



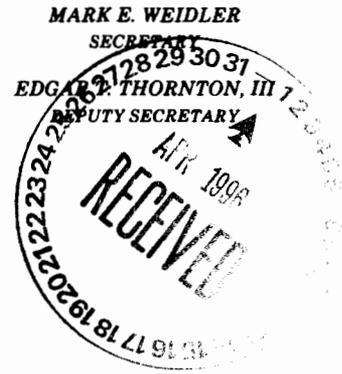
GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Harold Runnels Building
1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

PHONE: 505-827-2990
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*Barbara ✓
State 7 -
file -*



March 29, 1996

Kathleen Sisneros, President
Sisneros-Cooper Environmental
Corporation
2420 Camino Capitan
Santa Fe, N. M. 87505

Dear Mr. Sisneros:

Thank you for your letter dated March 25, 1996. On March 26th, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) met with officials from the Department of Energy (DOE)/Westinghouse Electric Corporation's Waste Isolation Division (WID) concerning the Notice of Deficiency (NOD) issued by NMED with regard to DOE/WID's disposal permit application for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). We informed DOE that for purposes of that meeting, we would not object to your presence as long as you were not participating. My clients are appreciative, however, that you did not attend the meeting and thus avoided any appearance of undue influence.

My clients were also informed, however, by DOE that you have been asked to review the NOD responses on their behalf. Whether your work on the NOD or presence at future NOD meetings will pose a conflict due to your prior employment at NMED under the Government Conduct Act is an issue the Attorney General's Office. NMED does not have the authority to enforce the Government Conduct Act or waive any conflict that may arise under this Act. Therefore, we request that you contact the Attorney General's Office regarding potential conflicts that may arise as a result of future specific work you are requested to undertake on behalf of DOE/WID with regard to the WIPP permit application. This would include attendance at future NMED/DOE/WID meetings and any work related to the NOD.

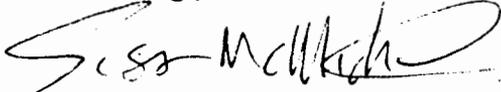
Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. We appreciate your efforts to not run afoul of the Governmental Conduct Act. We also request to remain informed of any decision or action that the Attorney General's Office takes with regard to potential conflicts



Kathleen Sisneros
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in this matter. If have any questions, or would like to meet on
this, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Susan McMichael".

SUSAN McMICHAEL
Assistant General Counsel

cc: Benito Garcia
Letty Belin, Esq.
Marian Matthews, Esq.