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September 11, 2006

The Honorable Kenneth J. Krieg
Under Secretary of Defense
Acquisition, Technology and Logistics
3010 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-3010

Dear Secretary Krieg,

I am writing regarding your imminent decision on the disposal of hydrolysate at Pueblo Chemical Depot.

I respect and support the need to move forward with a decision on this matter as part of the overall plan on chemical weapons destruction. In making that decision, I understand that your office must perform a cost analysis of the alternatives. When calculating whether offsite treatment of hydrolysate will actually save the government money, I assume that any cost analysis will take into account (1) the costs of potential legal challenges, including the costs due to any delays that may occur as a result of those challenges, and (2) the impact any such delays might have on chemical weapons destruction timetables. If the cost analysis being used does not include these factors, please so advise, along with the rationale for exclusion.

I am encouraged by the progress made in the Alternative Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA) program over the past year, and hope we can work to avoid any further delays in the ultimate destruction of the chemical weapons stockpiled at Pueblo Chemical Depot.

Sincerely,



Ken Salazar
United States Senate