



Town of Taos
PRESS RELEASE

400 Camino de la Placita, Taos, NM 87571
(575) 751-2002



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For Immediate Release:

**Notification of Rock Blasting
Taos Regional Airport Phase 2**

Rock blasting will start at the Taos Regional Airport the week of April 4, 2016. The purpose of blasting is to remove rock for the construction of the new runway. Blasting methods were selected because the rock is hard and cannot be adequately removed without the careful application of blasting agents. Traditional drilling and blasting operations will take place by WESCO, a local experienced and qualified independent contractor. WESCO will employ the latest technology to ensure that blasting is performed safely, with minimum disturbance to the environment and in accordance with the many state and federal laws to which blasters must comply.

Aimone-Martin Associates, LLC will serve as the independent blasting consultant and will provide seismograph monitoring services. Aimone-Martin has over 38 years' experience working with blasters to ensure that compliance with strict vibration and noise standards is met at off-site structures. Seismographs will be used for each blast to measure ground vibrations and air pressures. Vibration and noise criteria adopted for this project are more stringent than federal standards and used elsewhere and have been adopted to protect residential structures near the airport.

If you live close to the airport, you may perceive the blast as a very quick, air pressure pulse at your structure, similar to the gust of wind. This may cause objects in your house to "rattle" and create noise inside. You may also feel the ground vibrations. The total duration of the resulting structure motions may last 3 seconds. Humans are often more sensitive to extremely low levels of vibrations and air pressure pulses in their homes than engineering seismographs are in recording these effects. As such, the effects of rock removal at the airport may startle and

surprise you at the extremely low level of vibrations planned in your home. Please be assured that all blasts will be designed to protect your home and keep vibrations below the safe limits imposed for this project.

Project information is provided below:

- **Purpose of blasting:** Removal of rock for Taos Airport Runway Construction;
- **Start date of blasting** The week of April 4, 2016;
- **Frequency and duration of blasting:** Two or three times per week for 6 weeks;
- **Contact name and phone for further information:** Rick Bellis, Town Manager, rbellis@taosgov.com, (575) 751-2002

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TOWN OF TAOS GOVERNING BODY

Mayor Daniel R. Barrone
Mayor Pro Tem Judith Y. Cantu
Councilmember George "Fritz" Hahn
Councilmember Nathaniel Evans
Councilmember Darien D. Fernandez

400 Camino de la Placita
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Town Hall Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
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