‘Don’t worry its just low-level radioactive waste:’ An appraisal and processing case study

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About TSLAC
Brief history of the Authority
Brief history of the Authority

No Fueron Afectadas Las Plantas Nucleares Por El Terremoto En California

Ninguna de las cinco plantas nucleares operadas en California sufrieron daños como resultado del terremoto que ocurre en California en octubre de 1989. Las plantas de Diablo Canyon, a 108 millas del epicentro de Santa Cruz, fueron las únicas plantas de las cinco, al centro del terremoto. El movimiento del suelo en el sitio se midió a 39,000 millas por hora, provocando la cesación de las operaciones de la compañía, Pacific Gas and Electric Company. A declarar un "evento de baja intensidad" en el más bajo de las cuatro clasificaciones de alerta. Sin embargo, el movimiento del suelo se detuvo por debajo del nivel que se reporta, y cada día se reporta otra vez.

La Unidad 2 en la estación Diablo Canyon continuó operando a 100% de su capacidad durante el terremoto, generando electricidad que se necesitaba en California (continúa en p. 2).

Chris Pollard Gana El Reconocimiento de Mujer Sobresaliente

Christine Pollard, física de seguridad certificada para la Autoridad, fue seleccionada como una de las finalistas para un reconocimiento especial por los jueces participantes de la categoría de Desarrollo Profesional Sobresaliente en los Premios de Mujeres Sobresalientes en el Gobierno de Texas. Fue nominada por su trabajo en el campo de la radiología.

Los Premios de Mujeres Sobresalientes en el Gobierno de Texas se dan en una ceremonia anual para reconocer las contribuciones de mujeres que han ayudado a dar forma a la historia del Gobierno de Texas. Las mujeres que han ayudado a dar forma a la historia del Gobierno de Texas son reconocidas en este campo de la historia de las mujeres. Las mujeres que han ayudado a dar forma a la historia del Gobierno de Texas son reconocidas en este campo de la historia de las mujeres.

Las nominaciones fueron presentadas por la Dirección General de la Agencia en el campo de las actividades en el campo que son seleccionados por sus jueces. Además de las candidaturas, Christine fue una de las finalistas para el Premio de Mujer Sobresaliente en el Gobierno de Texas. Christine fue una de las finalistas para el Premio de Mujer Sobresaliente en el Gobierno de Texas. Christine fue una de las finalistas para el Premio de Mujer Sobresaliente en el Gobierno de Texas.
Brief history of the Authority

1985 - McMullen County
1990 - Fort Hancock
1992 - Faskin Ranch
Brief history of the Authority

Dear Representative,

I urge you to vote and lobby strongly AGAINST the "Compact Bill" (HR 558). This bill would allow Texas to become a radioactive waste dumping ground for the rest of the nation, against the will of the people of Texas. While other states were allowed to vote to send their waste to Texas, the citizens of Texas were given no say in the matter. Surveys show that 82% of the state is against the dump.

The highly radioactive waste (including long-lived elements such as plutonium and technetium) will travel through countless other states by truck from Maine, Vermont, and other states on its way to the Mexican border to be dumped in shallow dirt trenches.

Passing the Compact Bill is an endorsement of environmental racism. The site Texas has chosen for its dump, Sierra Blanca, is 16 miles from México. Two thirds of its residents are Chicanos, and 40% live below the poverty line. Sierra Blanca is also the site of the nation's largest sewage sludge dump, while the town cannot afford to build its own sewage system.

(name)
(address)
(city/state/zip)
Brief history of the Authority

• License application submitted in 1996.
• License application denied in 1998.
• State Legislature decided to abolish the Authority in 1999.
Conducting the appraisal

Records Appraisal Report:
Texas National Research Laboratory Commission

Overgrown weeds and "for sale" signs dominate both sides of the town's main street. Boarded-up gas stations sit alongside abandoned houses with broken windows. The stucco on the walls of the State Theater -- the long-abandoned movie house -- has worn away, leaving the adobe bricks underneath open to the elements.

The courthouse, too, is crumbling. Large chunks of paint are falling off the gutters. The window frames haven't been painted in decades. The economic boom for Sierra Blanca came more than a century ago, in 1881, when the Southern Pacific and Union Pacific rail lines met. Since then, the town appears to have been in a steady decline. A small museum, open one day a week, holds the town's treasures.

No one will ever mistake Sierra Blanca for a thriving community. The sixth-poorest county in the state, Hudspeth County has a per capita income of $9,526, according to the state comptroller's office. The only economic development on the horizon for this town of 1,600 mostly Hispanic residents comes from the waste no one else in America wants.

Last week, the U.S. House of Representatives approved, by a 3-1 margin, the proposed compact that would allow Maine and Vermont to send radioactive waste to a site five miles west of Sierra Blanca.

During a mid-September visit to Sierra Blanca, the financial allure of radioactive waste was evident. Directly across from the courthouse sits the town's brand new library. Open since May of last year, it cost $275,000, all of which came from the Texas Low Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Authority (TLLRWDA). Trench Sanchez, the librarian, gave a tour of the new facility, which holds 10,000 books.

“We didn't generate one iota of that stuff and they want to dump it on us.” -- Sierra Blanca business owner Gloria Addington

Photograph by Robert Bryce
## Describing archival records

### Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Authority records

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Record Group</th>
<th>Series</th>
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<td>Board and committee meeting files, 1982-1999</td>
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<td>Board appointment files, 1982-1999</td>
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<td>Board executive orders, 1982-1999</td>
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<td>Organizational charts, 1982, 1986, undated</td>
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<td>Public relations materials, 1984-1998</td>
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<td>Administrative correspondence, 1983-1999, undated</td>
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<td>Regional Compact records, 1994-1999</td>
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<td>Contracts for professional services, 1996-1998</td>
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<td>Fort Hancock site development records, 1917, 1920, 1933-1991, undated</td>
<td>Series</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faskin Ranch site development records, 1979-1999, undated</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Describing archival records

Sierra Blanca Legal Defense Fund

MONEY TALKS!
Your financial support is urgently needed. A contribution of $25, $50, $100, or any will help defend legal fees as well as staff and project costs for political organizing. Please make your check payable to the Sierra Blanca Legal Defense Fund.

For tax deductible contributions, make checks payable to the Texas Low-Level Waste Disposal Authority records, 1917, 1920, 1933-1999, undated, bulk 1992-1998: 19b brochure (Sierra Blanca Legal Defense Fund; Austin, TX; SBLDF is a non-profit organization formed in 1994)

SLDF urges organizations to go one step beyond targeting legislators. If you have not yet contacted your legislators, consider doing so now. To find your legislator, visit the Texas Legislative Council website at http://www.legis.state.tx.us.

Organizational names in italics refer to Texas-based organizations (e.g., Abilene, Big Wells, etc.) and are to be contacted for more information.

Sign up to receive updates on the latest news and events by visiting our website at http://www.sbldf.org.

Board:

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Questions?

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