



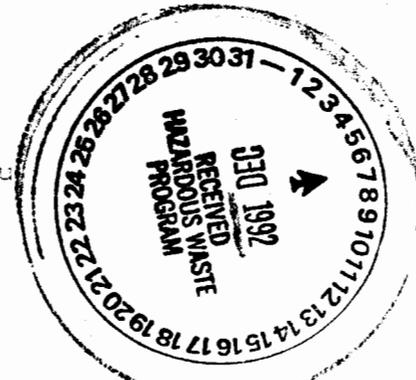
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
542D CREW TRAINING WING (AMC)

FILE
KAFB
RED 92

542d CTW/EM
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland AFB, NM 87117-5659

Ms Stephanie Stoddard
Water Resource Specialist
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
PO Box 26110
525 Camino de los Marquez
Santa Fe NM 87502

30 NOV 1992



Dear Ms Stoddard

The approved closure plans for the base sewage lagoons and golf course pond state that Kirtland will perform a soil gas survey at these sites to confirm that there is no evidence of contamination by volatiles in the vadose zone. Since no contamination by hazardous waste has been found in soils, sludges or groundwater at these sites, we do not anticipate a problem in the deeper vadose zone. However, we feel that we can document the status of the vadose zone more effectively by using soil borings.

Therefore, we request approval of a modification of the closure plans that will allow us to terminate the soil gas survey and perform soil borings that otherwise would have been necessary only if the soil gas survey had detected the presence of contaminants.

We propose the following:

a) Soil augering to a depth of ten feet at the same locations at which the sludge and surface soil sampling was conducted (five locations in each of the two lagoons and three locations in the golf course pond). We feel that samples collected at ten feet would be below the level of active volatilization while being above soil depths where dispersion could result in possible contaminants being below detection limits.

B) Collection of a soil sample at the ten foot depth in each hole, and analysis for volatile organic compounds.

c) Borings will be monitored using a photoionization detector (PID) for field headspace analysis. If volatiles are detected during boring, the hole will be deepened and samples screened using the PID. The goal is to obtain two sequential samples at five foot intervals that are not contaminated, to verify that the depth of contamination has been determined.

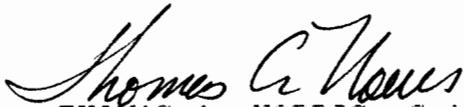


Generally, two uncontaminated soil samples below an area of contamination are required to document that the vertical extent of contamination has been determined. Soil samples collected from the top one foot of soil below the sludge at these sites has already been shown to be uncontaminated. If the samples collected at ten feet are also found to be uncontaminated, we feel that we will have adequately demonstrated that the vadose zone is not contaminated.

As stated above, if contamination by volatiles is detected during the borings, the holes will be deepened until two clean samples can be collected. We will then request a meeting with you to discuss these findings.

If you have any questions, please contact John Gould at 846-2773.

Sincerely



THOMAS A. NORRIS, Colonel, USAF
Director
Environmental Management Division

cc: NMED (Mr Dave Morgan)
AFCEE (Jo Mullen)
ICF Kaiser (Spencer Sepponen)