

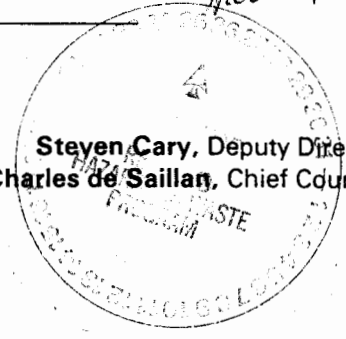


State of New Mexico
Office of the Natural Resources Trustee

FILE
Sparton/Red/95

GARY JOHNSON
Governor

Steven Cary, Deputy Director
Charles de Saillan, Chief Counsel



July 18, 1995

R. Jan Appel
Sparton Corporation
2400 East Ganson Street
Jackson, MI 49202

**RE: Natural Resource Assessment, Sparton Technology Facility,
Albuquerque, New Mexico**

Dear Mr. Appel:

This letter is in reference to our continuing discussions of assessment and restoration of the ground water resources at the above mentioned facility. Recent correspondence from Mr. Richard Virtue (letter dated May 11, 1995) indicated that Sparton is committed to addressing the matters we have raised. I appreciate receiving that commitment.

Mr. Virtue also expressed Sparton's desire that natural resource assessment be accomplished through the RCRA regulatory procedures already commenced by NMED and EPA. Recent discussions with NMED and EPA staff have been held to address this matter. As a result, ONRT currently believes that the ongoing regulatory process is capable of adequately characterizing injuries to ground water resources resulting from releases at the Sparton facility. For this capability to be realized, however, ONRT needs to be a partner with EPA and NMED in the process of specifying additional investigative work and planning and implementation of corrective actions. EPA, NMED and ONRT have informally agreed to proceed in this manner.

In the near future EPA will have a public meeting, solicit input, and propose a remedy for ground water contamination at this site. ONRT will encourage EPA to propose a remedy that maximizes restoration of the ground water resource and minimizing long term natural resource damage liability for Sparton.



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Then it will be up to Sparton to decide how to respond to EPA's proposed remedy. Sparton's prompt implementation of EPA's proposed remedy will be the best evidence that the coordinated RCRA procedure can achieve ONRT's goals. ONRT is willing to contribute to this combined regulatory effort as long as it is productive. If we reach a point where it seems our objective of resource restoration will not be met, then ONRT may elect to proceed independent of NMED and EPA. Let us work together constructively to reach the optimal solution.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call me at (505) 827-1035.

Sincerely,



Steven J. Cary
Deputy Director

cc: Vince Malott, USEPA
Ed Kelley, NMED
Rob Pine, NMED
Ron Kern, NMED
Curt Montman, AEHD

SJC:bc