



BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

DIANE DENISH
Lieutenant Governor

NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT **ENTERED**

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



RON CURRY
Secretary

SARAH COTTRELL
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

December 9, 2010

Isreal Tavarez
Environmental Engineering Manager
Air Quality Division
Environmental Health Department
City of Albuquerque
P. O. Box 1293
Albuquerque, NM 87103

**RE: PERMIT 1984-M1
COMMENT ON PROPOSED MODIFICATION OF KIRTLAND AIR
FORCE BASE AUTHORITY -TO-CONSTRUCT AIR QUALITY PERMIT
FOR OPERATION OF SOIL-VAPOR EXTRACTION SYSTEMS AT
BULK FUELS FACILITY**

Dear Mr. Tavarez:

By means of this letter, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is commenting on the proposed modification of the subject permit that concerns the operation of four soil-vapor extraction (SVE) systems located at the Bulk Fuels Facility at Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB). The SVE systems are used to extract soil vapor contaminated with volatile organic compounds. The vapor originates from a release of jet fuel and aviation gasoline at the Bulk Fuels Facility, and is one of the sources of a contaminant plume in groundwater extending off of KAFB a distance of nearly a mile. The contaminated vapor in the vadose zone at the Bulk Fuels Facility and the associated groundwater contamination from the aviation-fuel release represent a significant threat to drinking-water supply wells for urban neighborhoods adjacent to KAFB. The SVE systems are needed to help reduce the mass of contaminants that are causing the groundwater contamination.

KAFB3521



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Thus, NMED supports the proposed modification of the permit and use of the SVE system to clean up the groundwater contamination.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB
W. Moats, NMED HWB
B. Olson, NMED GWQB
B. Swanson, NMED GWQB
L. Barnhart, NMED OGC
B. Gallegos, AEHD
B. Gastian, ABCWUA
L. King, EPA-Region 6 (6PD-N)
File: Reading and KAFB 2010