

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
Headquarters 377th Air Base Wing (AFMC)



3 August 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS, BERNALILLO COUNTY/KIRTLAND AIR
FORCE BASE ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP

FROM: 377 ABW/EMR
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland AFB NM 87117-5659

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Bernalillo County/Kirtland Air Force Base Environmental
Working Group (EWG)

1. PLACE: Loma Linda Community Center, 1700 Yale SE, Albuquerque, NM
2. TIME/DATE: 1830, 13 July 1995
3. CHAIRPERSON: Lt Col Scott E. Streifert, Director of Environmental Management,
377th Air Base Wing, Kirtland AFB NM
4. ATTENDANCE: See Attachment 1
5. INTRODUCTION/APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MINUTES: Lt Col Streifert called
the meeting to order and asked attendees to introduce themselves. The 23 February 1995
EWG minutes were mailed to members and available at the meeting. The February
minutes were approved as written.
6. KIRTLAND'S STATUS--BASE REALIGNMENT PROCESS: Lt Col Streifert stated
the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission recommended Kirtland not be
realigned. The BRAC list given to President Clinton on 1 July 1995 did not list Kirtland
to be realigned, so that action will not happen. The President approved the list 13 July
1995 and sent it to Congress for their approval.
7. STATUS OF CLEANUP ACTIVITIES AND FUNDING:
 - a. Mr. Chris DeWitt, Chief of Restoration, said Kirtland lost funding this fiscal year
for the second phase of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility
Investigation (RFI) at Appendix I sites. This was due to the rescission. The base
received comments from Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 on the RFI
report on the Appendix II sites. The base completed investigation of the Appendix III

KAFB1664



sites and will submit a RFI report to the EPA, New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), and community groups by 7 October 1995.

b. Kirtland expects to receive EPA's comments on the Appendix IV RFI report about September 1995. The base has almost finished investigating the new sites identified in 1994. It has also identified other new sites in 1995 and submitted Solid Waste Management Unit Assessment reports to EPA.

c. Mr. DeWitt told the attendees funding for Kirtland's cleanup activities dropped this fiscal year. The base started with a proposed \$8.2 million budget for FY95. Kirtland's budget was cut to \$5 million after the Defense Appropriations Bill was signed. Then in spring 1995 the base's funding dropped to \$2.9 million due to the rescission.

d. Lt Col Streifert explained the Air Force's policy is to direct money toward "turning dirt" (cleaning up sites), rather than studying them. The current Air Force goal is to direct 70 percent of cleanup dollars toward "high" relative risk sites, to bring them down to "low" relative risk. Since 21 of Kirtland's 31 sites are now ranked "high," the base expects to fare well in the FY96 budget process.

8. **OUTCOME OF RELATIVE RISK EVALUATION:** Mr. DeWitt explained that the base, NMED, and local citizen volunteers this spring ranked the relative risk of Kirtland's Installation Restoration Program (IRP) sites into three categories--high, medium and low. Kirtland intends to do a Class II permit modification to make appendix changes. It plans to move all the medium relative risk sites to Appendix II. Likewise, all the high relative risk sites in Appendix II will be moved to Appendix I. After the changes, all the high relative risk sites will be in Appendix I.

9. **JOINT AIR FORCE/DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE) PROJECTS:**

a. Mr. DeWitt described ongoing cooperative efforts by Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) and Kirtland's Restoration Branch. One example is the joint base-wide background study being conducted by SNL and Kirtland. The study is endorsed by EPA Region 6, who preferred that a joint study be conducted by the two organizations. Kirtland is funding half of the cost of the project. Mr. DeWitt said Kirtland joined the project after Sandia was already well along. The goal is to get stakeholders involved.

b. Mr. DeWitt described other examples of cooperation between his office and DOE. Both organizations work together to avoid duplication of effort. Restoration sites previously listed on both Kirtland's and DOE's RCRA permits were divided between the two organizations. Eleven sites listed as Air Force were transferred to DOE for restoration responsibility. Mr. DeWitt explained AF-SNL cooperation related to soil sampling. For example, when Kirtland's contractors gathered samples at an Air Force site adjacent to a DOE location, the contractors also took samples for DOE at their site.

10. **KIRTLAND BACKGROUND STUDY:** Mr. Franz Lauffer, SNL hydrologist, talked in detail about the Background Study, which Sandia began in August 1993. The study will establish the base's distribution of naturally occurring concentrations of metals, inorganic chemicals and radionuclides in the soil and groundwater. The background levels will help determine if contamination has occurred at a site, which remediation process to select, and if remediation has been completed.

