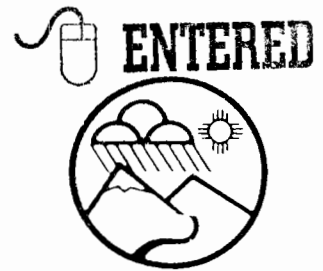




GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

FB 916
State of New Mexico

ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Hazardous & Radioactive Materials Bureau
2044 Galisteo
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
(505) 827-1557
Fax (505) 827-1544



MARK E. WEIDLER
SECRETARY

EDGAR T. THORNTON, III
DEPUTY SECRETARY

January 15, 1996

Colonel Carl G. Roe, Commander
Department of the Army
Headquarters, U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery Center and Fort Bliss
1733 Pleasonton Road
Fort Bliss (FB), Texas 79916-6816

Dear Col. Roe:

Thank you for affording the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) the opportunity to participate in the public scoping meeting regarding the Fort Bliss Mission and Master Plan Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS). Members of our staff attempted to attend the meeting but unfortunately were unable to reach the meeting locations due to inclement weather.

The NMED understands that FB has recently changed its mission from that of supporting the Third Calvary Battalion to supporting three Air Defense Brigades, principally Patriot missile groups, with a resulting reduction in the number of troops and tracked vehicles at FB. It is our understanding that the broad scope of the PEIS is "how the effects of the mission change (i.e., demolition and construction of infrastructure and changes in land use) will affect the environmental, economic, cultural and natural resources of Fort Bliss". It is also our understanding the scoping meeting was to discuss the time frame, or the degree to which the PEIS projects activities into the future.

We are particularly interested in any aspect of the Plan that might directly affect our Department, though it is currently not clear what those might be. Please continue to communicate with this Department regarding the PEIS and any New Mexico public concerns identified through your scoping meetings or elsewhere.

You may send correspondence and copies of the Real Property Master Plan, the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, and the Training Area Development Concept to Mr. Benito J. Garcia, Chief of the Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau (HRMB), with whom FB has a Hazardous Waste Management Permit.

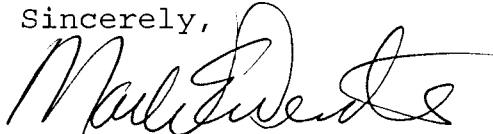
Colonel Carl G. Roe
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Mr. Garcia's address is;

Mr. Benito J. Garcia, Chief
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2044 Galisteo Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Thank you once again for your invitation and all your efforts to protect New Mexico's environment.

Sincerely,



Mark Weidler,
Secretary

xc: Gary Johnson, Governor
Walter Bradley, Lt. Governor
Cecilia Abeyta, NMED
Benito Garcia, NMED, HRMB
Keith Landreth, ATZC-DOE-C