

Mayor
Willard Rodarmel
Mayor Pro Tem
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Council Members
John Gordon
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William Siegel



**Office of the
City Manager**

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May 1, 2012

Mr. Jared Blumenfeld
Regional Administrator
USEPA, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
Mail Code: ORA-1
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Blumenfeld:

I am writing to inform you of the City of Lemoore's strong support for the expansion of the B-18 hazardous waste landfill at Waste Management's (WM) Kettleman Hills Facility. We have been following the permit process for the Facility for many years and we are aware of the numerous recent health and environmental studies conducted on the site and the findings concluding no evidence of health risks to the local community or the environment.

The City of Lemoore and Kings County rely on the WM Facility for the safe treatment and disposal of hazardous waste. This expansion is important to our City and the economic wellbeing of Kings County and the numerous businesses, government facilities, municipalities and industries that take or have their hazardous waste taken to the Kettleman Hills Facility.

The City of Lemoore and WM have worked cooperatively for many years; the company has supported many important and worthwhile environmental and educational causes within the City. However, we would not be making this request if we did not believe the Facility was safe, well regulated and providing a vital environmental and public safety service to the City of Lemoore, the Central Valley and the State of California.

In addition, Waste Management has been an integral part of Kings County for over 32 years. It is one of the County's largest employers with approximately 90 employees from Lemoore and the surrounding communities. Information gathered from its website boasts that when operating at its normal capacity, economic benefits to the local economy total \$17.5 million each year through payroll and the purchase of goods and services, while nearly \$3 million goes directly to the County General Fund. Delays in the permitting process have already had an impact on the company, which has resulted in reduced financial benefits to the local economy and the loss of jobs. We are concerned that additional delays could degrade our economy further.

"In God We Trust"

I urge you to consider the health and economic wellbeing of Waste Management and the neighboring communities and residents that rely on its economic benefits, jobs, and services, all of which may be further jeopardized by delaying or not granting the Waste Management Kettleman Hills Facility its necessary permits.

We appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact us at (559) 924-6700 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Willard J. Rodarmel
Mayor

cc: Edwin "Chip" Poalinelli, USEPA
Arlene Kabei, USEPA
Robert G. Henry, Waste Management, Kettleman Hills Facility