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REGIONAL COALITION OF LANL COMMUNITIES
City of Española – Los Alamos County – Rio Arriba County – Santa Fe County
City of Santa Fe – Taos County – Town of Taos – Pueblo of Ohkay Owingeh

REGIONAL COALITION MEETING AGENDA
County of Los Alamos Chambers
1000 Central Avenue, Suite 350, Los Alamos, NM
September 19, 2014

9:00 Info: Welcome & Introductions
Mayor Lucero
Action: Confirmation of Quorum
Mayor Lucero
Action: Approval of Minutes: August 15 / July 24, 2014
Mayor Lucero
Info: Financial Information
Brian Bosshardt

9:10 Info: Reports from Congressional Delegations/ State

9:20 Info: Executive Director Report
Darien Cabral
   State of Region Conference
   REDI-Plan
   Grant Funding Opportunities
   New LANL Projects

9:30 Action: Coalition Business
Jemez Pueblo Membership (Action)
Mayor Lucero
CMRR (Discussion/Possible Statement)
Mayor Lucero
Regional LANL Conference Sponsorship (Action)
Mayor Lucero

Presentations
9:50 Presentation from NNSA
Kim Davis Lebak
10:10 Presentation from Feynman Center
TBA
10:30 Presentation – REDI-Net
Laura Gonzales
10:40 Major Subcontractor Consortium Update
Liddie Martinez

10:45 Info: Meetings at a Glance
Darien Cabral

10:50 Info Public Comment
Mayor Lucero

11:00 Action: Adjourn
Mayor Lucero
Presenters:

Kim Davis Lebak – is the Los Alamos NNSA Field Office Manager and as such acts as the Secretary of Energy’s senior representative on site at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Lebak was been the Lawrence Livermore Field Office Manager since January 2012. Previously, she served as Acting Site Office Manager at Sandia in Albuquerque, N.M., and Deputy Site Office Manager. Prior to her work at Sandia, Lebak served in Department of Energy and NNSA headquarters as well as at the Pantex and Savannah River field offices.

Laura Gonzales - is the Chief Information Officer at Los Alamos County and the Chair of the REDI-Net Board. She also serves as Chair of the New Mexico Association of Counties IT Affiliate. She previously served as President and Past President for the New Mexico Chapter of GMIS (Government Management Information Sciences) International, the largest professional association of public sector IT leaders in the United States. Laura filled other positions at Los Alamos County as well and worked in IT for a number of state agencies, including Children Youth and Families, New Mexico Department of Health and the Department of Transportation. She has a Master in Computer Resource and Information Management from Webster University.

The Feynman Center is a potentially ground-breaking center at LANL to encourage transition to market for LANL research & development.

About the Regional Coalition of LANL Communities:
The Regional Coalition is comprised of eight cities and counties surrounding the Department of Energy's Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). Founded in 2011, the Regional Coalition works in partnership to ensure national decisions incorporate local needs and concerns. The organization's focus is environmental remediation, regional economic development and site employment, and adequate funding for LANL. The Board of Directors includes Chair, Mayor Alice Lucero, City of Española; Vice-Chair, Commissioner Danny Mayfield, Santa Fe County; Sect./Treas. Councilor Andrew Gonzales, Town of Taos; County Councilor Fran Berting, Los Alamos County Council; Commissioner Alfredo Montoya, Rio Arriba County; Commissioner Tom Blankenhorn, Taos County; and Ron Lovato, Director of Tsay Corporation, Pueblo of Ohkay Owingeh.
# Regional Coalition of LANL Communities

## Meeting at a Glance – October, November, December

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### Issues to watch:
- WIPP
- Jobs at LANL
- TRU Waste 3706 Campaign
- Environmental Campaign Priorities
- Consent Order
- Subcontractor Issue
- Economic Development Priorities
- Manhattan Project Park
- DOE funding
Attendances
Alice Lucero (Chair RCLC); Los Alamos Country Councilor Steven Girrens, Taos City Councilor Andrew Gonzales; Los Alamos County Councilor Fran Berting; City of Santa Fe Councilor Joseph Maestas; Deputy Rio Arriba County Manager, David Trujillo; Ohkay Owingeh and Alternate appointee, Robert Anaya.

