

**Floyd E. Vasquez Jr.**

Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill

Winchester, Jim, EMNRD <Jim.Winchester@state.nm.us>

Wed, Dec 3, 2014 at 3:32 PM

To: Floyd E. Vasquez Jr.

Floyd-

Here is our statement regarding what we can say, and what is going on for the Mixed Waste Landfill.

Also, you will be getting a notification of an extension for the IPRA you submitted regarding this same topic.

This is not a delay tactic on our part.

We have run into some technical issues, but are confident we will be able to get you what you have requested.

It just will take some more time.

Much thanks and sorry for the delay on my end as well.

–jim

The Department of Energy is authorized to regulate radioactive waste at their facilities. The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) does not have the authority to regulate the radioactive waste in the Mixed Waste Landfill.

NMED is aware that Citizen Action New Mexico (CANM) requested information from Sandia National Laboratories through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request regarding waste in the Mixed Waste Landfill (MWL). NMED does not know the specifics of the FOIA request. CANM brought to NMED's attention that they have information from the FOIA asserting high level waste was disposed in the MWL. We have received limited information from Eric Nuttall that NMED has reviewed. NMED's review of the information does not indicate that high level waste was disposed in the MWL. A meeting is being coordinated with Eric Nuttall to understand the FOIA information that CANM has received and their assumptions on high-level waste being disposed in the MWL.

The Department will continue to require Sandia to monitor for any potential contamination from the landfill in accordance with the Long Term Monitoring and Maintenance Plan.

From: Winchester, Jim, NMENV
Sent: Monday, November 24, 2014 4:13 PM
To: Floyd Vasquez
Cc: 'Kathy Wimmer'; 'Megan Kamerick'; 'Michael Kamins'; Winchester, Jim, NMENV
Subject: Request for Interview - Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill now: questions

Yes, Floyd.

Bear with me.

We've been dealing with a lot right now, including trying to work on another time consuming item with your station.

Jim Winchester

Communications Director

New Mexico Environment Department &

Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department

505.231.8800 (Cell Direct)

jim.winchester@state.nm.us

From: Floyd Vasquez [<mailto:fvasquez@nmpbs.org>]
Sent: Monday, November 24, 2014 12:08 PM
To: Winchester, Jim, NMENV
Cc: 'Kathy Wimmer'; 'Megan Kamerick'; 'Michael Kamins'
Subject: FW: Request for Interview - Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill now: questions

Hi Jim,

It's been a week since I sent these questions. This is a squeaky wheel email. How's it coming?

Thanks,

Floyd

fvasquez@nmpbs.org

From: Floyd Vasquez [<mailto:fvasquez@nmpbs.org>]
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 10:18 AM
To: 'Winchester, Jim, NMENV'
Subject: was: Request for Interview - Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill now: questions

Hi Jim,

Just sent along that IPRA request. Which leaves these questions:

Please identify the lawsuit referenced in your 11/12/2014 email to include the name of the plaintiff(s), defendant(s), complaint title, court of jurisdiction and case number.

Please explain or direct me to information regarding the regulatory process underway regarding a Completion Certificate for the Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill, to include any deadlines and timetables.

Has the regulatory process, including relevant deadlines and timetables, been paused while litigation moves forward? If not, how will it be possible to move forward with the regulatory process if NMED is not available to discuss the subject matter?

Thank you for your help.

Floyd

From: Winchester, Jim, NMENV [<mailto:Jim.Winchester@state.nm.us>]
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 11:13 AM
To: Floyd Vasquez
Cc: Winchester, Jim, NMENV; Mascarenas, Melissa, NMENV
Subject: RE: Request for Interview - Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill

Floyd-

Please submit me an IPRA for the documentation you are looking for.

You kind of spell it out here, but need you to distinctly separate your document requests vs. regular questions.

Please cc: Melissa.mascarenas@state.nm.us , who will follow up as our IPRA coordinator.

