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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**OTERO COUNTY, CHAPARRAL CITIZENS  
OPPOSE PROPOSED LANDFILL**

In a strongly worded statement, County Commission Chairman Doug Moore voices the County's strong opposition to a proposed land fill that would be located next to Highway 54 and mere yards away from residential neighborhoods in Chaparral. This landfill is being proposed by Waste Connections, the same company that currently operates a landfill in Sunland Park (Dona Ana County).

"Otero County is standing shoulder to shoulder with the citizens of Chaparral in opposition to a landfill in their back yard." said Moore. "The people of Chaparral are working hard to clean up their streets and we will not allow this Otero County community to become the dumping ground for Texas and Mexico. Therefore, Otero County has filed to enjoin on the side of the Chaparral citizens, who are fighting this battle with Waste Connections and the New Mexico Environment Department."

Bob Shepherdson, a member of the Chaparral Community Health Council Board adds, "Many citizens in Chaparral have been concerned with the timing and location of the proposed landfill in light of the fact that Otero County is building a convenience center a few miles north of the community."

As an alternative for the citizens of Chaparral, Otero County is finalizing plans for a Solid Waste Convenience Center situated north of the community.

"Once complete," concluded Moore, "it will provide a place for residents to dispose of their waste that is away from homes and local businesses. In addition, it gives the County a central location from which we can transport waste to our regional landfill twenty (20) to thirty (30) minutes north of Chaparral."