

Subject: RE: WIPP shipments through Las Vegas

Date: Thu, 22 Mar 2001 12:06:58 -0700

From: "John Shea" <twoshea66@earthlink.net>

To: <Steve_Zappe@nmenv.state.nm.us>



Steve

So you are the culprit!!!

I know Katherine too well, from the first shipment to several public outreach activities we have conducted in LV. Her bumper-sticker covered truck is a landmark.

She did call me. I didn't have much opportunity to respond. She became extremely agitated. She claimed that the trucks were parking near schools and churches as well as the restaurants. She threatened to call the governor and press if I didn't do something immediately and hung-up.

The trucks do make extended stops at several locations along the route: Russell's Truck Stop at Springer, a truck stop in Las Vegas and another at Romeroville. They alternate to avoid a pattern. One driver remains with the truck at all times, while the other eats, showers, etc.

Under the Western Governors' Association WIPP protocols and the State of NM protocols, drivers may seek parking so long as they comply with certain guidelines. The guidelines include avoiding densely populated areas, other hazardous materials shipment vehicles, etc. I am familiar with most of the locations the drivers stop. They comply with the guidelines.

I contacted State Police and Captain Tim Gallegos, LVPD, Emergency Manager. I was assured that the locations that drivers were stopping complied with the parking criteria. There are no schools or churches in the vicinity.

It may only be a coincidence, but the occupants of a blue pick-up truck harassed then took pictures of the drivers as they were stopped at LV the night before Katherine called. We are maintaining a higher level of awareness around Las Vegas.

How is the LANL certification coming?

Take care, Steve.

John

-----Original Message-----

From: Steve Zappe [mailto:Steve_Zappe@nmenv.state.nm.us]

Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2001 11:17 AM

To: John Shea; John Shea



Cc: Bill Mackie
Subject: WIPP shipments through Las Vegas

John -

Did you receive a call Wednesday from Katherine Montañó regarding WIPP trucks stopping in Las Vegas for extended meal breaks? Sorry, she called me first and I gave her your phone numbers. Any validity to her claims? I would assume they might be hauling empties back up north, but regardless I assume they would be placarded if they contained waste.

In case you didn't know, this is the same woman who has previously claimed that waste was being transported to WIPP and disposed of there prior to it receiving approval from EPA and NMED, and that waste was being transported in regular semi tractor trailer rigs. She also believes she can sense the radiation from passing trucks and suffers ill effects every time a WIPP truck drives past Las Vegas.

Let me know how this is resolved. I'd like to be informed next time she raises this subject at a public meeting for one of DOE permit modifications requests. Thanks!

Steve