

GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT Harold Runnels Building 1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502 (505) 827-2850

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MARK E. WEIDLER SECRETARY

EDGAR T. THORNTON, III DEPUTY SECRETARY

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December 1, 1995

Dr. William M. Turner Natural Resource Damage Trustee P.O. Box 26110 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Re: Hazardous Waste Emergency Fund

Dear Dr. Turner:

I have received and considered your memorandum dated November 20, 1995 concerning the use of Hazardous Waste Emergency Fund money for water resource restoration at the Sparton Coors Road facility.

NMSA 1978, 74-4-8 explains the uses for the Fund: cleanup of hazardous substance incidents, disposal of hazardous substances and necessary repairs to or replacement of state property used in a response. Your request for use of the Fund here is to cleanup ongoing pollution of hazardous substances. I have looked at the definition of hazardous substance incident, NMSA 1978 74-4-3.H to determine whether the Sparton matter would meet this definition. According to the definition, the hazardous substance incident must be an <u>emergency</u>. It does not appear that there is an emergency at the Sparton facility.

We have recently met with Sparton and are working to secure a plan that will lead to timely cleanup of the site.

Sincerely,

MARK E. WEIDLER Secretary

cc: Ed Kelley Marcy Leavitt Benito Garcia