JLH Media team members Darien Cabral and Jennifer Padilla.

Welcome and Introductions
Mayor Lucero called the meeting to order at 9 am and introduced Governor Madelena and Greg Coffman from Jemez Pueblo. Jemez Pueblo intends to join the coalition once an joint powers agreement is finalized. The public in attendance introduced themselves. All the attending coalition members introduced themselves along with JLH Staff.

Confirmation of Quorum
Mayor Lucero confirmed a quorum.

Approval of Minutes: June 20, 2014
There was no discussion

Motion: To approve the minutes from June 20, 2014 Moved and Seconded

Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = unanimous).

Brian Bosshardt: Financial Information
Brian Bosshartd noted no changes from the previous month.

Reports from Congressional Delegations
Senator Udall’s office indicated that they are trying to arrange for Ernie Uniz? to come out to NM, with a focus on WIPP. More details will be shared on that in a press release.
Nicholas Maestas presented for Congressman Ben Ray Lujan’s office, stating that the Congressmen has been on the floor calling for funding to help clean up Los Alamos.

**Darien Cabral: Executive Director Report, JLH Team**

Cabral thanked the Mayor, and indicated that the planned meeting regarding WIPP is now planned for August. Many people are busy and involved, so it has been difficult to schedule it. The investigator for the WIPP accident will be present at that meeting. There will be no presentations at that meeting. That will allow the Coalition to catch up on internal issues.

At a meeting in Taos, Governor Martinez indicated that economic development is of great importance. Cabral indicated that the Coalition is a huge part of that process.

The community relations office at LANL and the Coalition have agreed to work together on a communications pilot project. The focus will be on workforce development and training, and furthering tech transfer.

He noted that Kathy Keith would present about the Coalition’s involvement in their job related event – the State of the Region Summit. It is a great platform to gather information from the community. The LANL Community Commitment Plan will be reviewed by the LANL Board of Governors in September. It is vital for the region. As a Coalition, LANL can be supported by the Community Plan.

Cabral received an update on environmental priorities. Secretary Flynn indicated that LANL is working on a lifeline cycle cleanup budget. There will be 19 cleanup campaign priorities, based on budgets, risk, timelines – mostly dealing with water, etc. The idea is to follow the 3706 campaign strategy model. The Coalition will then take that message to Washington.

The budget situation in Washington is cloudy and with no concrete idea how it will play out. An opportunity to figure out more about the budget related topics will be had at a meeting in Las Vegas when meeting with the Assistant Secretary of Energy.

A White Paper on Redi-Net is being developed after meetings with various partners in the process. The Coalition is hoping to finish the paper quickly. Hopefully it will coordinate information about this project in one document. The single document will be valuable and will serve as a planning document. Concerning broadband internet access, standardization is an important part and open access is necessary. The need to move between providers is important. Broadband must meet the FCC guidelines for true broadband. The respective parties must define this issue.

Mayor Lucero indicated that a wireless agreement had been adopted by the City of Española. The City purchased broadband and there are several providers.

Cabral indicated open access is a hallmark of this project. Plans are always written for the constituents. Agreement will be obtained in a very open and transparent way.

Board strategic plan objectives are being met by holding more one-on-one meetings with coalition members. This is a good strategy, because there is not usually time to deal with issues in such depth. Meeting individually they can identify the major issues and address them.
In this meeting we will be presenting a work plan, a budget, hear about the Coalition interface with the subcontractor issue, and upcoming meeting items.

The Coalition Communication Team indicated that Energy Solutions stated there will be a number of job losses due to WIPP and a press release was issued. The opportunity to notify the media was reported to various news sources. The website is being updated. They are also looking at ways to post more information. The future communications efforts will be working with other partners to further the Redi-Plan Event. Lisa Neal is no longer with JHL Media, she is now at St. John’s College.

