

**NM ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
STATES 'DATA DOES NOT SUGGEST THAT ANY ILLEGAL
OR CLANDESTINE ACTIVITY IS OCCURRING'**

This letter was recently received by Santa Fe NM citizens:



GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Environmental Protection Division
2048 Galisteo
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110



PETER MAGGIORE
SECRETARY

PAUL RITZMAN
DEPUTY SECRETARY

22 September, 1999

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Santa Fe, NM 87505

RE: Contrails

Dear [REDACTED]

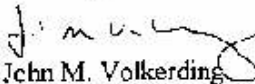
I thank you for your call expressing your concerns over the potential activities of aircraft in the Santa Fe area. The Air Quality Bureau does not have authority over mobile sources of air emissions (i.e. cars, trucks, or planes); however, due to the number of complaints received in our office I have attempted to conduct some research into the potential nature of these activities.

I contacted the National Guard, U.S. Army, New Mexico Agricultural Department, New Mexico Department of Military Affairs, and the Federal Aviation Administration. Each of these agencies has contacted our Bureau regarding our information request and the data does not suggest that any illegal or clandestine activity is occurring.

I have included a copy of a scientific document, which discusses the various potential origins of the observed contrails. The document also contains references to many atmospheric sites that detail the chemical and physical properties of the atmosphere and the mechanics of meteorology.

Again I want to thank you for contacting our office, I encourage you to keep the Bureau abreast of your concerns, and I do hope that the enclosed information addresses your questions. If you have any further questions on this or any other issue, please feel free to contact me at the address below or 505-827-1494 x1496.

Sincerely,


John M. Volkerding
Environmental Specialist
Enforcement

Encl: Central Information

cc: file