Permittee by certified mail. The Secretary's decision shall constitute a final agency decision and may be appealed as provided by the Hazardous Waste Act. All persons on the mailing list, or that provided written comments, or who requested notification in writing, will be notified of the final decision by mail.

The final decision will become effective thirty days after service of the decision, unless a later date is specified or review is requested under the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Management Regulations, 20.4.1 NMAC, Section 901.E., *Hearings*.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Persons having a disability and requiring assistance or auxiliary aid to participate in this process should contact Connie Joseph at the New Mexico Environment Department, Human Resources Bureau, P.O. Box 26110, 1190 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87502, telephone 505-827-9769, or e-mail at connie.joseph@state.nm.us. TDY users please access her number via the New Mexico Relay Network at 1-800-659-8331.