11. **U.S. FOREST SERVICE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PLAN:** Ms. Teresa McClung, from the Sandia Ranger District, presented an overview of the Forest Service's ecosystem management plan for the Cibola National Forest, part of which is located within the Kirtland AFB complex and classified as withdrawn from public access. The Forest Service continues to hold meetings with the public to solicit comments about their proposed trail system, fire breaks, more public access and possible eastern boundary changes for the withdrawn land. Kirtland is considering the possibility of returning, for public access, 1,000 acres on the eastern side of the base's withdrawn area.

12. **WITHDRAWN LAND AND PUBLIC ACCESS:** There was no discussion, per se, on this agenda item. Ms. McClung had already mentioned public access issues being addressed by the Forest Service. Ms. Paseur, base Environmental Public Affairs Officer, distributed a handout (Attachment 2) describing unexploded ordnance on Kirtland, especially in the Bonito Canyon and withdrawn area of the base. Ms. Ann Newsted, from The East Manzano Alliance (TEMA), had previously asked for this information. Mr. DeWitt mentioned that he submitted a request for FY96 funding to clean up 3,500 acres of unexploded ordnance in the base's withdrawn land; however, he is not optimistic about the funding being approved by higher headquarters.

13. **AIR FORCE FUTURE LAND USE:**

a. Mr. DeWitt stated that, in the past, the base has considered the Kirtland Base Comprehensive Plan as its future land use plan. That plan is a five-year outlook which classifies land use. Kirtland also relies on the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for any proposed government action that may significantly affect the environment. The act requires the base to consider environmental factors when developing Air Force land or considering future land use. There is a public comment process for all proposed government actions that may have significant environmental effects.

b. Mr. DeWitt mentioned that DOE is looking 20 years into the future in its land use planning effort going on now (Future Use Options Study). Even though it is more difficult to forecast 20 years into the future--compared to just 5 years--Mr. DeWitt said the 20-year approach is a good idea. Because DOE is located on Air Force land at Kirtland, the upcoming DOE Future Land Use plan will need Air Force approval.

Mr. DeWitt said the DOE plan will look at the whole base and be coordinated with DOE's Citizen Advisory Board. Considering that, and the fact that the DOE plan must have Air Force endorsement, Mr. DeWitt considers the DOE plan will also be the Air Force's future land use plan for Kirtland. Lt Col Streifert said the Air Force attends all of DOE's Future Land Use meetings. Mr. DeWitt said there will be more future land use discussions at upcoming EWG meetings.

c. He described a copy of the base's Land Use map being drafted to show current land ownership and use on base. The map is unofficial and still needs some corrections. Copies of the official map will be distributed when it is available.

d. Ms. Newsted asked Mr. DeWitt if DOE, on its own, can put the proposed plutonium pits in the Manzano bunkers and what procedures apply since the Manzano Weapons Storage Area belongs to the Air Force. Mr. DeWitt answered that NEPA procedures apply and the proposal must go through Air Force internal channels, just as any major impact proposal for the base is handled. Maj David Martin, Deputy Director of Environmental Management, told the group that DOE has asked Air Force Materiel Command to be the cooperating agency on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the plutonium pits proposal. Maj Martin is the Air Force's point of contact at Kirtland for DOE's proposed action. Manzano is listed as one possible alternate site, along with several others, in DOE's Pantex Site-Wide EIS now being conducted.

14. POSSIBLE CHANGES IN DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION ACCOUNT (DERA): According to Mr. DeWitt, Congressional language in the FY96 draft budget does away with the centralized DERA funding mechanism. DERA is the separate account under which Department of Defense funds all cleanup activities, pays employee salaries, etc. The proposal is to decentralize the funding and give the money directly to the individual Services (Air Force, Army, Navy, etc.) in their operations and maintenance accounts and call it Environmental Restoration Account (ERA). Mr. DeWitt hopes the Air Force ERA money will be a fenced, protected account, like DERA is now, so cleanup money won't have to compete with other base operational activities. He does not know how funding would be arranged for Defense-State Memorandum of Agreement and Formerly Used Defense Sites (both programs now come under DERA).

15. POSTER DISPLAYS: Ms. Paseur explained the various maps, photos and charts on display in the meeting room. She said copies of the handouts and poster display write-ups would be mailed with the meeting minutes (Attachments 3 through 8).

16. NEXT EWG MEETING:

a. Ms. Newsted (TEMA) volunteered to chair the next meeting, tentatively set for Thursday, 16 November 1995, at the Loma Linda Community Center.

b. It was the general consensus of the attendees that it is not practical to hold another EWG meeting in August to get back on the old quarterly schedule (which coincides with the DOE/Sandia meetings). Mr. DeWitt explained the Air Force meetings had gotten off-schedule due to postponing the EWG meeting until after the 1 July BRAC decision. He said that his office would write the EWG members asking if they agree to skip the August meeting and convene in November.

c. Suggested items for discussion at the November EWG meeting include Kirtland's cleanup budget for FY96, voluntary corrective measures, future land use plans, interaction between DOE/SNL and Kirtland on environmental matters, and the baseline environmental study of McCormick Ranch.


