

WCS

Dear Editor

I am so tired of turning on the TV or opening up the Odessa American and hearing how bad WCS is doing. Yet there all for the Coal plant. In Farmington back in the sixties when they put in the first Coal electirc plant you would go out in the morning and have to sweep off about a 1/2 inch of coal dust from your windshield so you could drive to work. They put in scrubbers and cured the problem.

In 1942 when I was a kid in Durango, Colo., they put in a plant it was hush hush what they were doing, but after the war we found out it was the first plant to process uranium and sent it to Los Alamos to make the first bomb. The plant was closed in 1945 and they left two pits of horrible green liquid on the edge of town until 2000.

The reason they set there so long the Enviromentalist fought the Waste Isolation Pilot Program in Carlsbad, N.M. where it was to be stored. Isn't it wonderful to have people so worried about your health that something like this remained for years not a half-mile from the Animas River. If it had gotten in the river it would have affected people all the way to California. The Animas River runs into the San Juan which runs into the Colorado River in Arizona.

James Roberts was a man with a vision I served on the Industrial Board and learned so much from this man. He came up with the idea of a low level waste site after a group of us went to the WHIP Site and saw all the safety precautions they take to build one of these plants. We first consulted local oil men that had been drilling in this county for a long long time. After about a year of research they came up with the site wcs is in now. Next we had Texas Tech research all the data they could find to see if this would be a good site. Based up on there research we went after a low level company. This was not done in a month this research took time and covered all data they could find to make sure this was a safe site. We then took it to the people of Andrews to make sure the community understood what a plant of this nature would process. We had several of these meeting as we wanted to make sure the people understood what wcs was all about. Not everyone agreed we had a few who objected and we repected there objections but based upon on all the data we had we knew this was the safeist place for this type of facility. The Enviromentalist make a living fighting progress and safety. Enviromental protection is of prime importance but it should not hender the safety of all while doing so. I am convinced on the data that we were presented with that this is the safest place in the U.S. for what is being stored in it.

Andrews is a very progressive town with people who go out in the oil field every day knowing if they are drilling a well that the chances are they are going to go thru urinum as it is under us. They have little flags on a lot of their trucks to see which way the wind is blowing because a lot of the wells they are working on have sour (H2S) gas. Most people in this town understand that this plant is nothing compared to the danger they live and work in everyday.

Humbly submitted

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Past member of Andrews Industrial Foundation Board
Past President of the Chamber of Commerce

cc: Andrews Co. News
Odessa American
T.L.W.C.C.
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