

1:59 PM

TO: Sarah Rae
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Regional Counsel
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202

Received by
EPA Region VIII
Hearing Clerk

REF: ORC-C

From: John F. Starr
151 South Santa Fe Avenue
Pueblo, CO 81006
719-248-0761
jmstrarr1227@msn.com

RE: OBJECTION TO LIENS AGAINST PROPERTY
Parcels: 1501400020
1501100003
1501135001

1. When I purchased this land, I did not know that the property was once the site of a smelter. The previous owner said nothing about possible contamination, nor was possible contamination disclosed during the sales transaction. Had I known or been informed about possible contamination, I would never have considered purchasing the property. I bought the land because I wanted about one-half acre on the north end. It had three billboard signs at that time, producing enough revenue to pay the property taxes. Two of those billboards have since been removed.
2. I did not contaminate the property in any way. I have not disturbed any of the soil. I used it only for storing a few construction items on its north end. Thus, it is not fair that I should pay for the pollution that occurred over a century ago. That is the purpose of the Superfund.
3. It would be a financial hardship for me to pay for any cleanup. I am retired and will be 75 next month. I live on a limited income. A lien on this property would have a negative effect on my retirement income.
4. The EPA wants to see this property developed and put to good use. No one would purchase this land if there is a lien against it. At this time, I am trying to sell the property that was once a part of the smelter site. About one and one-half acres of this land could be developed, perhaps storage units as there are none in the area. Such development would be a win-win situation as a clean fill base would cover the ground, which would then be capped with concrete or pavement. If a lien is placed against this property, no one would invest in it, creating a lose-lose situation that would be of no benefit to the EPA, to the community, or to me.
5. In conclusion, I ask that the EPA not file liens against these parcels for the above reasons. If necessary, I request a neutral official to present this information. I would also like a conference call concerning the above if it gets to that point. Please resolve this situation as quickly as possible.

Respectfully submitted,
John F. Starr

Tribbett, Katherine (Kate)

From: John Starr <jfstarr@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 6, 2022 2:21 PM
To: Rae, Sarah
Subject: [SPAM-Sender] Property Lien
Attachments: john starr.odt

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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