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CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

May 12, 2017

Adam Kusmak
Chief, Installation Management Flight
49th CES/CEI
550 Tabosa Avenue
Holloman AFB, NM 88330

**RE: PETITION FOR CORRECTIVE ACTION COMPLETE FOR THIRTY-TWO
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNITS AND AREAS OF CONCERN
HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE, EPA ID # NM6572124422
HWB-HAFB-15-009**

Dear Mr. Kusmak:

Five Class 3 Permit Modification Requests (“PMRs”) were submitted to the New Mexico Environment Department (“NMED” or “Department”) between September 28, 2015 and October 1, 2015 to modify the U.S. Air Force’s Holloman Air Force Base (the “Permittee”) Hazardous Waste Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (“RCRA”) Permit No. NM6572124422 (the “Permit”) pursuant to 20.4.1.900 NMAC [incorporating 40 CFR §270.42(c)]. The proposed permit modification would grant Corrective Action Complete (“CAC”) Without Controls status for 28 Solid Waste Management Units and Areas of Concern (“SWMUs” and “AOCs”), and modify Part 4 of the Permit to move these SWMUs and AOCs from the Permit’s Appendix 4-A, Table A (*Summary of SWMUs/AOCs Requiring Corrective Action*) to Appendix 4-A, Table B (*Summary of SWMUs/AOCs With Corrective Action Complete Without Controls*). It would also grant CAC With Controls status for four SWMUs and move those sites from Table A to Table C (*Summary of SWMUs/AOCs With Corrective Action Complete With Controls*). In addition, seven previously unidentified sites potentially requiring corrective action would be added as AOCs to Table A and one AOC would be moved from Table B to Table A because new information revealed that additional corrective action is potentially required at the site.

On January 25, 2017, the Department issued a public notice regarding the proposed permit

Mr. Adam Kusmak
May 12, 2017
Page 2 of 2

modifications. The public comment period for this action ended March 27, 2017. The only comments received were from the Permittee on March 24, 2017. NMED's response to these comments is presented in the attached comment matrix and are reflected in the attached Table A. The NMED has also made minor editorial changes to the Permit which are also indicated in the attached Table A. This included changing the Unit Name for AOC-H (SS-18) from *Chromic Acid Spill Area* to *VOC Spill Site*, as this more accurately describes current site conditions. It also included changing the ERP Site ID for AOC-T from *SS-02/05* to *SS-002*, as this is how the Permittee has been referring to the site in the most recent document submittals.

Under the authority of the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Act (Section 74-4-1 et seq., NMSA 1978, as amended) and the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Management Regulations (20.4.1.901 NMAC), the Department hereby grants CAC Without Controls status for 28 SWMUs and AOCs as indicated on the attached Table B and CAC With Controls status for the four SWMUs and AOCs as indicated on the attached Table C. This action will also result in seven previously unidentified sites potentially requiring corrective action being added as AOCs to Table A and one additional AOC will be moved from Table B to Table A.

Attached is the comment response matrix, the redline strikethrough version of Table A showing changes made because of the comments received, as well as the final versions of Tables A, B and C of the Permit's Part 4, Appendix 4-A.

This decision to grant CAC status to these SWMUs and AOCs shall become effective thirty (30) days after the date of this letter. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. John Kieling of my staff at (505) 476-6035.

Sincerely,



J.C. Borrego
Deputy Secretary
New Mexico Environment Department

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB
D. Cobrain, NMED HWB
C. Amindyas, NMED HWB
D. Strasser, NMED HWB
C. Schick, HAFB
D. Griffin, HAFB
L. King, EPA, Region 6 (6MM-RC)
C. Hendrickson, EPA, Region 6 (6MM-RC)

File: HAFB 2017 and Reading
HAFB-15-009

**NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE OCTOBER 2015
REQUEST FOR CORRECTIVE ACTION COMPLETE FOR 32 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNITS AND
AREAS OF CONCERN AT HOLLOWMAN AIR FORCE BASE
EPA ID # NM6572124422**

The only comments received regarding the draft permit during the public comment period were from Holloman Air Force Base (the Permittee) on March 24, 2017. NMED's responses are provided Comments #1 and #2 of HAFB's comment transmittal letter were introductory in nature and did not require a response.

