

JAMES
BAE



October 19, 2001

Mr. Pete Maggori
Secretary of Environment Department
State of New Mexico Environmental Department
1190 Saint Frances Drive
Harold Runnels Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

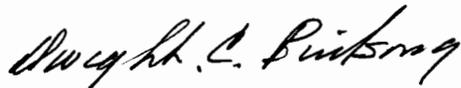
I've been actively watching the GMI Triassic Park hearing in Roswell, New Mexico with keen interest. First off, I want to complement hearing officer Felicia Ort for her professionalism and the way she has conducted the meetings. Having worked with waste and hazardous waste disposal problems (onshore and offshore from 1960 to present in California, Alaska, Wisconsin, Florida and the mid-west), plus taking all of the Environmental courses offered at the Texas Engineering Extension Service in Bryan, Texas. I feel I have a reasonable understanding of hazardous waste disposal problems. I was pleased to see the show of people at the meetings and the evening meeting were especially worthwhile. The people that spoke and asked questions were sincere and concerned. They have every right to be. Mr. Corser's presentation of the purpose and function of the facility along with a video tape giving the technical aspects of receiving and storing hazardous waste was well done. Most of the comments in the evening meetings were apprehensive or negative to the hazardous waste disposal site. This is understandable with all of the bad things we've read and heard about how we have polluted the environment. But with the concern of the American people, the passing of the Occupational Safety and Health Act and the inception of the Environmental Protection Agency, we're not trashing the planet nor polluting the environment anymore. All of our major companies have taken a firm stand of "No Harm To The Environment". In my travels throughout the U.S. to do safety training, I see this everywhere.

Perhaps the most outstanding points of information I gathered was the lack of knowledge the citizens had of the Environmental Protection Agency, their purpose and the compliance a company must operate under. There was no

conception that this facility will be monitored by the states Environmental Protection Agency and must be in compliance. Are we lacking in an educational program or is the sensationalism of all the undesirable things that happen taking precedence and the average citizen knows nothing else.

The other point I'd like to bring out is - Do the organized opponents of the Triassic Park Facility have an equal amount of money invested in their opposition as the Triassic Park group does in their investment to date? I, myself, and many of the people here in Roswell that I have spoken with believe the Triassic Park Hazardous Waste facility can be put into operation with no harm to the environment.

Sincerely



Dwight C. Birdsong
705 N. Washington Ave.
Roswell, MM 88201
(505) 624 9658