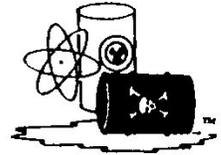


**Environmental Information Network (EIN), Inc.**  
1218 S. Brentwood St, Lakewood, CO 80232  
303-233-6677, 303-601-9271



**PRESS RELEASE**

**SEPT 15, 2018**

**PRESS RELEASE**

## **RE: OPENING OF ROCKY FLATS WILDLIFE REFUGE TO PUBLIC ACCESS**

“EIN has 32 years of knowledge from involvement in research and participating in high level scientific panels and discussions regarding the nature and extent of contamination from the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Facility. This area should be permanently closed to public access. The uncharacterized RF Buffer Zone is being used for trails, and is a danger from hot spots and laterally seeping migration of contaminants to surface soil from the high ground water table pushing contamination up and out. The Department of Energy (US DOE) has failed in their duty. We recommend a permanent ban on burning radioactive thatch and no public access.”

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT:** The ongoing legacy of the former Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Facility and the official opening of the “Rocky Flats Nuclear Wildlife Refuge” for public access is a bad idea. Since Rocky Flats opened in 1952, the community has had unrelenting exposure to low level ionizing radiation. **The Wildlife Refuge is the old Rocky Flats Buffer Zone.** Designating it a “Wildlife Refuge” was done originally with the idea that this would keep the public out.

The USEPA’s Administrative decision to remove nearby off-site areas from the Superfund cleanup list was premature and politically driven. **The Plutonium soil standard for cleanup was based on existing contamination, not human health and safety.** Many people have become ill and/or have died since Rocky Flats had over 200 accidents, fires, and daily releases from 42+ vents and stacks during its years of operation and from the sloppy partial “cleanup” that included imploding and burying buildings. The original cleanup estimate was \$37 Billion for over 65 years. In our opinion, it’s impossible to do cleanup on a site of this complexity with \$7 Billion over 10 years without cutting corners and massive fraud.

Rocky Flats Steelworker Union minutes indicated clandestine burials in the RF Buffer Zone, Plutonium, Americium, Uranium, and thousands of exotic chemical

contaminants have not been assessed and have yet to be identified and cleaned up. The main industrial area is still present, with contaminants buried onsite laterally migrating into the RF Buffer Zone area. Massive flooding of 2013 displaced a lot of material. There was no re-characterization or identification of where contamination migrated.

There has been no air monitoring during earth moving activities and construction of Candelas, Whisper Creek, or Five Parks developments. People have come forward who have family members with rare cancers and immune system issues in those areas. **Where has the contaminated excavated material been taken to?** Was it used for landscaping and new foundations in these new developments or somewhere else?

Despite lawsuits filed demanding environmental testing and appropriate “warning” signage, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has doggedly moved forward to open the Rocky Flats Wildlife Refuge to public access. There is no signage explaining history of what has happened at this site, or warning of possible exposure to contamination in this area. US FWS will never acknowledge the contamination being potentially hazardous to the public, or they would be held accountable.

We hold the USEPA, Colorado Department of “Public Health” and the Environment (CDPHE), USDOJ, and US FWS responsible for future illness and deaths due to exposure from this site from public access. Those responsible for denying the nature of this property include: USEPA, CDPHE, developers, Jefferson County, and **most especially the City of Arvada**. They should all be held accountable and prosecuted for crimes against our community (humanity) for allowing the unmonitored moving of contaminated materials, and development so close to Colorado’s Plutonium ground zero – Rocky Flats.

We urge the public to stay away from this area. Take action by contacting Colorado’s Congressional representatives and Attorney General (Ph: 720-508-6000) to indict those that have misrepresented the danger and threat to the public due to the history of this facility and encouraging public access. The contamination is there, and is continuing to redistribute in the ecosystem.

Permanent real time monitors and a robust air monitoring program should be re-established. The original Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Facility signage needs to be put back up. **Warning signs at every entrance** with respirators or masks

to give out, with hand and foot washing stations should be present. A pamphlet describing the history, current day hazards, and protective practices acceptable to all parties needs to be available to everyone entering this site.

Please just say no and stay away for your own good, your family, pets, and neighbors. Anyone recreating at this site risks carrying minute particles of Plutonium, Americium, Uranium, and other contaminants home on their clothing and shoes. Washing and drying clothes resuspends it in your home and yard where dryers vent, leading to pets and neighbor's exposure. Vacuuming these materials resuspends it. Dr. Edward Martell, NCAR Radiochemist said **it only takes TWO Plutonium alpha particle hits to a cell through breathing to induce a cancer.** If you had radon in your home, you would try to keep that out of your home by venting it. It's odorless and tasteless.

Be informed. Be smart. Just don't go there.

**Keep the Rocky Flats Nuclear Wildlife Refuge closed permanently.**

It was meant to keep the public out, not invite them in.

**From the Directors of EIN:**

- Paula Elofson-Gardine: [pjelofson@gmail.com](mailto:pjelofson@gmail.com)  
Executive Director
- Susan Elofson-Hurst: [susandhurst@aol.com](mailto:susandhurst@aol.com)  
Environmental Investigator
- Barb and Joe Moore: [barbaramoore5302@comcast.net](mailto:barbaramoore5302@comcast.net)  
Directors  
Joe's Interview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AEmh4aJ-gbw&t=12s>
- Dale Simpson, Jr.: [zoomzeep3@yahoo.com](mailto:zoomzeep3@yahoo.com)  
Director

**References:**

<https://denver.cbslocal.com/guide/rocky-flats-colorados-nuclear-shadow/>  
<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ocas/pdfs/tbd/rocky2-r1.pdf>

**About EIN:** The co-founders of Environmental Information Network (EIN), Inc (Estab. 1989) have been involved in issues regarding the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons facility since 1986. EIN focused on researching radiological and chemical contamination, and disseminating technical information for public education. Known internationally and nationally as subject matter experts on the Rocky Flats plant, EIN contributed 135 linear feet of research and

educational materials to the University of Colorado at Boulder's Norlin Library Atomic West Collection.