Councilor Maestas wants to come up with recommendations to improve the Community Commitment Plan. He wants recommendations by the August meeting. Cabral indicated all board members should be involved.

Councilor Andrew Gonzales indicated they are preparing their statement for the Governor’s meeting. Coalition input would be welcomed and added to their plan if the Coalition so wished. That could be one of the recommendations to piggyback on their statement.

Discussion continued about certain implications associated with policy statements and projects. It was indicated that there needs to be more measures taken to test the effectiveness of certain projects. If this wasn’t done that it might be too late to fix by the end of the year. Some of the recommendations will be presented in the near future. Moreover it was voiced that the Coalition could work better if more of the staff would add their recommendations, and possibly add this to policy. When there is time in the agenda, it is encouraged that staff speak specifically about recommendations.

**Board Elections:**

July nominations for election positions was opened. The position of chair of the coalition remained with Mayor Alice Lucero. Andrew Gonzales was approved as Vice-Chair. Secretary/Treasurer- Tom Blankenhorn and Javier Gonzales were both nominated. The vote resulted in Javier Gonzales as Secretary/Treasurer.

**Project Review:**

Review and approval of coalition items: There is a list of current projects and upcoming projects on the website as well as descriptions of each, in terms of environmental projects. For economic development, there is the Redi-Plan, which has been approved. Jennifer Padilla spoke about communication goals and discussed different ways to get information out to the general public, making sure the website is updated and alerting people about upcoming meetings.

Vote from the coalition on the work plan: It was mentioned that the staff explore greater energy resources, the Santa Fe Business Incubator and others. Much of the funding for the incubator has been cut over time.

**Motion:** To approve the Coalition work plan. Moved and Seconded

**Vote:** Motion passed (summary: Yes = unanimous).
**Budget:**
Next item is the budget. Few items are mentioned that were not included in the budget. The Board added payment of dues to ECA as part of the Budget. It was noted that this was the quickest budget approval to date.

**Motion:** To approve the budget. Moved and Seconded

**Vote:** Motion passed (summary: Yes = unanimous).

**Report from RDC: Kathy Keith**
Kathy Keith spoke about the Redi-Plan event. This year the summit has been planned for August 21, 2014. Many different sectors are invited to discuss the current state of certain local initiatives. There will be a smaller meeting September 18th for the four counties involved to discuss technology, agriculture, media, outdoor activities and what jobs are available. The hope is to increase the budget in some of these areas. A tentative agenda has been discussed for these meetings as is what to expect and what to be prepared for. The hope is to come up with jobs that can be created in each area. Moreover, specifics to how many jobs they hope to create and what they would need to see that happen.

Councilor Maestas asked about the announcements. The save the date was sent out. It is encouraged to invite community members.

**ECA Meeting:**
The Energy Committee Meeting in Las Vegas starts on the 29th, returning on the 1st of August. It should be an interesting meeting. The theme is nuclear energy. A lot has been happening in this area, especially with small modular reactors, which have fewer issues than larger facilities. A lot of the technology has come out of LANL. The future for this may be very important to Northern New Mexico. Right now four Coalition representatives are planning on going.

**Subcontractor Issues/Strategy:**
Councilor Girrens talked about the conversation in Los Alamos and where the Coalition stands. It became apparent that NNSA pushed the issue to another person. It was time to initiate a conversation. The Director of Procurement for LANL – Doug McCrary - spoke with Girrens and wanted to set up a meeting with Darien. Questions needed to be developed, so we can keep track of what needs to happen. There are two different sets of requirements. The enterprise tool (SCMC) needs to be utilized, but at the same time the Director is committed to regional contractor goals. The market share has increased for regional contractors. Although overall funding has decreased, the increase back in 2009 was a 10-20% bump due to ARRA funding. The past few years have seen a receding budget, in the order of $1.8 to $2 million.

The reality is that the cleanup in LANL was the focus, but without being able to haul away waste, that priority has gone away. The major cleanup contractors are having issues, because they cannot haul it away. Anything that is still sitting around barrel wise means the project is over. The focus going forward should be the next 10-15 priorities. The 3706 cannot be finished until shipping of waste begins again.