KARI J. PASEUR
Recorder


CHRISTOPHER B. DeWITT, R.P.G.
Chief, Restoration Branch
Environmental Management Division

Attachments:

1. Attendance List
2. Unexploded Ordnance
3. Environmental Update (June 1995)
4. Fact Sheet - IRP Sites
5. New Sites
6. Background Study
7. AF Monitoring Wells
8. EPA Update

ATTENDANCE LIST

BERNALILLO COUNTY/KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP
LOMA LINDA COMMUNITY CENTER, ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO
13 JULY 1995

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Lloyd Aker	NMED	845-5933
Chris DeWitt	377 ABW/EMR	846-0053
Jeff Dickson	Professional Environmental Services	254-0863
Patricia Dickson	Professional Environmental Services	292-6417
John Gould	DOE, Kirtland Area Office	845-6089
Will Keener	Sandia National Laboratories	848-0038
Ronald Kern	NMED	827-4308
Franz Lauffer	Sandia National Laboratories	848-0457
Maj David Martin	377 ABW/EM-2	846-2751
Teresa McClung	U.S. Forest Service	281-3304
William McDonald	NMED DOE Oversight Bureau	845-5825
William Moats	NMED DOE Oversight Bureau	845-5824
Nancy Morlock	EPA Region 6	214-665-6650
Catalina Muniz	SouthWest Organizing Project	842-5465
Ann Newsted	The East Manzano Alliance	281-9448
Kari Passeur	377 ABW/PA	846-0053
Ellen Schumacher	NMED DOE Oversight Bureau	845-5823
Lt Col Scott Streifert	377 ABW/EM	846-2751
Mark S. Thacker	Brown & Root Environmental	247-4933
Maj Denise Underwood	377 ABW/JA	846-4217

KIRTLAND AFB UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE SURVEY

The Base Civil Engineering Squadron is conducting a survey to determine to what extent unexploded ordnance is present in the southeast sector of Kirtland AFB. The survey area consists of 23,000 acres on Kirtland AFB property within the DOD withdrawal area and includes the Bonito Canyon area. The survey consists of a visual surface survey which is on-going in nature. The mountainous terrain of the survey area precludes the use of specialized detection equipment. Recently, Civil Engineering also agreed to add approximately 800-1000 acres of land located along the DOD/DOE Withdrawal/U.S. Forest Service boundary to its survey program. This area will be surveyed in May 1997 to prepare for the development of a firebreak and boundary adjustment.

Thus far, KAFB personnel have located approximately 1000 rounds of what is technically known as UXO in the Bonito Canyon area and approximately three tons of UXO throughout the survey area. The UXO is dispersed in a fan-shaped pattern, the narrow end being near the Inhalation Toxicology Research Institute.

The UXO consists of five-inch, three-inch and 75mm Army and Navy projectiles used in military training exercises in the late 1940s and early 1950s. The vast majority of UXO found consists of non-live cement-filled projectiles and empty casings. However, a potential does exist that some UXO in yet unsurveyed areas will be live. The UXO survey team can and will clear UXO they see lying on the surface to the greatest extent possible. However, projectiles used by the Army and Navy had a high power charge and traveled some 35,000-37,000 feet before hitting the ground. As a consequence, KAFB personnel believe that there are projectiles present below the ground surface. The visual surface survey will not detect these items, and they will not be cleared by Civil Engineering personnel.

In the past, the Installation Restoration Program (IRP) did not include UXO cleanup activities. Cleanup was handled under the Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) program. However, UXO areas located on active military bases did not qualify for FUDS assistance. New guidance issued by higher headquarters now suggests that UXO cleanup may now be allowed under IRP. The new guidance indicates that the IRP program can address identification, investigation, and removal of DOD-owned and abandoned ordnance and explosive waste if its presence presents an explosive hazard. The new guidance excludes payment for target/ordnance debris cleanup and range clearance activities on active ranges. The Air Force has requested funding approval for clearance of approximately 1000 acres.

377 ABW/EM
13 July 1995



ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

FACT SHEET

Information About Kirtland's
Environmental Activities

Environmental Management Division, Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico

June 1995

Restoration Sites

Environmental Management officials at Kirtland are identifying and cleaning up contaminated sites on base where past spills, leaks, and disposal activities could affect the environment or human health. To date, the base's Restoration Branch has identified 73 Installation Restoration Program (IRP) sites where potentially hazardous chemicals were, or may have been, used, stored, or disposed.

Of these sites, 13 are closed (eight were cleaned up and five required no further action), 10 were transferred to Sandia National Laboratories for remediation, and seven were combined with other sites because they were closely related. Currently, 43 sites need more investigation and may require corrective action.

