

WSMR 2004

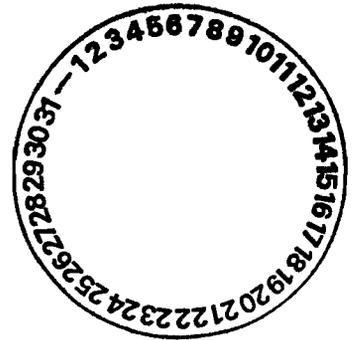


DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY GARRISON WHITE SANDS
100 Headquarters Avenue
WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE, NEW MEXICO 88002-5000

31 MAR 2004

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Office of the Garrison Commander



Ms. Sandra Y. Martin
Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303

**SUBJECT: Response to Notice of Deficiency (NOD), HWB-WSMR-99-006
RCRA Permit Application, EPA ID No. NM2750211235**

Dear Ms. Martin:

We received the above NOD on March 18, 2004. We will respond to the comments as directed. However, to ensure we respond adequately to the numerous comments, we would like to meet twice and agree to a plan to move forward.

As you know, the information requested is technical and complex and will require some time to develop. WSMR simply cannot answer all of the comments in 30 days. Accordingly, we would like to meet in Santa Fe to review each unresolved comment and data submission requirement in detail as a means of clarifying the comments and data requests. This will allow us to establish a firm schedule that will clarify exactly what is necessary to respond to the comments, determine what order the information will be provided, and set a realistic time frame for information delivery.

We also believe that a second meeting needs to be held at WSMR. This will allow your personnel to perform administrative reviews of our data packages prior to submission as well as on-site reviews of permitted operations, to ensure our procedures and processes reflect the permit conditions that will be established. If necessary, supplemental meetings would be scheduled to resolve disagreements.

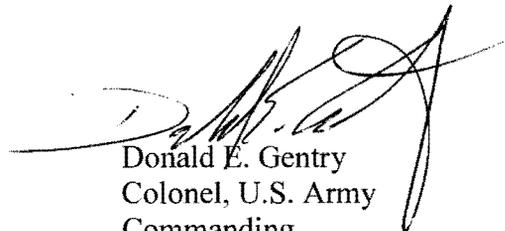
Our Environment and Safety Directorate will make travel funds available to NMED for all meetings on this topic which take place at the WSMR. We believe this is in the best interest of both parties, and that it should not create a conflict of interest for either of us.

We believe that this approach will improve the working relationship between our staffs and provide both the Hazardous Waste Bureau and WSMR an opportunity to completely resolve all open issues and avoid further review and response cycles on the renewal effort for this permit.

Copies of this correspondence are being provided to: Mr. James Harris, EPA Region VI; Mr. Steve Pullen, NMED HWB; Mr. John Kieling, NMED HWB; Mr. Dave Cobrain, NMED HWB; Mr. Glenn von Gonten, NMED HWB; Ms. Cheryl Frischkorn, NMED HWB; and BAE Systems.

We look forward to developing a productive relationship with your Bureau and providing you the necessary information on this and other issues. Please let me know when we can meet.

Sincerely,



Donald E. Gentry
Colonel, U.S. Army
Commanding