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PETER MAGGIORE
SECRETARY

99-087

August 5, 1999

The Honorable Carroll H. Leavell
New Mexico State Senator
Post Office Drawer D
Jal, New Mexico 88252

**RE: GANDY-MARLEY, INC., HAZARDOUS WASTE PERMIT APPLICATION
TIMELINE**

Dear Senator Leavell:

Thank you for your July 20, 1999, letter in which you requested an updated schedule for the permitting of the aforementioned facility. I echo your concerns that all permit applications handled by the Environment Department receive timely and professional treatment. I have made significant procedural and management changes in the Department's Hazardous & Radioactive Materials Bureau to improve the permit process and our delivery of services to the public and the regulated community. We have been working with representatives of Gandy-Marley, Inc. (GMI) for several weeks now to jointly develop an updated schedule for their hazardous waste disposal permit. I am pleased to furnish it to you under cover of this letter.

This new schedule puts GMI's permit application on track for public comment by January 1, 2000, a commitment made by James Bearzi, the new Hazardous & Radioactive Materials Bureau Chief, at the July 6 Interim Committee meeting. Crucial milestones must be met by both GMI and the Environment Department for this aggressive schedule to be met. In general terms, GMI has a great responsibility to deliver review-ready documents prior to September 1, 1999. NMED has a great responsibility to incorporate those documents into a draft permit ready for EPA review by December 1, 1999. I believe all parties have worked to develop this schedule in the spirit of cooperation and in good faith. The goal, of course, is for GMI to come away from this process with a permit that allows them to operate in a manner that is protective of the health and environment of all New Mexicans.

The Honorable John Heaton

August 5, 1999

Page 2 of 2

Again, thank you for your interest in this important project. I look forward to briefing the Interim Committee at its August 31, 1999, meeting.

Sincerely,



PETER MAGGIORE

Secretary

cc: Rep. John Heaton, Chair, Radioactive & Hazardous Materials Interim Committee
Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Interim Committee Members