Computer contracts are approved, so they’re in a position to grow sales. LANL and Sandia may be purchasers from various contractors. The help of local contractors may be there for
Commitment to the region is still being talked about on a regular basis. There is more activity at Sandia Labs to develop more enterprise and regional contractors to bolster what is available to meet the requirements. Councilor Girrens has heard positive things, although there needs to be more specific questions and records of the answers. They are on a partnership path, not an adversarial path.

Darien Cabral agreed with Steve. The meeting was productive, although not all questions were answered. LANL Procurement is very interested in supporting local contractors if possible. The most concerning issue is that over 50% of the total budget for DOE comes from Sandia and LANL. We need to understand that Mr. McCrary does what the NNSA tells him to. Local contractors, LANS, and the Coalition need to further their efforts to lobby different groups and people at various levels to promote and retain local procurement contracts. The takeaway from the meeting was to be diligent about pursuing these various issues.

Councilor Maestas was astounded that this is occurring. He wants legal counsel to make sure they are going about this in a legal manner. The Fair Act, the annual inventory of each agency’s expenditures and the laws related to having businesses do these jobs at a local level. The compliance with Federal Law/Policy is a must and they should further explore those laws.

Liddy Martinez spoke about how this issue has been going on for 2.5 years. This is a complex issue. She appreciates what Doug McCrary is doing, trying to follow two different directives. This is not an easy task, although there must be some rationale behind why this is not a good policy. The enterprise system was developed under the guise of cost savings. SCMC has indicated there are cost savings, although Liddy Martinez does not believe those numbers. Competing under different standards makes it very hard for the local vendors to compete. National vendors are sometimes are utilized even though they have higher costs.

The regional purchasing policy is not part of the regional LANS community. The Federal contractual requirement and LANS commitment are separate.

Cabral indicated that some of the questions could be addressed by creating staff committee groups to figure out and get more information on this issue. With the Board’s permission they would like to address this at the next meeting. Hopefully there are ways to make local contractors more competitive. There are a lot of ways to attack this, but one of those ways is to continue to work with the Congressional Delegation. This is a major task and something that will be on-going. Up to now there has only been one local business casualty.

LANS is a commercial entity, so they are not required to follow all the Federal rules and clauses in the contract. It is much different for a Federal technical assistance contract. The LANL oversight committee was very observant about expressing concerns about this issue.

Meeting at a glance:
Mayor Lucero indicated that the next meeting will be at Santa Fe County chambers. The proposed business items are presented on an agenda. The governance item/coalition committee should be added to the August meeting. Darien Cabral spoke about the
environmental campaign in September. That may or may not happen, as LANL and State Environment may not be ready to present. The meetings are still in flux.

Public Comment
Kathy Keith wanted to remind LANS that they commit portions of their profit to the local community. The private sector match is crucial. The economic development area is of great importance and last year $900k was given. The areas of supporting new startup businesses and supporting existing businesses were helped with these funds. The adding of jobs is crucial. The education piece gives money to the local colleges. This is how the money filters down.

A member of the public spoke about a Pueblo environmental issues meeting on July 30th in Santa Fe. The chromium plume will be a major talking point. WIPP recovery will also be addressed. This meeting will take place at La Fonda.

Liddy Martinez clarified that it is hard to work on controversial issues. The LANL Subcontractor Consortium has a very good relationship with LANS. The policy change that occurs must move forward so that LANS is not put in a compromising position.

Meeting adjourned at 11 am.

__________________________________________
Darien Cabral, Director

ATTEST:

__________________________________________
Mayor Alice Lucero, Chair
REGIONAL COALITION OF LANL COMMUNITIES
City of Espanola – Los Alamos County – Rio Arriba County – Santa Fe County –
City of Santa Fe – Taos County – Town of Taos – Pueblo of Ohkay

County of Santa Fe Chambers
Friday, August 15, 2014

Attendance
Alice Lucero (Chair RCLC); Commissioner Danny Mayfield, Santa Fe, Taos City Councilor Andrew
Gonzales; Javier Gonzales, Mayor of Santa Fe; Los Alamos County Councilor Fran Berting; City of
Santa Fe Councilor Joseph Maestas; Rio Arriba County Deputy Manager, David Trujillo.
JLH Media team members Darien Cabral and Jennifer Hinsley.

