



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200

DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

PH/Bruce

ENTERED

*File KAPB RED
92*

APR 13 1992

Thomas A. Norris, Colonel, USAF
Director
Environmental Management Division
Headquarters 5420 Crew Training Wing
Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico 87117-5000

Re: Well Screen Lengths
Kirtland Air Force Base
NM9570024423

*This is in regard to landfill
SWMU*

Dear Colonel Norris:

- Swanton

The information you submitted with your letter of April 1, 1992, has been reviewed and it has been determined that it would not be appropriate to allow Kirtland Air Force Base to install 40 foot screens on your monitor wells. The data presented demonstrates both seasonal fluctuations, and a slight drawdown of the water table at Kirtland. This information was also confirmed by Douglas Earp, City of Albuquerque Environmental Health Department, by phone conversation with Barbara Driscoll on April 7, 1992.

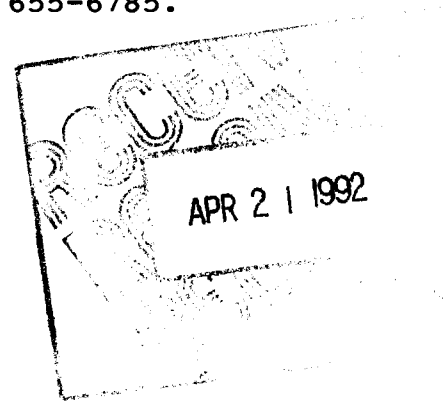
The primary purpose of the monitor wells is to determine if a release of a hazardous substance has occurred. Excessive screen lengths would allow for dilution which can make contaminant detection difficult or impossible. Kirtland has already been allowed to use twenty-five foot screens which are five feet longer than the maximum length recommended by guidance. Since you indicate that your main contaminants of concern are "floaters" and "sinkers", it might be best to consider installing well clusters with screened intervals at different portions of the aquifer.

Should you have any additional questions, please contact Barbara Driscoll of my staff at (214) 655-6785.

Sincerely,

William K. Honker, P.E.
Chief
RCRA Permits Branch (6H-P)

cc: Benito Garcia, NMED



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