

ST 96



GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Hazardous & Radioactive Materials Bureau
2044 Galisteo
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MARK E. WEIDLER
SECRETARY

EDGAR T. THORNTON, III
DEPUTY SECRETARY

May 21, 1996

Mr. Aaron Garcia
9005 Volcano NW
Space # 10
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87121

Dear Mr. Garcia:

RE: **Statement of Basis, Sparton Technology, Inc. - Coors Road Facility, Albuquerque, New Mexico**

In response to your request of the above date, I am enclosing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Statement of Basis for Corrective Action at the Sparton Technology (ST) site. The Statement of Basis includes the majority of the information you requested about the contaminants of concern and the nature of the groundwater contaminant plume. The groundwater contamination has moved in a northwesterly direction from ST and has proceeded beneath the Bright Beginnings Day Care Center on Irving Blvd. at a depth of approximately 150 feet.

I do not know currently whether there is any negative impact to the surface from ST contamination in the vicinity of the Bright Beginnings Day Care Center. I also do not know how real estate in the area is impacted directly by the ST contamination.

If I can be of further assistance to you, please contact me at the above address or at (505) 827-1560.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ronald A. Kern".

Ronald A. Kern
RCRA Technical Compliance Program Manager

enclosures

cc: File

d. l. huhn real estate

Fax Cover Letter

Date: 6-4-96

Fax Number: 1-505-827-1544

To: Ron Keen

Company: STATE HAZARDOUS WASTE

Comments: Ron: FOR YOUR REVIEW ---
 LOOKING FORWARD TO
 SEEING YOU TUESDAY.

*THANKS
 Dave*

Fax Sent By: Dave Huhn

Fax: (505) 828-1197

Main Office: (505) 828-9978

Total Pages: 4

May 22, 1996

Mr. Dave Huhn
d.l. huhn Real Estate

In looking at a property in the New Vistas Subdivision, we were given a Water Table Information Sheet by Mr. Huhn. Information provided in the sheet indicated that potential underground water pollution has been identified, apparently due to past chemical used by Spartan Technology, Inc. The Water Table Information Sheet indicated that the outer limits of the contaminated ground water plume does include the New Vistas Subdivision. However, the information sheet advised that water used by New Vistas Subdivision is completely supplied by the City of Albuquerque and that this water has not been affected by potential underground water contamination. In addition, the information provided indicated that since 1988, Spartan Technology, Inc. has been working to clean up the contaminated water.

Our realtor was never told of the contamination and the New Vista Realtor indicated that the groundwater contamination was not a concern. Although the Water Table Information Sheet was provided, we put a cash deposit down for a lot in the New Vista Subdivision based on the indication that the contamination was not a concern.

However, we decided to check into the contamination further before proceeding with the purchase of the lot. d.l. huhn real estate sent us a letter from Keers Environmental addressed to Ms. Tina Salazar of Sunwest Bank. The letter indicated that monitor wells located in the subdivision area were contaminated. The contamination present consists of chromium, trichloroethylene (TCE), and 1,1-dichloroethene (1,1-DCE). Both the chromium and TCE concentrations have exceeded the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (NMWQCC) standards, but the latest sampling indicates that the chromium, TCE, and 1,1-DCE results do not exceed the NMWQCC standards.

The letter stated that Mr. Ron Kern with the New Mexico Environment Department could be contacted for further information. On May 21, 1996 we spoke with Mr. Kern regarding the contamination and how it would affect the New Vista Subdivision. Mr. Kern indicated that the compounds present were carcinogenic. He also stated that chromium was found in soils at 75 feet below ground surface. Mr. Kern further stated that at this time it has not been determined if gas is seeping up through the soil in our particular area. Gas from the trichloroethylene and trichloroethane was detected in the general area of groundwater contamination.

In addition, Mr. Kern advised that one city well is in danger of being impacted by the Spartan Technology contamination and that the plume is also headed for another city well. This information in particular is a direct contradiction from the information provided in the Water Table Information Sheet. He also advised that Spartan

Technology has not been fully cooperating in clean up efforts, which also seems to be a contradiction from the information provided to us. In addition, soil contamination and gas from the trichloroethylene and trichloroethane contaminants was not discussed at all.

Based on the information provided by Mr. Kern, we feel that the New Vista Subdivision Realtor did not fully or accurately disclose information on the existing contamination. We feel that potential health risks do exist and that there is question about the future groundwater supply due to the contamination. As such, we are requesting a full refund of our cash deposit. We are assuming at this point that the New Vista representative did not knowingly mislead us and that full cooperation with a refund will be provided in an expedient manner.

Sincerely,



Mr. and Mrs. Aaron E. Garcia

NEW VISTAS SUBDIVISION WATER TABLE INFORMATION SHEET

Water used by New Vistas Subdivision is completely supplied by the City of Albuquerque. We have been advised that this water in no way is affected by potential underground water contamination resulting from the past operations of Spartan Technology, Inc. operation. Nonetheless, it is important that each purchaser be advised of the following information on which to make its own evaluation.

BACKGROUND

Potential underground water pollution has been identified, apparently due to past chemical use by now closed Spartan Technology, Inc. Electronics Plant located on Coors Road Northwest near Irving.

DATA

Ground water depth is approximately two hundred (200) feet under the hills to the west of the New Vistas Subdivision.

Ground water flow is to the west-northwest between the New Vistas Subdivision and Irving Boulevard.

The outer limits of the contaminated ground water plume, as of December 1993, did include the area now known as New Vistas Subdivision, as well as other developments in the area of Spartan Technology, Inc..

Since 1988, Spartan Technology, Inc. has been working with oversight by EPA and contractor support in efforts to clean up contaminated water.

Although not conclusive, well tests over the past several years show a steady decline in pollution of the underground water under the New Vistas land.

RECENT

As a result of February 1996 Public Hearings, Spartan Technology, Inc. will be working closely with EPA to increase its efforts to clean up what contamination may exist as quickly as possible. Spartan Technology, Inc. has accepted full responsibility for the clean-up. More information may be available from Spartan Technology, Inc. and the EPA.

We are told that the primary possible human health risks are related to contact with contaminated ground water, which as noted above is several hundred feet underground. Ground water currently supplies the sole source of drinking water for the City of Albuquerque. The uncontaminated portion of the aquifer is useable as a source of drinking water, and is currently used outside of the contaminant plume for this purpose.