

Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments

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November 19, 1999

Ms. Jessie Roberson
Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Rocky Flats Field Office
10808 Highway 93, Unit A
Golden, CO 80403-8200

Dear Jessie:

The Board of Directors of the Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments ("Coalition") appreciates the open communication they have shared with you during your tenure as manager at Rocky Flats. The Coalition applauds your commitment to provide documents and relevant data to community members in a timely manner. Substantive dialogue demands among other things that local elected officials and other interested parties be afforded access to unclassified information as it relates to the cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats.

The Board is concerned that some site personnel, both federal and contractor, are not sufficiently meeting that commitment. Coalition staff and consultants have had problems getting unclassified documents from site personnel, and there is concern that certain key documents central to understanding a given issue or decision remain in draft form.

While these concerns most recently arose in relation to the rubble disposition review, this situation is not limited to that set of circumstances. For instance, during the course of the interim TRU waste storage discussion, DOE committed upon request to providing all relevant information regarding the Department's storage options. Some information was provided to the community, but as you discussed last summer with the Coalition's Executive Director, David Abelson, not all of the relevant data was provided to the Coalition despite numerous requests for documents.

The Board understands that the problems the Coalition has experienced conflict with your commitment to an open exchange of information between the site and stakeholders. It only takes a handful of people to undermine that commitment. Therefore, the Board respectfully requests you revisit DOE's process for providing information to the public and report back on the steps you have taken to address this problem.

Thank you for considering these thoughts and for your continued desire and willingness to work with the Coalition on the cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

Thomas W. Brunner
Chairman