



Taos Mesa Brewing

20 ABC Mesa Rd El Prado, NM 87529

Jayson Wylie
President/CEO

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June 21, 2019

Mr. Jason Herman, NMED Permit Contact
Ground Water Quality Bureau
1190 South St. Francis Drive, Ste. N4050
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469

GROUND WATER

JUN 21 2019

BUREAU

RE: NMED Discharge Permit #465

Dear Mr. Herman:

As a brewing, restaurant, and entertainment business on the Mesa in El Prado, NM, we are writing to request that you do not renew S&R Septic Service's (SRS) license to dump raw sewage near our venue.

Knowing that other companies, homeowners, and homeowner associations have reached out to you with their concerns and expert opinion regarding the potential damage being done to the environment by SRS, we want to submit for your consideration additional reasons why you should not renew their grandfathered license.

Our business model is straightforward; namely, we primarily generate income from the sale of beer we manufacture and distribute at our facility. While altruistic intentions also motivate us, we present a wide variety of music to the larger Northern NM and Taos communities to attract customers who in turn purchase our beer, food, and other products (always adhering to the terms and conditions of our special-use permit). It is that "give and take" that allows us to maintain operations. Unfortunately and increasingly, we believe the Taos Mesa Brewing experience, heralded in numerous publications as one of the reasons tourists visit our community, is being negatively affected by SRS's continued practice of dumping raw sewage nearby. This problem has become so acute that we now fear for our business survival.

The stench and the swarms of flies associated with raw sewage are often pervasive, which cause a less than attractive consumer experience and, as you can well imagine, despite our best efforts to remedy the problem, cannot be prevented without your support. We are also concerned about the associated health risk the infestation of flies poses. Having spent considerable effort and expense to control the problem, we firmly believe the root solution is the permanent suspension of SRS's license to dump raw sewage adjacent to us, especially given the fact that all other septic services are required to use approved sewage treatment facilities.

A simple financial analysis will certainly reveal to you that Taos Mesa Brewing contributes more to the community in terms of tax revenue and jobs than does SRS. While open-pit dumping of sewage is otherwise prohibited, inexplicably SRS continues to be "grandfathered" in this regard. The question so many are now asking is, "Why?" SRS must gain

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some competitive advantage in avoiding the fees charged by sewage treatment facilities, but these facilities exist for a reason; namely, the protection of the environment and the community. Accordingly, recognizing it is contrary to the best interests of the community, we cannot understand why your office would approve SRS's continued dumping of raw sewage into open pits. In terms of ensuring a continued flow of more considerable tax revenue, more jobs for the local community, and further protecting the quality of the environment for current and future generations, it only makes sense that you hold SRS to the same raw sewage treatment standards required of their competitors.

In closing, we hope you will give strong consideration to our argument and those of others in our community and decide against renewing S&R Septics' raw sewage dumping license.

Sincerely,



Jayson Wylie
President/CEO
Taos Mesa Brewing Company
575-779-0449