

# STATE OF COLORADO

Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor  
James B. Martin, Executive Director

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

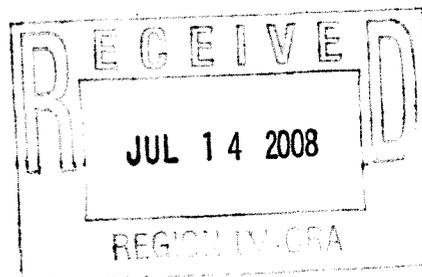
4300 Cherry Creek Dr. S.  
Denver, Colorado 80246-1530  
Phone (303) 692-2000  
TDD Line (303) 691-7700  
Located in Glendale, Colorado

Laboratory Services Division  
8100 Lowry Blvd.  
Denver, Colorado 80230-6928  
(303) 692-3090

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us>



Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment



July 7, 2008

The Honorable Wes McKinley  
State Representative District 64  
9635 County Road 44  
Walsh, CO 81090

Subject: Uranium in Soils at the Piñon Canyon Maneuvering Site, Fort Carson, Colorado

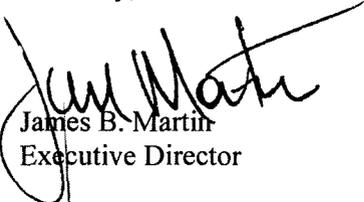
Dear Representative McKinley:

Thank you for your letter of June 23, 2008 calling upon the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (the department) to accept the U.S. Army's invitation to conduct further soil testing at the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site (PCMS). We understand and share your concerns for the well being of the soldiers and civilians living in your district and throughout southeastern Colorado.

On June 24, 2008, I sent a letter (attached) to Major General Mark Graham at Fort Carson, asking the Army to investigate and characterize the potential for elevated concentrations of uranium in soil at PCMS, to determine whether it is naturally occurring, and to evaluate any associated health threats. This department stands ready to assist the Army in developing plans to conduct a systematic, scientifically valid investigation of this issue.

We will keep you informed of the Army's response to my request, and of next steps, and will keep you apprised of new developments as they occur. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Joe Vranka, Radiation Unit Leader in our Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division at 303-692-3402 or [joseph.vranka@state.co.us](mailto:joseph.vranka@state.co.us)

Sincerely,

  
James B. Martin  
Executive Director

cc: Bill Maier, Regional/State Liaison, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Carol Rushin, Acting Region 8 Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Maj. General Mark Graham, Commanding General, Division West, First Army and Fort Carson  
Joe Vranka, Radiation Unit Leader, Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment