

Statement Addressed to the Rocky Flats Stewardship Council April 6, 2015

This is regarding plans to construct a visitor center at the former Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant.

1. The present Adaptive Management (AM) of the site by DOE (LM) is inappropriate. AM is a decision making process which can be adjusted as outcomes become better understood. Learning by doing. But at RF the places of worst contamination are known. The 903 pad, the Original Landfill, the underground pipes containing plutonium, the imploded radioactively contaminated buildings to mention a few. It is not surprising that even 12 month rolling averages and composite soil sampling show contamination. The public knows little of what is going on.

In 2005 DOE plans for site remediation were severely criticized by independent scientists employed by the surrounding municipalities. (copies available). Were some of these critiques taken into consideration we would not have the level of present contamination. Even DOE's own ORISE laboratory concluded that the plan didn't follow the accepted MARSSIM method and thus couldn't be evaluated.

At the Arvada meeting last year Scott Surovchak commented he could delist the present Superfund portion of RF, meaning it will become part of the Refuge.

Presently there is a much better understanding of cancer causes. The list of carcinogens on the site include asbestos, beryllium, hexavalent chromium, radioactive compounds and volatile organic solvents. Any of these can cause cell damage and over the years additional ionizing radiation such as X-rays will cause cancer. Inhaled plutonium with its high energy alpha emission is exceptionally dangerous. Radioactive elements will emit nuclear radiation which is not effected by anything.

There is still no definite cure for all cancers. Prevention is key.

There needs to be independent evaluation of the air, soil and water of Rocky Flats before it is opened to the public. Better yet keep it closed.

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