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**GENERAL  
CORRESPONDENCE**

**YEAR(S):**

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1995

# 1/24/95 Hobbs City WTP Meeting

Intro by David Hooten

- City wants to take enforcement action against <sup>dumpers</sup>

Denise Casper - AG's Environmental Enforcement

Max Johnson -

DPS

John Tymkovich -

NMED RCRC

Tom Burt -

NMED Carlsbad

Gary Bloch -

UST

Lenora Martinez -

City Hobbs

Myra Meyer -

NMED Hobbs

David Hooten -

City Hobbs

approx 20 other city employees from

- fire dept.

- streets

- sewer

- police

Spill last week at dump, sludge from service shop NMED regulated. Analysis shows high metals

Spills of oil field waste in city

- rig wash in city lot

- tank spill on street

Review of RCRA by John Tymkovich

- NMED now issues NOV, not compliance orders, admin penalties

Review of first responder by Alex Johnson

- New emergency response plan being circulated to all dept. sec. ("Hammer plan")
- emergency fund available for some spills but fund level small where no ownership

Break

## Objectives

- 1.) Laws + Regulation / fed, state, local
- 2.) Applicable Engineering Controls to meet regs
- 3.) Educational Process  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Training Program} \\ \text{Informational Sources} \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{To - Business} \\ \text{- Industries} \\ \text{- Private / Public} \\ \text{- Govt} \end{array}$
- 4.) Enforcement Actions

oilfield service co.

Cobra spill recently 650 bbls oil into city sewer from wash out at trucks. Cost to city for cleanup at WTP \$70,000

\*  
Need  
DF

Denise Casp - AG enforces criminal penalties

2 factors to decide to criminal action

- capability of offender
- cost of damage, intent of harm or direct harm

- every current action based on informant

- approx. 15 cases investigated/yr.
- 1 case prosecuted ~~last yr~~



THE CITY OF  
**HOBBS, NEW MEXICO**

(505) 397-9231  
FAX # (505) 397-9334

300 NORTH TURNER

HOBBS, NEW MEXICO 88240

Office of  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/SAFETY  
LEPC—SARA TITLE III  
HAZ-MAT

January 13, 1995

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission  
Attention: Roger Anderson  
2040 S. Pacheco  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

RE: JANUARY 24, 1995, PRE-PLANNING MEETING

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This letter will confirm my telephone call to your agency regarding the planning meeting to be held at 9:00 a.m., January 24, 1995, in the Hobbs City Hall.

City staff requests representation from your agency to join in a work session to address the issues concerning improper disposal of hazardous chemicals, oils/hydrocarbons and other wastes into the city's environment. The city has had four hazardous chemical/waste incidents in the past several months that have caused significant problems at the Hobbs Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP); hazardous chemicals/oil waste products are being disposed of improperly by those firms that handle said materials.

Problems encountered at the WWTP include the plant being rendered ineffective when bio-processes are destroyed and water effluent contamination which affects ground/surface water discharge areas.

Purposely disposing of or discharging into the sanitary sewer system is a criminal action. The apparent lack of knowledge of city, state and federal laws, regulations and policies governing this particular problem and lack of enforcement also are problems.

The objective of the meeting is educational--to share a wealth of information with and for those in attendance at the planning meeting. An ultimate goal is to develop a program to be presented at a later date to area businesses and industry. Each agency will be requested to make a presentation regarding the particular role and function it performs for proper handling of chemicals and disposal of generated waste and the possible enforcement actions

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
RECEIVED

1995 JAN 20 AM 8 52

RECEIVED  
JAN 23 1995  
OIL CONSERVATION DIV.  
SANTA FE

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January 13, 1995

for non-compliance. I believe this effort will build a stronger intergovernmental/agency cooperation.

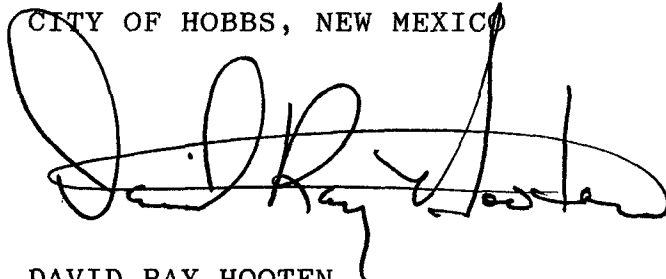
The hazardous waste incidents that Hobbs is experiencing seem to be a growing trend. Although the waste is not being generated by the city, the city is responsible for the ever-escalating costs of clean up as the actual offender is rarely found. Local budgets are not endowed with unlimited funds to cover these costs; therefore, a more active enforcement role is needed.

The staff in Hobbs looks forward to your agency's participation in this program which could serve as a model for additional educational programs to be held in other communities.

Please respond to my office to advise whether or not someone from your agency will attend this January 24 meeting.

Should you have any questions, or if I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 397-9231.

Sincerely,

CITY OF HOBBS, NEW MEXICO  


DAVID RAY HOOTEN  
Emergency Management/Safety Director

DRH/brv

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DIRECTOR

300 N. Turner  
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Home 392-3019

Environmental Protection Agency - Region VI  
Attention: Jane Nakad  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

New Mexico Environment Department  
Attention: Marc Wiedler, Secretary  
P. O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110

New Mexico Environment Department  
Ground Water/Toxic Sites Bureau  
Attention: Chris Wittman  
P. O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110

New Mexico Environment Department  
Hazardous Waste & Radioactive Bureau  
Attention: Benito Garcia, Director  
P. O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110

New Mexico Environment Department  
Hazardous Waste & Radioactive Bureau  
Attention: Colby Muckelroy  
P. O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110

New Mexico Environment Department  
Hazardous Waste & Radioactive Bureau  
Attention: John Timcowich  
P. O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110

New Mexico Environment Department  
Underground Storage Tank Bureau  
Attention: Gary Blocker  
726 E. Michigan, Suite 165  
Hobbs, New Mexico 88240

New Mexico Department of Public Safety  
Chemical Safety Office/SARA Title III  
Attention: Max Johnson  
2608 Cerrillos Road, P. O. Box 1628  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1628

New Mexico Department of Public Safety  
Hazardous Materials Office  
Attention: Mike Slusher  
2608 Cerrillos Road, P. O. Box 1628  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1628

State of New Mexico  
Attorney General's Office  
Attention: Tess Monahan, Environmental Enforcement Investigator  
P. O. Drawer 1508  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

State of New Mexico  
Attorney General's Office  
Attention: Denise Kulseth  
P. O. Drawer 1508  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission  
Attention: Roger Anderson  
2040 S. Pacheco  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission  
Attention: Jerry Sexton  
1000 W. Broadway  
Hobbs, New Mexico 88240

New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission  
Attention: Wayne Price  
1000 W. Broadway  
Hobbs, New Mexico 88240