



KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE

BULK FUELS FACILITY

CLEANUP PROJECT

Moving Forward:

- The Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) Bulk Fuels Facility (BFF) cleanup project is coming to the end of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Investigation Phase. KAFB has documented the extent of contamination to the degree necessary to support the Corrective Measures Evaluation (CME).

Background:

- RCRA was enacted in 1976 and is the principal regulation governing the management and disposal of solid waste, hazardous waste and the corrective actions for potential sources of contamination on federal property.
- At KAFB, RCRA compliance is administered by the New Mexico Environment Department Hazardous Waste Bureau.
- The CME is the vital next step in the RCRA process and will be used to evaluate final plans for completing the fuel cleanup.
- The KAFB fuel cleanup team has worked diligently to determine the extent of the fuel spill, with a focus on ethylene dibromide (EDB) contamination.
- EDB is a chemical in leaded fuels used by KAFB prior to 1975. Because the leak that went undiscovered, over time, this highly-soluble chemical made its way to the groundwater.
- Cleanup measures have been implemented to address the extent of fuel spillage and EDB contamination, preventing risks to the environment and human health.

- Early interim cleanup measures targeted the fuel spill source area with various technologies:
 - Removed older, damaged fuel piping and replaced with a modern, above-ground fuel transfer system and state-of-the art storage facility.
 - Removed approximately 5,000 tons (10 million pounds) of contaminated soil from the fuel spill source area.
 - Initiated a soil vapor extraction system removing fuel vapors in underlying soil equal to approximately 500,000 gallons of jet fuel.
- The current interim cleanup measure in operation is a pump and treat system removing EDB from the groundwater.
- More than 280 soil vapor monitoring wells, 170 groundwater monitoring wells and four groundwater extraction wells are in operation, to determine the accuracy and effectiveness of mapping and reducing the spill footprint.
- Since 2015, the BFF Restoration Project has treated more than **1.2 billion** gallons of groundwater, greatly reducing EDB contamination in groundwater. (see graphic below)

EDB PLUME - 2015 vs 2021



Important Facts to Remember:

- No one's drinking water has **ever** been contaminated and continues to be tested monthly.
- No one's children, pets, gardens or landscaping are in danger of contamination.
- The Air Force takes this project very seriously, and has continued to work on the cleanup without pause during the pandemic.
- To date, more than \$130 million in Air Force funding has been dedicated to the cleanup project and will continue until the process is complete.
- The Air Force will continue to work with the New Mexico Environment Department to ensure compliance with all agreements and regulations.
- Concerned citizens and interested groups are always welcome to arrange a tour of our facilities and to learn more about the cleanup project, operations and progress. Please contact us to arrange a tour.
- This cleanup is a large and complex project. If you have any additional questions or concerns at please contact us at 505.846-5991, or 377ABW.PA@us.af.mil.