

# MEMORANDUM

New Mexico Office of the State Engineer  
*Water Use and Conservation Bureau*

August 20, 2001

**To:** Brian Wilson, P.E., Water Use and Conservation Bureau Chief  
**From:** Patrick J. Romero, Water Master I  
**Subject:** Montano Master Plan, Santa Fe County

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The Montano proposal is a request to build commercial facilities on a vacant 5.6-acre lot. The new facilities include a cement plant as well as light industrial, commercial, and retail facilities. The lot is located west of the intersection of Aviation Drive and Airport Road (CR56), just outside the Santa Fe city limits, in Section 11 of T16N, R8E, N.M.P.M.. This proposal was reviewed pursuant to the Santa Fe County Land Development Regulations. The developer proposes that water will be supplied to this development via the County of Santa Fe.

The developer has submitted a water supply plan, which includes a calculation of the amount of water his development will require, pursuant to Article VII, Section 6.3.2 of the Santa Fe County Land Development Regulations. The amount, 10.95 acre-feet per year, was based on the City of Santa Fe's publication, "Water Use in Santa Fe". This publication was written by the Santa Fe City Planning Department.

The developer has failed to submit a letter from the county water utility in which the county states that they are ready, willing, and able to supply this development, pursuant to Article VII, Section 6.4.4.a of the Santa Fe County Land Development Regulations. Should the developer secure this letter from the county, the county will have to provide evidence that they have the water rights as well as the necessary infrastructure to make this commitment.

It is my conclusion that the developer has not demonstrated that sufficient water is available to meet the requirements of his development. A favorable opinion to this effect should be withheld.