



COLORADO
Department of Public
Health & Environment

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

July 25, 2018

Joyce Ackerman, Superfund OSC
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, Colorado 80202-1129

RE: Potential CERCLA Removal Action - City of La Junta, Otero County, Colorado

Dear Ms. Ackerman:

In recent years, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Brownfields Program has worked with La Junta Colorado to promote redevelopment of blighted or underused properties in this rural community in southeast Colorado

One of the issues faced by La Junta is existence of two abandoned residential properties that have been severely damaged by fire. Sampling shows the presence of friable asbestos at both properties. As a result, these properties pose a threat of asbestos exposure to nearby residents, children and community members. Unfortunately, at this time, CDPHE's limited Brownfields resources are not sufficient to perform the abatement work required to address the environmental exposures posed by these two properties. Therefore, after consultation with La Junta staff, CDPHE has determined that State and local authorities do not have the resources or authority to address these sources of contamination and we request a CERCLA removal action to address risks to human health and the environment posed by these properties

Should EPA decide to proceed with a response action at this site, Colorado looks forward to providing support as part of its on-going efforts to render care, assistance and advice in accordance with the National Contingency Plan and at the direction of EPA's on-scene coordinators and remedial project managers, as set forth in section 107(d) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(d). We also look forward to continuing implementation of the Process Improvements discussed at Region 8's



April 24, 2018 ARARs Training.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (303) 692-3404.

Sincerely,



Douglas C. Jamison
Superfund/Brownfields Unit Leader
Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division

cc: Rick Klein, La Junta City Mayor
Darren Adame, La Junta City Engineer
Laura Williams, EPA
Bill Murray, EPA
Monica Sheets, CDPHE
David Kreutzer, COAGO

