



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

Bradley Angel
Executive Director
Greenaction
1095 Market Street
Suite 712
San Francisco, CA 94103

JUL 9 2008

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Dear Mr. Angel,

The U.S. EPA Region 9 Office has asked me to contact you about the status of a hazardous waste management facility that previously had been proposed to be built 10 miles from Quitovac, a community of indigenous people in Sonora, Mexico, and 21 miles from Sonoyta, also in Sonora. In my role with EPA's Office of Solid Waste, I work at the national level of EPA and regularly correspond with the Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT) on U.S.-Mexico border waste topics. In several discussions over the last year, SEMARNAT has informed the Office of Solid Waste that it is no longer seeking to permit or site the formerly proposed hazardous waste management facility at what was known as the "CEGIR site," 10 miles from Quitovac. For more than a year, SEMARNAT has abandoned attempts to site the CEGIR facility at that location.

At a Border 2012 meeting this year SEMARNAT continued publicly to express their need for additional environmentally sound hazardous waste management facilities. SEMARNAT also said they are interested in strengthening their expertise on community participation in environmental decisions. SEMARNAT's statements recognize the importance of improving the community participation process, particularly in major site decisions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rick Picardi".

Rick Picardi
U.S. EPA
Office of Solid Waste

cc: Alfonso Flores (SEMARNAT)