Welcome and Introductions
Mayor Lucero called the meeting to order. The public in attendance introduced themselves. All
the attending coalition members introduced themselves along with JLH Staff.

Confirmation of Quorum
Mayor Lucero confirmed a quorum.

Approval of Minutes: July 24, 2014
Agreement initiated by Councilor Berting to Approve July 24 minutes at the next meeting after
corrections made.

Darien Cabral: Financial Information
Brian Bosshartd is in Minnesota, so there is no financial report. Although it is basically the same
as last time, this month’s financial information will be presented at next month’s meeting.

Reports from Congressional Delegations
Nicholas Maestas from Congressman Ben Ray Lujan’s office indicated he was happy to be in
attendance. Michelle Jaquez Ortiz spoke from Senator Udall’s office, indicated that this is the
first time in 15 years that a DOE Secretary has visited WIPP. He talked with employees and did a
community town hall meeting. They checked on the recovery progress and pushed for it to be
completed in a timely manner. The second update is on the supply chain subcontractor issue,
there has been a positive developments in part due to the intervention of the Coalition and the
Senator is pleased with this first step.
Darien Cabral: Executive Director Report, JLH Team

Cabral indicated that there is a pretty full board, and that we are thankful for the people that showed up. Governor Magdalena has indicated the joint powers agreement should be ratified by the next meeting, so he will join the coalition at that point. They are also hoping to get other Pueblo Governors to join. A viable voice for the pueblos is key to strengthening the Coalition.

A WIPP meeting has finally been coordinated for this morning. Dr. Terry Wallace will present about the WIPP investigation. Jeff Kendall may know the most about the details of the consent decree.

It’s only been three weeks since the previous meeting, but a lot has happened in those three weeks. A group traveled to Las Vegas to attend the Energy Communities Alliance meeting. Two days were spent discussing nuclear energy. Small modular reactors may have been the most interesting part. They are designed to power small communities; this is technology that was developed in part at LANL.

In Las Vegas they found out that the State is completing a draft of its new energy plan. Also, they learned about the major regional energy conference that is being planned in Santa Fe at which the DOE Secretary will attend.

The first major victory on the subcontractor issue has occurred. As of now, if an out-of-state contractor procures a contract with LANL they will be required to contribute to the local economic development fund, the same as local contractors. This levels the playing field and is a major victory, but there is still much to be done.

Mayor Lucero did an amazing job at the meeting with the DOE Secretary. The subcontractor issue was brought up and he setup a meeting to be coordinate by Kim Davis Lebak to start dealing with this issue.

Jennifer Padilla is no longer with JHL Media, a young woman from Boston will be hired; she will be moving in the next week.

Cabral thanked Commissioner Mayfield; he is going to be missed.

Invoices were mistakenly sent out with the old LA County address. This will be corrected.

Sponsorship Fund: Commissioner Blanekhorn.
Blankenhorn indicated that there is a bit of a surplus and thought it might be worth committing $50K of the excess budget to support small non-profits. Taos has quite a bit of adult literacy issues and there is a non-profit that helps with these issues. He brings it up for a point of discussion.

There are many non-profits that need assistance according to Mayor Lucero. It is a huge sacrifice to pay the coalition dues and then see that money go towards a non-profit. She could see the money go towards sponsoring other conferences, but not non-profits.
Councilor Berting indicated that it would require a considerable amount of research on which non-profits would be funded. In order to be fair and equitable it would take far too much effort. She agrees that sponsoring conferences may be the best option and would like to think more about this.

Darien Cabral suggested the funding of a state of the region conference could be a viable option. He would like to ask the Board to approve that sponsorship for $2,000. Funding was passed.

