



SPARTON CORPORATION

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Letter to the Editor
Albuquerque Journal

NM ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

✓cc: Mark E. Weidler, New Mexico EPA Secretary

We take violent exception to the 4th paragraph in your July 7 statement on "Sparton to Begin Cleanup Process."

First: Sparton has not been dragging its feet but has been complying with the law.

Second: "Spending money to delay cleanup won't get you off the hook." We have not been trying to delay any cleanup.

Third: "Everyone involved could have saved a lot of money." Sparton has tried to meet its responsibilities. In fact, the basic law was passed after we had the accident in Albuquerque. The Company has set a policy to do no future plating in any of its plants because of the hazard of having any future problems with pollution. You can ask any of our employees in any of our plants or citizens at our plants if we are good citizens. We do not believe in a politician trying to make points on problems that are not factual. Neither do we try lawsuits in the newspaper.

Fourth: We had five different groups in Albuquerque and Dallas that we asked repeatedly to get together and agree on a policy. When that was done within a reasonable period of time we got a start on a solution to the cleanup problem.

It is also interesting to note that the current remedy we are pursuing is the same one Sparton proposed some two to three years ago. Without the intervention of the court process, we are reasonably certain that we would still be at an impasse.

Lastly, the basic law is most inconsistent. There are numerous places where the Federal government, the State government, and political units of each have not done anything to clean up pollution of much larger situations than the Sparton problem, which has not hurt anybody to date even though we agree that it never should have been allowed to happen.

SPARTON CORPORATION
John J. Smith, Chairman
David W. Hockenbrocht, President
Richard D. Mico, Vice President

SPARTON CORPORATION

JOHN J. SMITH
CHAIRMAN

July 17, 1998

Editor
Albuquerque Journal
7777 Jefferson, NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

Dear Sir:

In the interest of fair play, I hope you will
print the attached letter in the next edition.

Sincerely,



John J. Smith

JJS:pas

Attachment