Thanks-

jim

Jim Winchester

Communications Director

New Mexico Environment Department &

Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department

505.231.8800 (Cell Direct)

jim.winchester@state.nm.us

From: Floyd Vasquez [<mailto:fvasquez@nmpbs.org>]

Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 11:07 AM

To: Winchester, Jim, NMENV

Cc: 'Megan Kamerick'; 'Kathy Wimmer'

Subject: RE: Request for Interview - Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill

Hi Jim,

Thank you for this response. I have follow-up questions:

Will you please identify the lawsuit and provide a courtesy copy of key pleadings, if possible. If no documents are available to forward by email, I'll need the names of the lawsuit plaintiff(s), defendant(s), title, court of jurisdiction, case number, etc.

I understand that Sandia has submitted a "Completion Certificate" for the Sandia MWL which NMED has conditionally approved. There is a public meeting about it next week where I believe a NMED representative will be present. Please explain or direct me to information that explains the regulatory process underway along with any deadlines and timetables.

Please provide documentation of the regulatory process to date in summary form. I'm not looking for bulk documents, but a succinct history of NMED's licensing of the site from initial licensing to the present. I'm thinking this type of summary must have been created to brief NMED staff. Just let me know if an IPRA is necessary.

Has the regulatory process, including relevant deadlines and timetables, been paused while litigation moves forward? If not, how will it be possible to move forward with the regulatory process if NMED is not available to discuss the subject matter?

Thanks in advance for your help. Enjoy the weekend.

Floyd

From: Winchester, Jim, NMENV [<mailto:Jim.Winchester@state.nm.us>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2014 3:12 PM
To: Floyd Vasquez (fvasquez@nmpbs.org)
Cc: Winchester, Jim, NMENV
Subject: Request for Interview - Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill

Hi Floyd-

Because the hearing on this is pending (Court of Appeals), we are in the unfortunate position of having to decline to discuss this topic due to legal considerations until everything plays out. Any comments NMED could make while the court is still considering the matter would be inappropriate.

Legal informs me the timetable on this open ended...so it could be months.

Circle back if/when this runs its course in the legal system.

Thanks!

-jim

Jim Winchester

Communications Director

New Mexico Environment Department &

Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department

505.231.8800 (Cell Direct)

jim.winchester@state.nm.us

From: Floyd Vasquez [<mailto:fvasquez@nmpbs.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2014 12:02 PM
To: Winchester, Jim, NMENV
Subject: Request for Interview - Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill

Jim, We have more time to secure a confirmation. Segment pushed back until the week of December 1st.

Floyd

From: Winchester, Jim, NMENV [<mailto:Jim.Winchester@state.nm.us>]
Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2014 4:35 PM
To: Floyd Vasquez
Subject: RE: Request for Interview - Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill

Checking!

Jim Winchester

Communications Director

New Mexico Environment Department &

Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department

505.231.8800 (Cell Direct)

jim.winchester@state.nm.us

From: Floyd Vasquez [<mailto:fvasquez@nmpbs.org>]
Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2014 10:30 AM
To: Winchester, Jim, NMENV
Cc: 'Kathy Wimmer'; mkamerick@newmexicopbs.org
Subject: Request for Interview - Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill

Hi Jim,

I'm preparing a segment for New Mexico In Focus on the Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill in connection with the New Mexico Environment Department's conditional approval of a Certificate of Completion. I am writing to request the Secretary or another staffer knowledgeable on the history, contents and NMED licensing of the Sandia Mixed Waste Landfill.

We will tape our segment the week of November 17th which I believe is the week of Sandia's public meeting on the topic. We have reserved studio time on Thursday, November 20th at 9:30 AM and Wednesday, November 19th around the same time. We prefer the Thursday. Do either of these times work for you?

Thank you.

Floyd

Floyd E. Vasquez Jr.

Election 2014 Producer

New Mexico PBS

1130 University Blvd NE

Albuquerque NM 87102

fvasquez@nmpbs.org

