

Clark County Health District
625 Shadow Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89106
(702) 385-1291

News Release

Contacts: Jennifer Sizemore
(702) 383-1225

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Clark County District Board of Health Selects Firm To Conduct Valley-Wide Inventory of Disturbed Vacant Land

(Las Vegas, Nev. – December 16, 1999) – The Clark County District Board of Health selected the professional engineering firm of Kleinfelder, Inc., to provide an inventory of disturbed vacant land located throughout the county at its meeting this morning.

The selection of Kleinfelder to conduct this inventory is a step in the process necessary for drafting Air Pollution Control Regulations to control dust from vacant disturbed land and demonstrating to the Environmental Protection Agency that Clark County is taking action in order to reach attainment for particulate matter.

A key element of the project includes obtaining satellite imagery that will provide a descriptive image of erodible soil surfaces for approximately 512.5 square miles of the urban area of the Las Vegas Valley.

Additionally, spectral signatures will be developed to distinguish between erodible surfaces that include undisturbed natural vegetation, developed areas, active

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and inactive construction sites, sand and gravel sites and unpaved roads. A spectral signature is defined as the nature of how earth materials transmit, absorb or reflect electron magnetic radiation. Each type of erodible surface has its own distinct signature and this coupled with the satellite imagery will be used to characterize and develop a digitized map of the study area.

According to Mike Sword, assistant director for the Air Pollution Control Division of the Health District, Kleinfelder, whose team includes TRW and the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV), was selected based on its adherence to published project guidelines, presence of local staff knowledgeable of the Las Vegas Valley area and an aggressive timeline for concluding and reporting the project.

The Health District anticipates holding hearings to finalize regulations for controlling disturbed vacant land during the summer or early fall of 2000.

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