No.	Commenter	Comment	NMED Response
3.	HAFB/AFCEC	There are eleven sites proposed to be added to the Active List (Table A). The Air Force has no comment on three of the sites – AOC-W (TU912), AOC-X (SS074), and AOC- 1194 (TU904). The remaining eight are addressed below:	None required.
3a.	HAFB/AFCEC	Concur – Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) AOC-RR. Note Air Force ERP ID of SS080.	NMED agrees to make the requested revision. <u>Modification:</u> The ERP Site ID will be changed from N/A to SS-080.
3b.	HAFB/AFCEC	Concur –SWMU AOC -823. Note Air Force ERP ID of SS823.	NMED agrees to make the requested revision. <u>Modification:</u> The ERP Site ID will be changed from N/A to SS-823.
3c.	HAFB/AFCEC	Non-Concur - SWMU AOC-Y (XU853a): XU853a was taken out of the XU853 site, as it is part of an active range (D-8 Range) on Holloman AFB. Under CFR266.202(a)(iii) active ranges are not regulated under RCRA.	NMED agrees to make the requested revision. Site XU853a is a small part of a larger, active range. Furthermore, previous investigations at site XU853, which is adjacent to the range and includes site XU853a, found no Munitions and Explosives of Concern resulting in a March 18, 2016 letter from NMED determined that

No.	Commenter	Comment	NMED Response
			<p>site XU853 does not present an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment.</p> <p><u>Modification:</u> ERP Site ID XU853a, proposed AOC-Y, will not be added to Table A of Appendix 4-A of the Permit.</p>
3d.	HAFB/AFCEC	<p>Non-Concur - SWMU AOC-853 (XU853): Remedial investigation was performed between Nov 2014 and Feb 2015. Both NMED (letter 18 Mar 2016) and the EPA (letter 28 Jun 2016) agreed on No Further Action (NFA) for XU853.</p>	<p>NMED agrees to make the requested revision. See comment response above.</p> <p><u>Modification:</u> ERP Site ID XU853, proposed AOC-853, will not be added to Table A of Appendix 4-A of the Permit.</p>
3e.	HAFB/AFCEC	<p>Non-Concur - SWMU AOC-854 (XU854): Approved for NFA on Munitions Debris by both the NMED (letter 14 Apr 16) and the EPA (letter 18 Feb 16) after a surface/subsurface scan and surface/subsurface removal of anomalies. A second removal action was completed for non-munitions material (buried drums) in November 2016. The report detailing removal and soil sampling of the drum burial was submitted on 20 Mar 2017.</p>	<p>NMED agrees to make the requested revision. NMED has reviewed the March 20, 2017 report and has determined that the drums were properly removed and no contaminants of concern remain that present an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment.</p> <p><u>Modification:</u> ERP Site ID XU854, proposed AOC-854, will not be added to Table A of Appendix 4-A of the Permit.</p>
3f.	HAFB/AFCEC	<p>Non-Concur - SWMUs AOC-851, AOC-859, AOC-862 (TS851, TS859, TS862): Former skeet ranges that had Phase 1 (Preliminary Assessments) Comprehensive Site Evaluation (CSE) May 2010 and a Phase 2 (Site Investigation) Comprehensive Site Evaluation</p>	<p>NMED does not agree that corrective action is complete at these sites and add is adding sites AOC-851 (TS-851, Former Skeet Range), AOC-859 (TS-859, Former Skeet Range 2), and AOC-862 (TS-862, Jeep Target Area Skeet Range) to Table A of Appendix 4-A of the Permit. The comment acknowledges that the areas close to the</p>

No.	Commenter	Comment	NMED Response
		<p>September 2013. The CSE Phase 2 had a public comment period from August to September 2013. The CSE Phase 2 recommended these sites be split into areas requiring additional investigation/removal and areas of no further action (NFA). Sites requiring additional work are included in the current/on-going Performance Based Remediation (PBR) contract. The CSE Phase 2 used EPA methodologies (SW- 846 3050B/6010B/6200 XRF) to sample soil for lead including sifting of soil samples and compared the results to NMED and EPA soil screening levels. Attached EPA paper explains why the smaller grain size is the most relevant for testing lead, the smaller grain size adheres to skin and can be ingested and/or inhaled. Once the Air Force munitions contractor has remediated the areas close to the firing points where most of the target and lead shot is on the surface, the remaining area will have some target debris and shot, but will be below EPA and NMED soil screening levels. There is no known standard method to measure the amount of lead (lead shot) on surface soil by area or volume, and there no quantified human risk levels for metal debris. The Air Force believes the current work under CERCLA will remove a majority of the shot and target debris at these sites.</p>	<p>firing points must still undergo remedial activities and that the remaining area contains some target debris and shot in place. Therefore, these sites will be added to Table A as areas of concern requiring corrective action until it is shown that they do not present an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment.</p> <p>NMED disagrees with the statement that there is no known standard method to measure the amount of lead (lead shot) on surface soil by area or volume. There is federal and state guidance available that provides methods for measuring lead in soil. For example, see <i>Corrective Action at Outdoor Shooting Ranges Guidance Document</i>, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, May 2012.</p> <p><u>Modification</u>: None.</p>