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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

OCT 16 1996



Mr. Benito Garcia, Chief  
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2044A Galisteo Street  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Dear Mr. Garcia:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the notifications submitted by Kirtland Air Force Base (Kirtland) on June 25, 1996, July 3, 1996, and July 17, 1996, concerning potential new solid waste management units (SWMUs). The potential SWMUs include an aircraft incineration area bounded by Hardin Road, Wyoming Boulevard, Ordnance Road, and Pennsylvania Street; a railroad off-loading and storage area; and three tower-mounted water tanks with high lead content paint.

Kirtland's HSWA permit requires that a SWMU Assessment Report be submitted within 90 days of discovery. However, due to budget constraints, Kirtland has requested additional time to complete the reports. The EPA recommends that Kirtland submit a SWMU Assessment Report for each of these potential SWMUs no later than February 15, 1997. The EPA also recommends that Kirtland set aside a limited amount of funding in each year's budget request so that any newly identified SWMUs may be investigated without delay. At least five new SWMUs have been identified during each of the past three fiscal years.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Nancy Morlock of my staff at (214) 665-6650.

Sincerely yours,

David W. Neleigh, Chief  
New Mexico - Federal Facilities

cc: Mr. Steve Pullen  
New Mexico Environment Department

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