Ranking the Sites

In early 1995, local citizen volunteers, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), and Kirtland officials evaluated the relative risk of the active IRP sites. The volunteers attended a training session on the Department of Defense's new ranking system and a tour to see the sites in January, then a final meeting in March to determine the relative risk of each site. The final rankings are:

<u>Relative Risk</u>	<u>Number of Sites</u>
High	21
Medium	16
Low	<u>6</u>
Total:	43

Appendix Designations

Kirtland holds a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Under the permit, the base is investigating over 180 sites where contaminants may have been released into the environment.

Once identified under the permit as a Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU), a site is required to follow a formal investigation process. In 1990, the permit divided the sites into appendices, arranged in the order of decreasing severity. For example, Appendix I contained sites that pose the greatest potential threat to human health and the environment. Since 1994, newly discovered sites were placed either into existing appendices or newly created appendices. For example, Appendix IV was created for all restoration sites that may contain radioactive materials. New SWMUs identified in 1994 were placed in Appendix V during FY 95.

Each appendix is on a specific time schedule for investigation, cleanup, and funding priority. With relative risk evaluations completed for all IRP sites, Kirtland plans minor changes to the appendices. Sites will be moved from one appendix to another to make sure the worst sites, even newly discovered ones, are given a higher priority and cleaned up first. Kirtland officials will place all the sites ranked "high" relative risk into Appendix I, "medium" into Appendix II, and "low" into Appendix III. Appendix IV will remain as is. Rearranging appendices requires a permit modification.

Current Listing

Appendix I (Investigations began in FY 93):

LF-01--Landfill 1
LF-02--Landfill 2
LF-07--Landfill 3
LF-08--Landfills 4, 5, 6
LF-09--Abandoned Landfill
FT-13--Kirtland AFB Fire Training Area
LF-15--Landfill B
WP-16--Manzano Sewage Treatment Facility
LF-18--Landfill A
LF-20--Manzano Landfill
OT-28--McCormick Ranch
OT-29--Explosives Ordnance Disposal Range
LF-44--Fill Area Southeast of Sewage Lagoons
LF-45--Explosive Test Site Unnamed Dump
OT-46--Lake Christian

Appendix II (Investigations began in FY 94):

FT-14--Manzano Fire Training Area
WP-47--Silver Recovery Unit
ST-70--Kirtland AFB Oil/Water Separators
ST-71--Bldg 1001/1002 Oil/Water Separator
ST-72--Manzano Security Garage Oil/Water Separator
ST-73--Civil Engineering Research Facility Drain

Appendix III (Investigations began in FY 94):

ST-51--Effluent Line
SS-61--Fuel Shop Battery Storage Area
SS-62--Bldg 909 Inactive Waste Accumulation Area
SS-63--Jet Engine Test Cell
ST-64--U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Vehicle Maintenance Yard
SS-65--Horizontally Polarized Dipole Facility

Appendix IV (Investigations began in FY 94):

RW-04--Radioactive Holding Tank 4
RW-05--Radioactive Holding Tank 5
RW-06--Radioactive Burial 11
RW-17--Radioactive Holding Tank 6
RW-19--Radioactive Holding Tank 8
RW-23--Radioactive Holding Tank 9
RW-68--Radium Dump/Slag Piles and Cratering Area
SS-69--Drum Storage Area (Investigations will begin in FY 95)

Appendix V (Investigations began in FY 95):

LF-56--Landfill D
WP-58--East Laundry
ST-59--Armament Research Test Drum
ST-60--Armament Research Test Pit
ST-66--Trestle Facility
DP-67--Three Mine Shafts ("Area of Concern")

Note: Sites in this appendix will be transferred to Appendix I, II, or III, as required, when the RCRA investigations are completed.

Schedule for Other Sites

Some IRP sites are not on the RCRA permit or in an appendix. They are under a different schedule for investigation:

RW-10, Radiation Training Sites 1 through 8: Investigation and corrective action are taking place according to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act and Nuclear Regulatory Commission guidance. The initial investigation began in FY 94 and should be completed in September 1995. Any additional investigations or cleanup will be recommended at that time.

WP-26, Golf Course Main Pond and Two Sewage Lagoons: This site is now in RCRA post-closure care, regulated by NMED. In November 1995, Kirtland will begin the second year of groundwater monitoring at this site.

WP-27, Golf Course: NMED granted this site clean-closure status in 1993.

ST-30 through ST-37, Underground Storage Tanks 01 through 08: These tanks were removed in 1993 and no further action is required.

RW-68, Radium Dump/Slag Piles: The base is investigating this site, following the same schedule as SS-69. Kirtland expanded this

site recently to include the cratering area site it just gained from Sandia National Laboratories. Kirtland agreed to accept restoration responsibility for the cratering area south of Schoolhouse Mesa since it is related to the radium dump site.

