

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD, CAMPBELL, HEFLEY AND BEAUPREZ SEEK LOWRY ASBESTOS CLEAN UP COSTS FROM AIR FORCE COLORADO LAWMAKERS SEND LETTER TO SECRETARY OF AIR FORCE

Washington, D.C. – Colorado U.S. Senators Wayne Allard and Ben Nighthorse Campbell along with, Colorado 5th District Representative, Joel Hefley, 7th District Representative, Bob Beauprez and 2nd District Representative Mark Udall today sent a letter to Secretary of the Air Force, James G. Roche, seeking immediate reimbursement of the more than \$4 million in costs related to clean up of asbestos found at the former Lowry Air Force base in north east Denver.

“In my opinion, the Air Force has both a legal and moral obligation to pay for any and all costs associated with the clean up of the asbestos found recently at Lowry ,” said Allard. “When the Air Force turned Lowry over to the Redevelopment Authority they stated that all environmental concerns had been addressed and that if any future concerns developed they would assume responsibility for them.”

"The asbestos problems at Lowry are clearly from the old base facilities, and the obligation for their clean up and indemnification rests with the Air Force," Beauprez said. "The Air Force needs to deal in the same good faith manner that private citizens are obliged to uphold."

In April 2003, asbestos was discovered in the soil where an Air Force hospital was once located at the former Air Force base. Since that time, the Lowry Redevelopment Authority, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and homebuilders have been working on identifying the problem and developing a cleanup plan. To date the Air Force has refused to put forth any money for sampling and clean up activities.

The Colorado lawmakers said they would be following up their letter with a request to meet personally with Secretary Roche to discuss the issue.

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