

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 28, 2014

Mr. Bruce Watson  
Reactor Decommissioning Branch Chief  
Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1717 H Street  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Watson:

I write to you regarding the Homestake Mining Company (HMC) Superfund site north of Milan, New Mexico. I recently met with a number of the community members that live near the site. As the Nuclear Regulatory Commission continues its work to complete the revision of the Corrective Action Plan for the site and decommission the HMC's license, I bring two matters to your attention.

Community members expressed concern to me that the current rate of water treatment at the site is not commensurate with the scale of groundwater contamination. This community has waited too long for effective remediation. Ground water treatment should be implemented using technologies that are known to be capable of quickly and effectively cleaning the water.

Additionally, I ask that you coordinate with the Environmental Protection Agency and the NM Environment Department to ensure that any action taken by an agency is in accord with all applicable regulatory requirements, is in the interest of human health and environmental safety, and maximizes the impact of taxpayer investment toward environmental clean-up.

Thank you for your careful attention to this site and the NRC's recent request for information from HMC regarding the radon background monitoring locations. I look forward to working with you to remediate the environmental and health impacts of uranium mining in New Mexico.

Sincerely,



MARTIN HEINRICH  
United States Senator

CC:

Ryan Flynn  
Secretary NM Environment Department

Ron Curry  
Region VI Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency

Weil, Jenny

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**From:** Alpert, Dan (Heinrich) [[mailto:Dan\\_Alpert@heinrich.senate.gov](mailto:Dan_Alpert@heinrich.senate.gov)]

**Sent:** Monday, April 28, 2014 6:09 PM

**To:** Weil, Jenny

**Cc:** Richardson, Katie (Heinrich); Hermann, Maya (Heinrich)

**Subject:** Senator's letter

Ms. Weil:

We'd appreciate your assistance in passing along the attached letter from Senator Heinrich to Mr. Watson.

Again, thank you for your assistance.

regards,

Dan Alpert

Dan Alpert | Legislative Assistant | Office of U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich (NM)

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