

Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board Recommendation 98-10

to the U.S. Department of Energy

Regarding Plans for June 1998 Intersite Workshops

Approved June 4, 1998

June 5, 1998

Secretary Federico Peña
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Peña:

The Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board (RFCAB) has recently learned about the planned Intersite Discussions on Nuclear Materials and Waste. We are writing to remind you that, dating back to 1995, RFCAB has urged the Department of Energy repeatedly (see RFCAB recommendations 95-14, 96-5, 96-9, 96-16 and 98-7) to convene a national stakeholder dialogue on these important issues. A national dialogue planning committee met several times and developed a proposal for a dialogue process, but we now see plans only for two short workshops. Our membership is very concerned that these workshops may be used to circumvent the widespread support for a national dialogue process. We do not believe that the breadth of waste and materials disposition issues can possibly be addressed in a meaningful way in two days.

Therefore, we renew our serious request that DOE step back and reevaluate plans for a true national discussion process on waste and materials disposition. This dialogue is a crucial step in ensuring that the most rational and equitable decisions are made regarding the disposition of these materials.

We request that DOE specifically respond to our request for a national dialogue as well as our concerns regarding the intent of the planned workshops.

Sincerely,

Tom Marshall
Chair

cc:

James Owendoff, Office of Environmental Management
Dave Huizenga, Office of Nuclear Materials and Facility Stabilization
Martha Crosland, Office of Intergovernmental and Public Accountability
Howard Cantor, Office of Fissile Material Disposition
Victor Reis, Office of Defense Programs

The Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board is a community advisory group that reviews and provides recommendations on cleanup plans for Rocky Flats, a former nuclear weapons plant outside of Denver, Colorado.

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