



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
2D CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON (ACC)  
BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, LOUISIANA

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
MAR 4 2009  
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MAR 4 10:09 AM '09

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  
SAFETY (Attention: Special Permits, PHH-31)  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration,  
U.S. Department of Transportation

FROM: 2 CES/CEA

SUBJECT: Emergency Processing Request Justification (§107.117), Special Permit to Transport  
White Phosphorus Igniters From Barksdale AFB, LA to Clean Harbors Permitted  
Disposal Facility, Colfax, LA

1. In November of 2008, during a removal action to prepare property at Barksdale Air Force Base (AFB) in Bossier City, Louisiana, unexploded ordnance teams excavated approximately 500 unused AN-M5 white phosphorus (WP) igniters. The igniters were removed from a disposal pit 4-5' below the surface and relocated to a secure container. Each igniter holds nine (9) pounds of WP. The transportation, disposal, and certification of destruction is instrumental in the resolution of the remediation of this site and the construction of 561 base family houses in support of our country's resolve to improve the quality of life for service members and their families.
2. The Nation's security interest is served by the completion of the base housing project. The proper removal of these igniters and subsequent disposal allows for construction to begin on 561 base housing units to service the troops and their families. Additionally, the government has entered into a contract with the construction and real estate management companies to manage both the development and eventual day-to-day operations. As a result of potential delays, the United States government may be incurring significant costs imposed by the contractors.
3. While the discovery of the igniters occurred in November 2008, their unique nature has required extensive coordination during the past few months amongst the various Air Force and commercial agencies involved to secure the safe disposition of the items. Included in this coordination is securing funding to contract the proper management and disposal of the igniters, including the preparation of the USDOT Special Permit application. Early approval of the Special Permit will facilitate approval of the After-Action Report documenting the final disposition of the igniters and prevent further delay to the housing project.
4. If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 318-456-4823.

  
SUE M. LANDRY, DAF  
Chief, Asset Management