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## **Community Environmental Working Group**

### ***Report on Water Discussions***

August 15, 2007

Over the past several months, the CEWG has been engaged in a study of Intel-related water issues involving interviews, website research, and a panel discussion of experts unrelated to Intel.\*

Our primary purpose was to open a good dialogue on water issues, provide basic information and sources, and gain important insights. This report summarizes key findings.

The most useful information we learned includes the following:

1. A panel of water authorities agreed that all industry, including Intel, uses only a few percent or less of all water used in the Albuquerque region.
2. The panel also agreed that Rio Rancho and Intel draw from a different aquifer than does Corrales. The Corrales aquifer has dropped some 50 feet in the past few years, but the studies show that the drop is due to the increased population and the quadrupling of wells in Corrales. Any flow between the Corrales aquifer and the deeper aquifer to the south that Intel and Rio Rancho use would occur over a period of 400 to 1000 years, if at all.
3. Like water used throughout the urban region, most of the water withdrawn and used by Intel is returned to the river. Intel's water is monitored and returned after treatment by the Albuquerque municipal waste water system. Intel, along with other users except the pueblos, has shared all the information from their monitoring and production wells.
4. The complexity of hydrogeology and its impact on water quantity and quality is hard to make clear to all segments of the public. There are several different kinds of aquifers in the Albuquerque basin. Researching the aquifers is a science that uses many different techniques to understand the characteristics of each aquifer.
5. Issues of water quantity, quality, and division among urban, industrial, and agricultural users will continue to grow as the state population grows.

These issues remain important to the public, and the CEWG will continue to revisit water as appropriate into the future.

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\* See CEWG Water Dossier dated April 25, 2007; Short Report to the Community dated July 18, 2007; and Meeting Summary of April 18, 2007. These documents can be found at <http://www.intel.com/community/newmexico/cewg.htm>