

# SIERRA CLUB

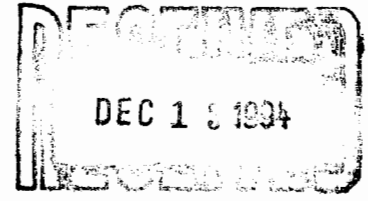
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## SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO GROUP

PO Box 3705 LPB Las Cruces, NM 88003

December 6, 1994

Barbara Hoditschek, Manager  
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau  
Environment Department  
525 Camino de los Marquez Suite #4  
Santa Fe, NM 87502



Re: Supplemental Comments After Close of Comment Period to  
Fort Bliss, Tx/NM Draft Permit for OB/OD unit

Dear Barbara Hoditschek:


At the Western Governor's Association Working Group meeting on Military Munitions Waste Disposal in Las Vegas last week, a report was made by Jim Firkins (NM Energy and Natural Resources Dept., representing New Mexico) as Sub-Committee Chair for Alternative Technologies to OB/OD. I serve on this Sub-Committee.

It was reported that Fort Bliss, Tx/NM had applied for an OB/OD Permit from the State of New Mexico for an old OB/OD site on McGregor Range. It was reported that this site should be considered as a site for demonstration of new technologies for the decontamination of old OB/OD sites. It was also reported that Los Alamos has alternative technologies that should to be demonstrated under these types of conditions, as an Alternative to OB/OD for the disposal of ordnance.

The decontamination of the OB/OD site is dependent on the actions of the Secretary and the Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau on the pending Draft Permit. Action should be taken as soon as possible.

Our Supplemental Comments, herein made after the close of Comment period, are: we suggest that the Permit for the OB/OD unit be denied, and that Fort Bliss be encouraged to submit an application for the decontamination of the OB/OD unit located on McGregor Range, Fort Bliss, in New Mexico.

Sincerely,

  
Marianne H. Thaeler, Chair  
Southern New Mexico Group  
Sierra Club

cc: J. Firkins