



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Ecological Services
Suite D, 3530 Pan American Highway, NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107

ENTERED

January 4, 1994

*Bloomfield
Red-File*

Ms. Barbara Hoditschek
RCRA Permits Program Manager
New Mexico Environment Department
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Dear Ms. Hoditschek:

This responds to your agency's December 10, 1993, public notice outlining a proposal to close a hazardous waste landfill pond located on the property of the Bloomfield Refining Company. Since low concentrations of benzene were detected in only one of thirteen sediment samples collected from the former landfill pond, coupled with the fact that the pond is now dry and no longer an attraction for migratory birds, waterfowl and other wildlife, we have no objection to the proposed final closure of this site. However, we recommend that the Bloomfield refining company take appropriate steps (e.g., installation of tile drains, berms to divert runoff, etc.) to ensure that this site does not refill and hold water for extended periods of time.

Please contact Mark Wilson, staff Environmental Contaminant Specialist, with any questions pertaining to our comments. Our office telephone number is (505) 883-7877.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Fowler-Propst
State Supervisor