In the 1940s, the Army Air Force conducted vulnerability tests on enemy planes to see how much firepower they could endure before they were destroyed. The remains were then moved over to what is now the slag pile area, where they were dismantled and incinerated.

EPA Region 6 determined this site is a SWMU. It is now listed in Appendix IV, with a RCRA investigation report due in December 1996.

RCRA Field Investigations

Stage 2C, Waste Lines: Brown and Root Environmental (Air Force contractor) completed its field work (taking samples) at the sites in May 1995 and is now analyzing the data. The investigation report is due to EPA Region 6 in October 1995.

Stage 2E, Appendix V: Brown & Root Environmental began investigating the Appendix V sites in late May 1995. All six sites will be sampled by July 1995. The RCRA investigation report is due to EPA Region 6 in December 1995.

Newly Identified Sites

In addition to the IRP sites already identified, Kirtland has a proactive program to identify and report all new sites that may have released contaminants into the environment. During record searches and field investigations, Kirtland officials identify new potential sites and report them to the EPA

Region 6 in Dallas, Texas, as potential SWMUs.

Kirtland is required to submit a SWMU assessment report for each site within 90 days of notifying EPA. The EPA then reviews these reports and determines if the sites should be added to the base's permit as SWMUs. These sites may also be added to the base's IRP site list.

New SWMU

SS-69, Drum Storage Area: This site is a fenced area (50 by 50 feet) located within Radiation Training Site 6, which is one of the eight sites comprising RW-10. This storage area was used in the past to store thorium oxide sludge. In 1990 Kirtland discovered about 90 drums had been left at the site, and removed them that year.

In addition to the thorium oxide, some drums contained petroleum, oils, and lubricants, and possibly solvents. Officials properly disposed of the wastes in the drums in 1990. Even though most of the drums were intact, some had deteriorated and released some of their contents into the environment. In spring 1995 base officials noticed soil contamination at the site during an investigation of RW-10. As a result, the base recommended that the site be added to the RCRA permit as a SWMU; EPA agreed. It is now listed in Appendix IV, with a RCRA investigation report due in December 1996.

Potential SWMUs

KC-135 Ramp Septic System: This septic system is located in the KC-135 Research Facilities area near Building 106 on the west side of Kirtland. The site consists of a septic tank, a distribution tank, and four leach pits. This is where an electroplating process, using chromic acid, was operational during the approximate period 1975-1977. The

septic system was not used after 1977. Kirtland will submit a SWMU Assessment Report in July 1995.

GRABS Site Waste Pile: This waste pile is at the Great Reusable Air Blast Simulator (GRABS) Site in the southeastern area of Kirtland where shock tube research took place in the past. The waste pile contains soil and construction debris. The soil contains visible stains that may be contamination from petroleum, oils, or lubricants. Kirtland will submit a SWMU Assessment Report to EPA Region 6 in July 1995.

Old Skeet Range and Small Arms Range: These sites, located south of the runway, contain debris from broken clay pigeons and minor visible, spent, small arms projectiles. The base is studying soil samples to see whether or not the lead buckshot and projectiles contaminated the ground in the area. Both ranges are being investigated as one site.

Trash Pile Near Coyote Springs: In spring 1995 base officials discovered various empty barrels and construction debris near the former picnic area at Coyote Springs in the eastern part of Kirtland. Results from the soil samples taken at the site are expected in July 1995.

Kirtland Background Study

Kirtland and Sandia National Laboratories are working together on a base-wide background study to establish the "average" naturally occurring concentrations of metals and radionuclides in the soil within the Kirtland complex. EPA Region 6 encouraged the two organizations to work together on this project. The background levels established by this study will help officials determine if a site is contaminated or not. For example, some compounds, like

beryllium and arsenic are prevalent and occur naturally at Kirtland.

Upcoming Projects

The Restoration Branch will place fences around two sites in 1995:

Radioactive Burial Site 11 (RW-6)
Radiation Training Sites 5, 6, 7 (RW-10)

The bioventing project at the Kirtland Fire Training Area (FT-13) near the runway will continue and is planned to begin at the Manzano Fire Training Area (FT-14) in FY 96, along with a lead remediation project.

Kirtland proposes to cap three IRP sites in FY 96:

Radioactive Burial Site 11 (RW-6)
Landfill A (LF-18)
Landfill B (LF-15)

Other voluntary corrective measures are planned (some have been funded):

- ◆ Remove silver-contaminated sediment from the Silver Recovery Unit at the former photo laboratory (WP-47)
- ◆ Demolish the Imhoff tank and stabilize the sludge at the Manzano Sewage Treatment Facility (WP-16)
- ◆ Remove surface slag at the Radium Dump/Slag Piles (RW-68)
- ◆ Remove and treat or dispose of contaminated soil at the Kirtland AFB Oil/Water Separators (ST-70)
- ◆ Install a pilot soil vapor extraction project at that same site (ST-70)

Environmental Funding

Kirtland's IRP budget for FY 95 is \$2.9 million. So far, \$2.8 million of the funds have been spent. Additionally, the base is spending about \$8 million this year on its Compliance Program and \$240,000 for Pollution Prevention. The fiscal year ends September 30, 1995.

