

Date

Butch Tongate, Secretary-Designate  
New Mexico Environment Department  
1190 St. Francis Drive, Suite N4050  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

By email to: [butch.tongate@state.nm.us](mailto:butch.tongate@state.nm.us)

Re: Reopen Triassic Park Hazardous Waste Permit Public Comment Period  
Following Translation and Dissemination of Vital Documents in Spanish

Dear Secretary-Designate Tongate:

On January 19, 2017, one day prior to the end of the public comment period for the draft hazardous waste permit for Triassic Park, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) signed an Informal Resolution Agreement (Agreement) resolving the 2002 Title VI Civil Rights complaint filed by Citizens for Alternatives to Radioactive Dumping (CARD), the Water Information Network, Conservative Use of Resources and the Environment (CURE), and two individuals concerning the discriminatory manner in which the NMED conducted the public hearing processes for the Triassic Park hazardous waste permit.

The EPA stated that the “Agreement does not affect NMED’s continuing responsibility to comply with Title VI or other federal non-discrimination laws.” For this reason alone, I respectfully request that NMED reopen the public comment period for the renewal of the Triassic Park hazardous waste permit, following the translation and dissemination of vital documents into Spanish, for a minimum of 60 days.

Please include my name on the Triassic Park facility mailing list so that I may be notified of your decision.

Thank you for your careful consideration of my requests.

Sincerely,