

SHORT REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY
Community Environmental Working Group: Accomplishments
(August 2011 - July 2012)

“Striving for Continuous Environmental Improvements at Intel”

About the CEWG

The Community Environmental Working Group, which began in August, 2004, is a volunteer organization that meets monthly to pursue its mission of continuous environmental improvement and improved community dialogue on environmental issues related to Intel New Mexico. The Group explores and discusses concerns and ideas from all relevant interest groups, including Intel and the surrounding community.

Each year, the CEWG sends out an annual report of accomplishments entitled “Short Report to the Community.” The accomplishments in this report are steps that environmental and health regulatory agencies are excluded from requiring under current law. Actual accomplishments always fall short of what might be desired, yet they still add to useful progress.¹

Environmental Improvements

- Because of new EPA regulations for greenhouse gas emissions, Intel is now classified as a major source. The permit application has been submitted and a major source permit is expected to be issued by NMED in 2013.
- Intel arranged new RTO stacks so that they are not clustered, leading to lower ground-level concentrations of pollutants than clustered stacks would have produced.
- The CEWG devoted most of this year to the possible study of hydrogen fluoride spikes, but given the complexity of the issue and mixed reactions from the community, the Group was unable to begin such a study and has no improvements to report this year.

Communications & Process Actions

- Intel invited residents to visit Intel and observe VOC sampling.
- A new communication plan was implemented. We now have a new CEWG website for immediate document posting, an email newsletter, and a Facebook page.
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) regarding the silica study were developed and approved.
- The NM Department of Health Report on Pulmonary Fibrosis was sent to Dr. Jonathan Samet and the ATSDR for review. Dr. Samet replied and agreed with the methods and conclusions of the report.
- The chair of the Silica Testing Task Force gave several community presentations on the silica testing project.

¹ Actual accomplishments always fall short of what might be desired, yet they still add to useful progress. The accomplishments reported here are attributable to various members of the public, public agencies, Intel management and engineers, and discussions of the CEWG.