



# City of Albuquerque

P.O. BOX 1293 ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87103

September 12, 1995

Ms. Jane Saginaw, Regional Director  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region VI  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

**Subject: Sparton Corporation's Coors Road Facility**

Dear Ms. Saginaw:

The purpose of this letter is to urge EPA's prompt and effective action to begin an adequate clean-up for the substantial ground-water contamination emanating from Sparton's facility at 9621 Coors Rd. NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico. EPA's recent decision to suspend the public comment period regarding EPA's draft Statement of Basis, which recommends a specific clean-up plan, further delays initiation of the clean-up.

These additional delays are particularly disturbing to me given the history of ineffective action at this site. TCE contamination 160 times greater than safe drinking water limits has migrated far from Sparton's property. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's management of this contamination case over the 12 years since it was discovered has not yet resulted in defining the limits of the contamination, much less caused clean-up to begin.

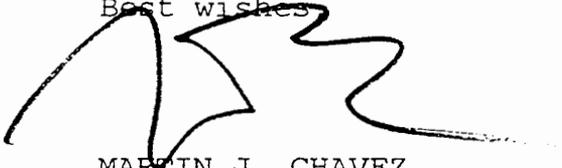
The actively spreading plume of chlorinated solvents emanating from the Sparton Corporation Coors Rd. facility is contaminating ground water that is needed for Albuquerque's drinking water supply. It is located in an area designated by the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Ground Water Protection Policy and Action Plan as crucial for ground water quality protection. The City's current master plan designates this area for a future well field. The contamination is in the path of recharge water, which flows from the Rio Grande to nearby well fields. Effective remediation grows more difficult and expensive with every passing day as the contamination continues to spread.

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I request and will sincerely appreciate your attention to assure that an adequate clean-up program begins as soon as possible at this site.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Chavez', with a long, wavy horizontal line extending to the right.

MARTIN J. CHAVEZ  
Mayor

MJC/REG/ANG

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