



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
37TH AIR BASE WING (AFBSC)



DEC 22 2016

Colonel Dawn A. Nickell
377 ABW/CV
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland AFB NM 87117-5600

Mr. John Kieling
Chief, Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe NM 87505-6303

Dear Mr. Kieling

On 19 December 2016 at 0906, approximately 20 gallons of Jet-A fuel spilled during transfer into a 6,000-gallon fuel tank at Building 381 at Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB). Ms. Melissa Clark, Kirtland AFB, completed the required oral report within 24-hours of the spill at 0850 on 20 December 2016 to Mr. Stephen Connolly at the New Mexico Environment Department. The spill was contained on the asphalt and did not reach any stormwater drains or soil. Absorbent materials were used to clean up the spill and the spent absorbent was placed in drums. These drums are currently being accumulated in the less than 90 day accumulation area (Building 1024) pending characterization for off-site disposal through the Kirtland AFB hazardous waste program.

The Kirtland AFB Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility Operating Permit issued for the Open Detonation Unit on July 2010 requires reporting for any release into the environment. As required by Section 1.27.2 of the Permit, Kirtland AFB is required to submit a written report described below.

A description of the noncompliance and its cause: At approximately 0906 on 19 December 2016, a mobile refueling truck arrived at building 381 to fill 5,000 gallons of Jet-A fuel into a 6,000-gallon Jet-A fuel tank. The tank custodian at building 381 instructed the fuel operator to hook up to one of the two 6,000-gallon Jet-A fuel tanks. Once 650 gallons was transferred to the tank, fuel began to overflow the tank, spilling out onto the asphalt. The fuel operator immediately released the dead-man control which immediately stopped the flow of fuel. The amount of fuel spilled was approximately 20 gallons. Human error is the root cause, the airman requested fuel be issued into the wrong tank.

The name, address, and telephone number of the owner, operator, and name of responsible official:

Operator: Kirtland Air Force Base, 2050 Wyoming Blvd SE, Kirtland AFB, NM. (505) 853-1588

Owner: Kirtland Air Force Base, 2000 Wyoming Blvd SE, Kirtland AFB, NM. (505) 846-8546



Responsible Official: Col Eric Froehlich, Installation Commander, Kirtland AFB

The name, address, and telephone number of the Facility:

Kirtland Air Force Base, 2050 Wyoming Blvd SE, Kirtland AFB, NM (505) 853-1588; spill occurred near Building 381, near intersection of Randolph and Carlisle

The period of the occurrence including exact date and time and, if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue:

The spill occurred at approximately 0906 on 19 December 2016. The flow of fuel was immediately stopped by the fuel operator. Absorbent materials were used to clean up the spill and placed into drums for characterization and off-site disposal through the Kirtland AFB hazardous waste program.

The name and quantity of materials involved:

Jet-A fuel, approximately 20 gallons

The extent of injuries, if any:

None

An assessment of actual or potential hazards to the environment and human health at and outside the Facility, where this is applicable: Absorbent materials were immediately used on the spill. The spill was contained on the asphalt and did not reach any stormwater drains or soil. It does not appear that there were any hazards to the environment and human health as a result of this noncompliance. Because the spill was small and the released fuel was promptly adsorbed and removed, no soil sampling beneath or adjacent to the pavement is necessary.

The estimated quantity and disposition of recovered material that resulted from the incident:

Three 55-gallon drums and one 30-gallon drum were used to recover the absorbent and fuel.

The steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance:

As a corrective action, an additional step has been added to the fueling procedure for these two tanks. Immediately prior to the fuel operator issuing fuel to the tank, the tank custodian will manually dip each tank to determine fuel levels. This will prevent the mistake that caused the spill described in this report from occurring again.

If you have any questions please contact Ms. Melissa Clark, Chief, Environmental Management, at 505-853-1588 or melissa.clark.8@us.af.mil.

Sincerely



DAWN A. NICKELL, Colonel, USAF
Vice Commander