



# News Release

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SILOS

## Salvaged Silos to be Celebrated at Signing Ceremony

**Roswell, NM** – An Atlas "F" Missile ready for reuse declarations signing ceremony will be held in Roswell, New Mexico Wednesday, September 16 to dedicate the 8 out of 12 missile silos located East of Roswell that were inspected and cleared for reuse by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The signing will take place at the Eastern New Mexico University Occupational Technology Center, Seminar Room 124, located at 20 West Mathis, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Following the ceremony the Corps will hold a public information session at the same location to provide information on inspection activities at the 12 Atlas "F" Missile Silos.

"The ready for reuse declaration is significant because it recognizes when potential threats to the environment have been evaluated and, if necessary, cleaned up to the extent that a property is safe for its current use or planned future use", said Brian Jordan, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project manager.

Historic records indicate that construction of the Walker AFB Atlas "F" missile silos began in 1960. All 12 missile silos were operational by 1962. Between 1962 and 1964, the 12 missile silos were on alert status, serving as a deterrent against possible attacks on the United States or its allies.

In 1964 the Air Force phased out the Atlas Missile Program and deactivated the 12 missile silos. Between 1965 and 1968, the Air Force declared the property surplus and the U.S. Government sold the 12 sites to non-Department of Defense entities. Between 2004 and 2006, the Corps completed preliminary assessment reports for all 12 missile silos.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act site inspections (SIs) have been completed at silos 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, and 12. The Corps' ready for reuse signing ceremony will be for

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## SILOS 2/2/2

each of these silos, with the exception of silo 1.

The Corps is waiting for Right of Entry permission at silo 1 to abandon the groundwater monitoring wells before pursuing a ready for reuse declaration. The Corps also is waiting for Right of Entry permissions at silos 2, 7, and 11 to continue with SI activities.

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