

CA ATLAS ASBESTOS

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

1541 (150)

CONTROLLED CORRESPONDENCE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Director, California State Office

FROM: Director (150)

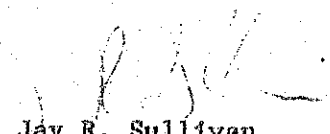
SUBJECT: BLM Clear Creek Management Area

CORRESPONDENT: Congressman Al McCandless

CONSTITUENT: Pat Keenan

CONTROL NUMBER: 12026

- 1. The attached correspondence is forwarded to you for preparation of a report or draft reply, to reach the Director () within ten (10) twenty (20) days from the date of this request.
- 2. The attached correspondence is forwarded to you for appropriate action and direct reply to the correspondent. Replies must be signed by the State Director or Associate. A copy of your reply shall be forwarded to the Director (150). rm 5558 MIB
State Directors must reply to correspondent within five (5) ten (10) twenty (20) days or as otherwise directed.
- 3. By copy of this memorandum the appropriate White House Official Member of Congress General Public or Constituent has been notified of this referral to the above State office for reply.


 Jay R. Sullivan
 (Chief, Office of Congressional Affairs)

October 16, 1990
 (Date)

LEAVE THIS MEMORANDUM ATTACHED TO CORRESPONDENCE

H. Pat Keenan
2567 Bluff St.
Coalinga, Ca, 91750

The Honorable Al McCandless
House of Representatives
Washington
DC.
20515

JUL 05 1990

HL021
CW001

Congressman McCandless:

In re: Opposition to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Superfund involvement in BLM Clear Creek Management Area (CCMA) recreation area.

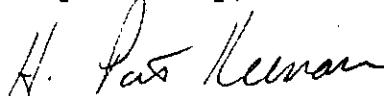
The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) is seeking public comment on its proposed cleanup plan for the Atlas Asbestos Mine Superfund Site located in the BLM's Clear Creek Management Area (CCMA) in Fresno County northwest of the City of Coalinga. I support the parts of the plan that stabilize and prevent asbestos from migrating downstream to Coalinga and the San Joaquin Valley and that stabilize the site to erosion.

However, the EPA is now trying to expand its control power to the majority of the CCMA due to the presence of naturally occurring asbestos in this area. Natural occurrences are outside EPA jurisdiction. This area has been used for many years by 1,000s of OHV enthusiasts, rock and mineral collectors, hunters and sightseers. EPA is demanding that the BLM revise its carefully considered management plan of the area and close the CCMA to virtually all recreational activity. EPA Project Manager Dan Meer has overestimated the health risk from the type of asbestos found in the area.

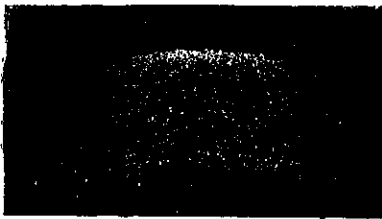
EPA's hazard assessment is seriously flawed because it fails to take into account the wide range of risk from the different mineral species that are grouped under the term "asbestos." EPA admits that it currently has a group studying the problem: "There is a group in EPA that is currently investigating the possibility of assigning different potency factors in some fashion to the different types of asbestos minerals. Their work is not finished. It's...the study's in progress right now. And if and when they do conclude that we can assign different cancer potency factors to the different types of asbestos, then we'll incorporate that into the risk assessment as much as possible" (Mr. Greg Baker, Sunnyvale Public Input Meeting, May 30, 1990). EPA should refrain from demanding that BLM use EPA's current flawed risk assessment until this matter is resolved.

I request that you officially look into this groundless invasion by EPA into our BLM's Clear Creek Management Area. Please contact Manager Dan Meer in his San Francisco office at 800-231-3075, FAX 415-744-1070 to help rectify this intolerable situation. Please keep me abreast as to the progress of the resolution of this matter.

Yours respectfully,



H. Pat Keenan



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The attached communication is submitted for your consideration, and to ask that the request made therein be complied with, if possible.

If you will advise me of your action in this matter and have the letter returned to me with your reply, I will appreciate it.

Ms. Karen Slater
Acting Chief, Congressional
Affairs Division
Bureau of Land Mngmnt
US Department of Interior
18th & C Streets, NW Rm 5558
Washington, DC. 20240

Very Truly yours,



Rep. Al McCandless.....
435 Cannon HOB M.C.
WDC 20515 / 37th District CA
ATTN: SUSAN SHAHEEN