Pollution Prevention

Kirtland officials closely monitor the purchase, receipt, and inventory of all hazardous materials entering the base. The Hazardous Materials Management Program centralizes the purchasing and receiving of all hazardous material on base and has a detailed monitoring system of bar codes that tracks hazardous material to the user level.

With this system, environmental officials know where all the materials are stored and used on base. Kirtland has put strict quantity controls on base organizations that order and use hazardous materials. Higher headquarters has praised Kirtland for this initiative and recommended that other Air Force bases implement similar plans.

Kirtland's environmental managers are also working to reduce the base's use of ozone-depleting substances, typically found in cleaners and solvents. Since January 1993, base officials have reduced quantities of these substances on Kirtland by 92 percent.

Also, as part of the reduction initiative, the base has reduced its quantities of EPA-17 Industrial Toxics by 81 percent in the same time period. These substances are usually found as constituents in materials such as spray paints.

Compliance Program

Compliance activities involve hazardous waste cleanup, monitoring landfills, underground storage tanks and the base's air and water quality programs. The Compliance Branch makes sure Kirtland organizations comply with federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations.

Kirtland is removing and replacing underground storage tanks throughout the base. Approximately 100 tanks will be removed; 25 of them will be replaced. The base is also developing a computer program to closely monitor air emissions from military activities on base.

Kirtland now accepts only construction and demolition debris at its active landfill. Based on direction from higher headquarters, Kirtland stopped accepting municipal solid waste for disposal at its landfill in July 1994 and asbestos in December 1994. Since then, the base has been collecting municipal solid waste from on-base and transporting it to a regional landfill.

Compliance officials also manage base-wide efforts under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. The act requires Kirtland to:

- Coordinate available resources with city and state emergency planning officials
- Report and coordinate efforts with the surrounding community in case of an accident that affects the community
- Provide Material Safety Data Sheets and a hazardous material inventory to local and state emergency planning committees
- Calculate toxic chemicals released to the environment at Kirtland and report them to EPA when the levels are above

regulatory thresholds. (Note: Kirtland has not had any levels above threshold to report.)

Cultural Resources Study

Kirtland is conducting a two-phased study of the Manzano Weapons Storage Area under its Cultural Resources Program. Argonne National Laboratory, working under an Air Force contract, has completed a survey of approximately 2880 acres of the Manzano Area.

The archeological survey recorded 27 sites; seven of them may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The sites date from about 5000 BC to more recent historic mining sites. Kirtland environmental managers protect the sites by making sure government people and activities avoid these areas. Argonne will complete the next phase of the study, Cold War research, in the next year.

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For more information about Kirtland environmental activities, contact:

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Kirtland AFB NM 87117-5606

Phone: (505) 846-0053

Documents at Library

Citizens are invited to review Kirtland environmental cleanup documents. The Information Repository is located at the:

Albuquerque Technical-Vocational Institute
Main Campus Library (Reference Desk)
525 Buena Vista Drive SE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106

Phone: (505) 224-3274



Fact Sheet

United States Air Force

Environmental Management, 377th Air Base Wing, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico 87117-5659

Phone: (505) 846-0053

DSN: 246-0053

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KIRTLAND SITES INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM

