

# STATE OF COLORADO

Bill Owens, Governor  
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*Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado*

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION**  
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**Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment**

January 26, 2001

Mr. Joseph Legare  
Assistant Manager  
Environment and Infrastructure  
U.S. Department of Energy, Rocky Flats Field Office  
10808 Highway 93, Unit A  
Golden, CO 80403-8200

Dear Mr. Legare:

We have received the Building 779 Decommissioning Closeout Report Revision 0, dated April 2000. Our staff has reviewed the report, and with several minor revisions added based on consultation during the review process, finds the document to be acceptable.

This completes all decommissioning activities for the building 779 project. Our building project coordinator, Edd Kray, would like to thank the building 779 project staff for making this project so successful.

This was the first decommissioning of a significantly contaminated plutonium weapons production building to have ever occurred anywhere. This was also the first large-scale removal of plutonium production gloveboxes and HVAC systems. The project staff had little if any previous decommissioning examples upon which to base its plans and actions. Nevertheless, implementation of the Integrated Safety Management System (ISM) on D&D was pioneered by this project and set an example and lesson for subsequent Rocky Flats decommissioning projects. Involvement of D&D workers in hazards analysis and work planning was a major reason for the safety and success of the project.

It is difficult to single out just a few individuals for recognition, but we wish to especially thank Mr. Mike Korenko and Mr. Mark Hickman for project planning and management excellence. Mr. John Whiting of Kaiser Hill was outstanding in his role as project coordinator; informing the regulators of arising issues and bringing appropriate people together to quickly and efficiently resolve these issues. Mrs. Kathy Zbryk deserves special recognition for daily solving complex waste-management issues and keeping the project moving forward. Finally, the radiological engineering staff in 779 including Mike Grube and Sarah Roberts, were essential to project planning, safety and final survey success and efficiency.

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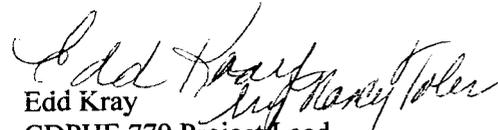
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The experience and knowledge from 779 has paved the way for success in decommissioning the other plutonium buildings at Rocky Flats and across the Department of Energy complex.

We look forward to working with the 779 staff as they move on to these other plutonium buildings and wish to acknowledge their pioneering status within the DOE system.

Sincerely,

  
Steven H. Gunderson  
CDPHE RFCA Project Coordinator

  
Edd Kray  
CDPHE 779 Project Lead

cc: Dave Shelton, K.H.  
Tim Rehder, EPA  
Glenn Doyle, DOE  
Administrative Records, Bldg. 850



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