

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –
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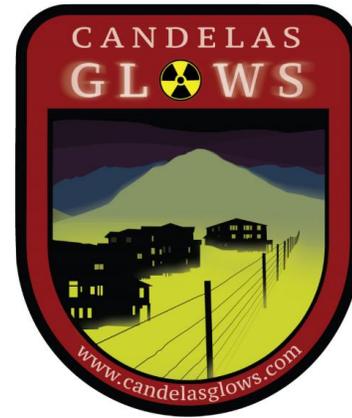
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**Protest Against the Opening of the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge on
September 15th, 1-3:30pm at EPA Headquarters in Downtown Denver**

(Denver, CO)- Back in June 2013, along a windblown stretch of road near Rocky Flats, a small group of neighbors gathered on what was soon to be Candelas Parkway to raise concerns about developing houses next to the former nuclear weapons manufacturing site.

Calling themselves Candelas Glows, a renewed movement was born, working to educate people in the area about the history of Rocky Flats, and to warn neighbors and potential homebuyers of the dangers of living next to the radioactive Superfund site at the center of the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge.

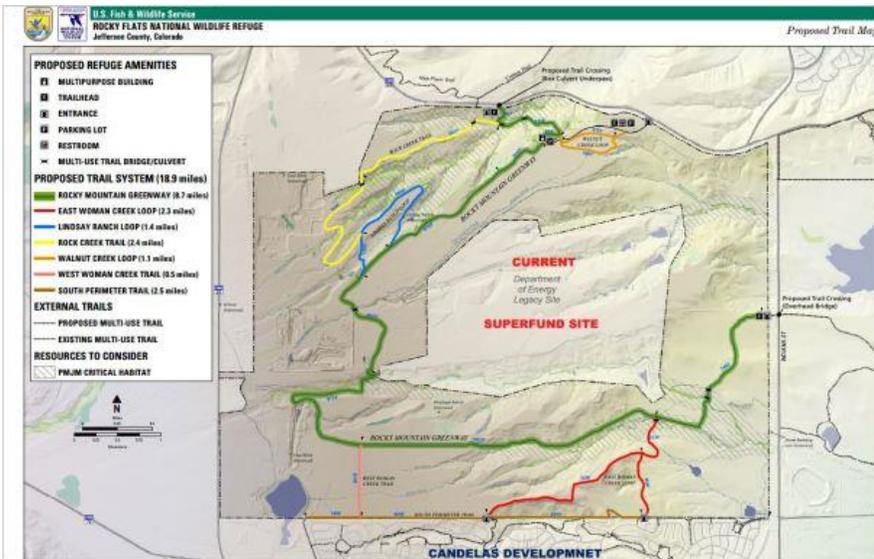
Today, this group, now over 1,500 strong, are hosting a protest at the EPA Headquarters in Downtown Denver (16th and Wynkoop) on September 15th, 2018 at 1- 3:30 pm. Candelas Glows would like to see the EPA, which originally partnered with the FBI to shut down Rocky Flats in 1989, come forward to keep the refuge closed to humans in the interest of public health.

"Colorado representatives and lawmakers should work with the EPA and the Department of Energy to draft legislation to designate the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge as permanently off-limits," says Michelle Gabrieloff-Parish, Founder of Candelas Glows. "The intent of this action is to raise awareness, and to ask the EPA to rework the Rocky Flats case. The EPA needs to revisit their risk assessment exposure standards for the area, focusing on public health and the inhalation risks of alpha radiation from plutonium."

Among many concerns, the floods of 2013, breached the containment cap on the Superfund site at the center of the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge, possibly causing radiation to pass onto the refuge and there's been no testing on the refuge to confirm what happened either way. The Superfund site continues to have above the "allowable limit" exceedances

of plutonium (Pu), americium, VOC's, etc., which then pass onto the refuge site in the surface water as well.

“Both government and independent tests confirm elevated levels and “hotspots” of Pu on and around the refuge grounds. With so many other great places to recreate in Colorado that don't have elevated levels of radioactive contamination, what is the urgency in opening Rocky Flats?” asks Candelas Glows Director Alesya Casse.



Rocky Flats is the site of the former Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Facility, where plutonium smelting took place for 40+ years to manufacture America's nuclear arsenal. In 1989, the nuclear weapons plant was raided by the FBI and EPA and shut down for egregious environmental infractions which included illegal dumping, spraying, and burning of nuclear waste on the site. The Superfund site

cleanup included burying most of the industrial plutonium processing buildings in place, and no remediation of any of the soil in the surrounding buffer zone, now the “wildlife refuge.”

For more information on the demonstration, visit the Facebook event here (www.facebook.com/events/284816358773539) and visit www.CandelasGlows.com.

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