<u>SITE NUMBER</u>	<u>APPENDIX</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>RELATIVE RISK</u>
LF-01	I	Landfill 1	High
LF-02	I	Landfill 2	High
RW-04	IV	Radioactive Holding Tank 4	High
RW-05	IV	Radioactive Holding Tank 5	High
RW-06	IV	Radioactive Burial Site 11	Medium
LF-07	I	Landfill 3	High
LF-08	I	Landfill 4, 5, & 6	High
LF-09	I	Abandoned Landfill	Low
RW-10	N/A	Radiation Training Sites 1 - 8	High
FT-13	I	Kirtland Fire Training Area	High
FT-14	II	Manzano Fire Training Area	High
LF-15	I	Landfill B	Medium
WP-16	I	MWSA Sewage Treatment Facility	High
RW-17	IV	Radioactive Holding Tank 6	High
LF-18	I	Landfill A	Medium
RW-19	IV	Radioactive Holding Tank 8	High
LF-20	I	Manzano Landfill	High
RW-23	IV	Radioactive Holding Tank 9	High
WP-26	N/A	Golf Course Main Pond & Two Sewage Lagoons	High
OT-28	I	McCormick Ranch Range	High
OT-29	I	EOD Range	Medium
LF-44	I	Fill Area SE of Sewage Lagoons	Medium
LF-45	I	Explosive Test Site Unnamed Dump	Medium
OT-46	I	Lake Christian	High
WP-47	II	Silver Recovery Unit	Low
ST-51	III	Sewage Effluent Line	Medium
LF-56	V	Landfill D	Medium
WP-58	V	East Laundry	Medium
ST-59	V	ART Drum	Medium
ST-60	V	ART Pit	Medium
SS-61	III	Fuel Shop Battery Storage Area	Low
SS-62	III	Bldg. 909 Waste Accumulation Area	Low
SS-63	III	Jet Engine Test Cell	Low
ST-64	III	COE Vehicle Maintenance Yard	Medium
SS-65	III	Horizontal Polarized Dipole Drum Rack	Medium
ST-66	V	Trestle Facility	High
DP-67	N/A	Three Mine Shafts	Low
RW-68	IV	Radium Dump/Slag Piles & Cratering Area	High
SS-69	IV	Drum Storage Area	High
ST-70	II	KAFB Oil/Water Separators	High
ST-71	II	Bldg. 1001/1002 Oil/Water Separator	Medium
ST-72	II	Manzano Security Garage Oil/Water Separator	Medium
ST-73	II	CERF Drain	Medium

(Current as of July 19, 1995)

Total: 43 IRP Sites

NEW SITES

Old Skeet Range & Small Arms Range

- Broken Clay Pigeons
- Lead Buckshot
- Small Arms Projectiles
- SWMU Assessment Report--July 1995
- Possible SWMU

Drum Storage Area

- Soil Contamination Discovered--1995
- Drums Removed--1992
- Thorium Oxide Sludge
- Possible Solvents/Petroleum/Oils/Lubricants
- RCRA Investigation Report Due--December 1996

KC-135 Ramp Septic System

- Kirtland West Side--Near ANG
- Electroplating Process--1970s
- Tanks, Leach Pits
- SWMU Assessment Report--July 1995
- Possible SWMU

GRABS Site Waste Pile

- Southeastern Kirtland--Near Shock Tube
 - Stained Soil
 - Construction Debris
 - SWMU Assessment Report--July 1995
 - Possible SWMU
- (GRABS = Great Reusable Air Blast Simulator)

Trash Pile Near Coyote Springs

- Empty Barrels
- Construction Debris
- SWMU Assessment Report--July 1995
- Possible SWMU

13 July 1995

KIRTLAND BACKGROUND STUDY

Joint Effort - AF and Sandia National Laboratories

Recommended and Preferred by EPA

Studies Entire Kirtland Complex (Except Withdrawn Area)

Will Establish Background Concentration Distributions

Will Determine Naturally Occurring Concentrations in Soil
Metals
Inorganic Chemicals
Radionuclides

Sandia Began Study in August 1993

AF Supporting Sandia's Ongoing Effort
Funding 50%
Technical Support -- USGS
Field Data/Readings

Results Will Help Determine
If Contamination Has Occurred
Which Remediation Process to Select
If Remediation Has Been Completed

Final Report
Will Have Stakeholder Input
Be Used by DOE/SNL/AF/EPA/NMED

13 July 1995

AIR FORCE MONITORING WELLS

These wells are sampled and/or water levels are measured on a regular basis as part of Sandia National Laboratories' Site-wide Hydrogeologic Characterization Project and by Kirtland under its Groundwater Monitoring Program

<u>Location</u>	<u>Number of Wells</u>
Landfill 1	2
Landfill 2	1
Landfill 4, 5 & 6	3
Kirtland Fire Training Area	1
McCormick Ranch	3
Lake Christian	2
Sewage Lagoon Wells	1
Golf Course Wells	1
Tijeras East Well	1
Tijeras West Well	1
Total	16

13 July 1995

Activities Concerning Kirtland Air Force Base

Status of RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) Work Plan Reviews

1. Base-Wide Plans

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) received the draft Base-Wide Plans in March 1995. These plans are intended to serve as a standard RFI Work Plan for Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) that address issues common to all environmental investigations, including:

- Project Management
- Quality Assurance
- Data Collection
- Waste Management
- Community Relations

Once approved, the Base-Wide Plans should allow future investigations to begin more quickly, since most of the standard features of an RFI Work Plan will have already been approved and KAFB will only submit site-specific sampling plans for future investigations.

The EPA will complete its review of the Base-Wide Plans within the next several months.

Status of RFI Report Reviews

1. Stage 2A/Appendix I RFI Report

The EPA is currently reviewing KAFB's November 1994 response to the Notice of Deficiency issued on the Stage 2A Report. EPA's review should be completed within the next month, at which point the Report will most likely be approved. Many of the sites will need further investigation, and EPA is preparing a summary table to direct future investigative efforts.

