

“Salt Basin Deep Borehole Research Project” Also known as “Deep Borehole Field Test” (DBFT)
Department of Energy (DOE) Otero County DBFT - Just the Facts

April 2017, Walt Coffman, 1014 NM Hwy 24, Weed, NM 88354

Private Property Rights and the DBFT, Facts:

Fact: No present or proposed law/ordinance restricts Mr. Duggar's private property rights.

Fact: DOE required that all DBFT nuclear research be on leased private land, not Federal land.

Fact: DOE wants the “community” to embrace nuclear waste research in Otero County.

Fact: DOE wants public support, including local government support (per TerranearPMC contract).

Fact: DOE plans a consent-based process (community support) for future nuclear waste disposal sites.

Fact: DOE plans to incrementally bring a DBFT waste disposal to some rural (non-urban) area.

Fact: When DOE does not get support they cry “private property rights”.

Fact: DOE and Mr. Duggar may drill, local resident's opposition or not.

Fact: DOE is asking for Otero County County Commission's stance on the DBFT (contract pg 16, 18)

Fact: Free speech / opinion is not law and is not forbidden. It does not affect property rights.

Fact: Neighbors opposing DOE's DBFT does not affect Mr. Duggar's rights.

Fact: Newspaper articles in opposition to the DBFT do not affect Mr. Duggar's property rights.

Fact: Local government opinions about the project do not affect Mr. Duggar's property rights.

Fact: Businesses expressing opposition to the DBFT do not impact property rights.

Project Facts:

Fact: A good DBFT will leave Otero County as the USA's only proven site for nuclear waste disposal.

Fact: The words “nuclear waste” affect Otero County property values. The effect is not positive.

Fact: The project is funded by \$37,000,000 in your tax money from the Department of Energy (DOE).

Fact: The project is for nuclear waste disposal research.

Fact: The DBFT has never been done before. It is an experiment. No one knows the results from this hole.

Fact: DOE plans to use deep boreholes for their bomb lab radioactive waste disposal, which is expanding.

Fact: By 2018 DOE is legally obligated to remove waste in their contaminated Hanford, WA facility.

Fact: DOE Los Alamos National Lab site is contaminated, waste must be disposed of. Goals past due.

Fact: DOE has many nuclear sites. This “military” nuclear waste amounts to 11,000+ tons (solid).

Fact: DOE military radioactive waste includes 100 million gallons of liquid waste.

Fact: The “Advisory Board” paid by TerranearPMC all have ties to polluted DOE nuclear waste sites.

Fact: The Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (NWTRB) exists for independent review of DOE.

Fact: NWTRB recommended Independent expert review of the drilling program.

Fact: DOE refused the NWTRB recommendation for independent review of drilling plan. DOE only.

Fact: Just two holes thru the Salt Basin Aquifer? Actual number of holes/size/depth is unlimited (contract).

Fact: DOE contractor TerranearPMC has zero experience in large, 3 mile deep borehole drilling.

Fact: NWTRB stated that data from the DBFT test will have little application to other locations.

Fact: DOE agreed that information from the DBFT will have limited application to other locations.

Fact: DOE stated that nuclear disposal boreholes will need site characterization boreholes (\$37M ea.).

Fact: NWTRB recommend “A transparent pathway from the Deep Borehole Field Test to siting” (dump).

Fact: DOE stated it plans a consent-based process (community support) for nuclear waste disposal sites.

Fact: DOE has a plan to incrementally bring a DBFT waste disposal to a rural (non-urban) area.

Fact: DBFT sites in North Dakota, South Dakota and New Mexico are opposed by the local community.

Fact: Damage to the salt basin aquifer would impact Otero County as well as counties in Texas.

Fact: Texas has sued New Mexico over water, and won.

Fact: The Salt Basin Aquifer is the largest fresh water aquifer (most water) in New Mexico.

Fact: Texas is spending millions of dollars developing water output from this fresh water aquifer.

Fact: No representatives from any Texas jurisdiction have been involved in public meetings.

Fact: Liability for aquifer damage is not clear in the TerranearPMC contract and not answered when ask.

Fact: Liability for future damages is not clear in the TerranearPMC contract and not answered when ask.

Fact: DOE has a poor record for honoring contracts and is currently being sued by multiple entities.

Fact: DOE has refused to have a representative at public meeting (NM, ND, SD). They have been asked.