



**BILL RICHARDSON**  
GOVERNOR

*State of New Mexico* *Melrose 04-05*  
**ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

*Hazardous Waste Bureau*  
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**RON CURRY**  
SECRETARY

**DERRITH WATCHMAN-MOORE**  
DEPUTY SECRETARY

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

March 12, 2004

Colonel Robert Yates  
Commander, 27<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing  
100 D.L. Ingram Blvd., Suite 100  
Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico 88103-5214

**SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF OPEN DETONATION UNIT**  
**MELROSE AIR FORCE RANGE**  
**EPA ID No.: NM5572124456-1**

Dear Colonel Yates:

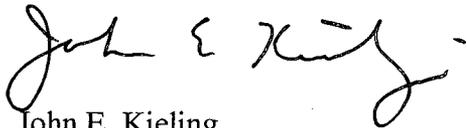
After discussions with Ms. Vera Wood of your staff on the issue of the final closure of the Open Detonation Unit at the Melrose Air Force Range, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has determined that Cannon Air Force Base (Cannon) will not need to implement the closure plan specified in your RCRA permit. Rather, Cannon need only submit a letter signed by the installation commander stating that the Open Detonation Unit was never constructed and was, therefore, never in operation. However, Cannon will need to submit a Permit Application for Correction Action as required by the 1984 Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments (HSWA) to RCRA. This Permit Application is due no less than 180 days prior to the expiration date of the Melrose AFR permit, in accordance with Permit Section I.E.2. The expiration date for the permit is December 15, 2004; therefore, the permit application is due by June 18, 2004.

Because NMED will issue a RCRA permit that will only address Corrective Action, Cannon need only submit a new Part A and a limited amount of information for the Part B (i.e.: general facility descriptions and information directly related to Solid Waste Management Units and Areas of Concern).

Colonel Yates  
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If you have any questions concerning this letter, please call Glenn von Gonten of my staff at 505-428-2551.

Sincerely,



John E. Kielling  
Manager  
Permits Management Program

JEK:gvv

cc: S.Y. Martin, NMED HWB  
G. von Gonten, NMED HWB  
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB  
L. King, EPA Region 6 (6PD-N)  
Denny Timmons, CAFB  
Don White, CAFB  
Vera Wood, CAFB

File: Reading, MELR 2004