From: Kieling, John, NMENV
To: Cheryl-m Scott/R6/USEPA/US@EPA; HOLTON, BRIAN, NMENV; Cathy Carter/R6/USEPA/US@EPA; Eva Steele/R6/USEPA/US@EPA; Davis, Jim, NMENV; Jeanne Schulze/R6/USEPA/US@EPA; Kishor Fruitwala/R6/USEPA/US@EPA; Laurie King/R6/USEPA/US@EPA; Matthew Loesel/R6/USEPA/US@EPA; Nick Stone/R6/USEPA/US@EPA; Tara Hubner/R6/USEPA/US@EPA; Sontina Powell/R6/USEPA/US@EPA; Tara Hubner/R6/USEPA/US@EPA; Scott Ellinger/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
Subject: RE: Cancelled: NMED RCRA monthly conference call
Date: 12/15/2011 01:02 PM

Cheryl and others:

Since we were unable to connect yesterday for our monthly conference call I thought I would provide a short brief on the Kirtland AFB public meeting on December 8, 2011. The public asked informative questions to the panel and technical experts. It was an overall positive meeting with about 40 to 50 citizens in attendance and about 25 folks representing the various stakeholder entities.

New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) staff participated at the Kirtland Air Force Base public meeting on the Bulk Fuels Facility Spill in Albuquerque. Mr. Steve Reuter of the NMED Petroleum Storage Tanks Bureau presented case studies on two leaking underground petroleum contamination site within New Mexico to provide a perspective compared to the fuel spill at Kirtland Air Force Base. This allowed the public to understand that we have other petroleum contaminated sites within New Mexico and that the most significant issue is that of the scale of the contamination. That technologies to remediate the site are and have been used for years. Mr. Tom Cooper, with Shaw Environmental, contractor to Kirtland Air Force Base, presented updated information on activities at the site. Following the presentation there was a question and answer period for the public to ask questions of the technical experts and stakeholder panel. The stakeholder panel consisted of representatives from Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico Environment Department, Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority, City of Albuquerque, and the New Mexico State Engineers Office. The meeting was positive with several commendations from the public on the progress being made on the site. State Senator Tim Keller and counselor Ray Garduno were in attendance and both provided comments at the meeting. The public asked informative questions to the panel and technical experts. It was an overall positive meeting with about 40 to 50 citizens in attendance and about 25 folks representing the various stakeholder entities. The presentations by both Mr. Reuter and Mr. Cooper will be posted on the NMED website at: http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/hwb/kafbperm.htm#KAFBBulkFuelsFacSpill

The previous week there was a teach-in provided by the University of New Mexico concerning the KAFB fuel spill. The meeting was well attend by the public, standing room only. The majority in attendance were public not associated with the various stakeholder entities. The meeting topics were as promised in the public notice. Steve Cabaniss discussed the general chemistry and behavior (water solubility and vapor pressure) of AVGAS and Jet Fuel. Laurie Hudson presented general information on how risk is assessed. Gary Weissman talked about how contamination occupies the pore space of porous media and how contaminants at BFFS are transported in the vadose and saturated zones. Bruce Thomson discussed several common remedial strategies for hydrocarbon contaminated sites (SVE, skimming, pump and treat). Each did a good job with their presentations, and I believe the public's understanding of the issues at the BFFS was improved by their efforts. None of the presenters made any serious attempt to interpret the latest data for the BFFS or to try to assert a favorite remedial strategy. Instead, they tried to explain to the public how professional engineers/geologists would do such interpretations or make decisions on remedial strategy. The EDB plume is of much concern to the public. As noted at the meeting, SVE will not remove EDB from the groundwater. The slides for the teach-in are eventually to be posted on UNM's Water Resource Program's web site: http://www.unm.edu/~wrp/.

John E. Kieling Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508-6303
john.kieling@state.nm.us

Phone: (505) 476-6035
HWB Main Phone: (505) 476-6000
Fax: (505) 476-6030