2. Tijeras Arroyo Limited RFI Report

EPA issued a short Notice of Deficiency on the Tijeras Arroyo Report on May 22, 1995. The Report did not

explain how it satisfied the requirements of a Notice of Violation issued by the New Mexico Environment Department. Also, a few of the metals analysis exceeded the United States Geological Survey background concentrations for soils in the Albuquerque area, but none exceeded EPA action levels. A site-specific background study is currently being conducted by KAFB and Sandia National Laboratories which will provide better data for comparison.

3. Stage 2B/Appendix III RFI Report

The draft Stage 2B RFI Report was submitted to EPA in December 1994. EPA issued a Notice of Deficiency on the Stage 2B Report on May 30, 1995. The majority of the sites investigated were oil/water separators, several of which require further investigation and possibly stabilization. The EPA is also requiring continued monitoring of all oil/water separators that will remain in use. KAFB will submit a response to the Notice of Deficiency by July 3, 1995.

4. Stage 2D-1/Appendix IV RFI Report

Kirtland submitted the draft Stage 2D-1 RFI Report in December 1994. EPA is currently reviewing the report and expects to issue comments within the next several months. The Stage 2D-1 investigation included two sites, radioactive burial trenches RB-11 and RB-07.

Status of Other Reviews

1. Background Study

Sandia National Laboratories and KAFB are in the process of completing a joint Background Study across the entire KAFB complex. EPA issued comments on the draft report on January 20, 1995. EPA concerns with the report included:

- The uncertain quality of some of the analytical data
- The use of potentially contaminated sample
- The treatment of nondetect values and outliers

A meeting was held with Sandia, Kirtland, DOE, NMED and EPA on June 1, 1995 to discuss EPA and NMED comments on the report. EPA is currently awaiting the submittal of an electronic copy of the analytical database used to prepare the draft background report.

2. Thermal Treatment Unit Permit Application and Closure Plan

The New Mexico Environment Department has the lead on the review of the Thermal Treatment Unit permit application and Closure Plan review. However, because this area is located adjacent to a site (the EOD Range) that is listed on KAFB's RCRA/HSWA Permit, EPA submitted comments to NMED on May 26, 1995 (during the public comment period). EPA's primary concern is that the Closure Plan did not specifically detail the closure actions that will take place at the EOD Range. Because the area may not be closed for many years, EPA also recommended that a baseline survey be completed to ensure that there is no existing human health or environmental threat. Lastly, EPA requested that detailed site maps be included in the Closure Plan. Pending receipt of the requested information, EPA may consider removing the EOD Range from KAFB's RCRA/HSWA Permit. The removal of the site from the permit will require a Class 3 permit modification, which allows for public comment and input into the proposed action.

3. Review of Site-Specific Sampling Plans and Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) Assessment Reports

EPA issued a Notice of Deficiency on June 14, 1995 on the Site SS-69 (Drum Storage Area) site-specific sampling plan. EPA requested additional information, including the criteria used to locate the proposed sampling locations.

EPA recently completed its review of the June 1, 1995 SWMU Assessment Report for Building 980. Based upon the information provided, including the results of a borehole installed in the area of the former drywell, EPA determined that the area is not a SWMU and should not be added to Kirtland's permit. Kirtland was notified of EPA's decision in a June 14, 1995 letter.

On June 13, 1995, EPA approved the site-specific sampling plan for Site WP-58, the Former Laundry Facility. The plan was approved with one modification. In addition to

sampling for semi-volatile organic compounds, Kirtland will also sample for herbicides in several of the boreholes.

EPA consulted with the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) on each of the above documents and incorporated NMED comments in the decision documents.

Future Activities

1. Permit Modification to Re-group Appendices

KAFB plans to submit a request to re-group their permit appendices in order of priority. When the RCRA/HSWA Permit was issued to KAFB in 1990, the permit appendices (which list all of the sites to be investigated) were grouped according to which sites *were thought* to be the highest priority. A lot of new information is now available which allow the sites to be better grouped. This will result in an acceleration of the investigative schedules at some sites, and a lengthening of investigative schedules at a few sites. A Class 2 permit modification is required to re-group the permit appendices. The permit modification process will allow for formal public comment and input into the proposed changes. Please see the attachment for more information on the permit modification process.

2. Appendix III/Stage 2C RFI Report

This report will be submitted to the EPA and NMED by October 7, 1995.

3. Stabilization Actions

EPA and NMED will be reviewing plans to stabilize several sites, including several faulty oil/water separator sites. Most of the stabilization actions will consist of removing and/or replacing the oil/water separators, and removing any associated contaminated soils.

Any interested person may submit comments on any of these activities to:

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Region 6, Mail Code 6H-PN
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