

Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments

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January 28, 2000

Honorable Bill Richardson
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Richardson:

Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments (Coalition) appreciates your continued commitment to the safe and timely cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats. However, we are concerned about the time it is taking to find a new site manager. As you noted in your remarks at the site in October 1999, the success of the Rocky Flats cleanup depends to a great extent on having a strong management team in place. We believe delays in appointing a new manager may negatively impact progress towards a safe and timely closure of Rocky Flats.

In addition, the Coalition respectfully requests you impress upon the new manager the importance of working with local governments surrounding the site. Local governments are important advisors to the Department's decision-making process and offer important insights regarding environmental, socioeconomic, and other community impacts of Department actions. The Coalition had an open and honest dialogue with Jessie Roberson and believes it is crucial that the incoming manager understand the importance of local government input and communication with community leaders.

The Coalition greatly appreciates the efforts you have made towards the successful cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats and remains committed to achieving our common vision of a safe and timely closure.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

Thomas Brunner
Chairman