**Committee Structure: Darien Cabral:**

Cabral indicated that Councilor Maestas wanted to address this. A staff advisory committee was suggested at the last meeting by Maestas. Assigned staff assists on a particular committee. With such limited time for the Coalition members it would be helpful to create a staff advisory committee. They would meet monthly with the Coalition Director and assist in wading through the complex issues.

A lot of work needs to go into understanding these issues. Councils of Governments have a similar structure and it works quite well. Each member appoints a staff member to the committee. Maestas handed out the bylaws of a regional transportation board as an example. It does not have to be this formal, but it is a starting point. Designated staff members do have to attend these meetings and they could contribute in the future.

Mayor Lucero indicated that staff members might be easy for Santa Fe, but Espanola does not have extra staff members to participate. It would not be fair to have no representation on the committee. Lucero would like to hear from other members on this issue.

Cabral indicated there is a provision for committees in the bylaws. There is a need for technical advice and analysis. It would be helpful to have ad hoc committees. If there is an issue he needs advice on he would call experts in the field. He would suggest that volunteer committees are setup and a board member would be in charge of each committee area. That would enable more board oversight and control.

Lucero indicated the JHL takes care of the agendas.

Berting indicated there are two different things being discussed. One is the packet and agenda, which is done by JLH, there would be no need for a committee to do this. It would get rather large and unruly. Second, the ad hoc committee of experts could happen. It would only happen as needed. A structured committee is not helpful at this point.

Councilor Maestas indicated that this would not be a formal voting committee. The Coalition would have full control over all agenda items. He thinks the committee would go a long way in assisting the Coalition. There is a need to coordinate with other staff and entities. He does not think it needs to be very formal. It would solely aid everyone in getting through complex issues.

Cabral made a suggestion that subject based committees were previously brought up and could be utilized in this case.

One member indicated that a committee structure is helpful from his experience. At-large or volunteer people for these committees could work out quite well.
Motion: To approve the recommendation by Cabral for subject specific ad hoc committees - Moved by Maestas.

Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = unanimous).

Presentation on WIPP Situation: Terry Wallace:

Dr. Wallace gave a presentation of what happened, where we are, and future ideas. WIPP has been in operation for about 15 years and receives waste from three sites. The salt collapses on the waste and will hold it for thousands of years. DOE issued an incident report. There was a breach of a LANL drum, they determined what kind of reaction occurred. That way no other barrels could be compromised. Any transuranic waste is usually associated with weapons work. The great bulk of the volume of this waste is gloves, paper, etc. It is essentially trash.

Dr. Wallace continued his presentation and delved into greater detail about the reaction/fire that occurred in the 55 gallon drum. This particular drum was generated in 1985 at LANL. There are many different entities that have to approve the storage and transportation of nuclear waste. This particular waste came from re-processing scraps. On the 31st of January, 2014 was when this was transported and put underground at WIPP. They are 93% done with this particular cleanup/storage campaign.

This particular waste could have numerous reactions. Any one serious reaction would not have caused this, but a combination of reactions would have occurred. The kitty litter in this case was natural and organic. Lead can interact with nitric acid and could cause multiple reactions. They have identified 16 drums that this could happen in. They have developed a series of strategies to address these drums.

The priorities are that WIPP is restored to its processing status and that we can assure this won’t happen in the future.

Maestas asked if there was physical examination of the drum. Wallace indicated that these are all done with other drums. No actual sample of the affected drum. Maestas asked about the daughter drums and what will happen with those. Wallace indicated that they know where every one of those barrels are located. These barrels are monitored for temperature increase. They also have a vent and they are monitored for gases.

Mayor Lucero asked about recertification. It was indicated the NM Environment Department recertifies WIPP. The timeline is 18-months for re-opening WIPP, although they might run into issues. The question of job losses attributed to this came up. Wallace indicated that this particular cleanup was wrapping up, so the contractors would have had to move on. Their employees would have lost that particular job anyway.

Berting asked if there was a plan to exhume the other 15 barrels. The recommendation to DOE is still in progress.

This is a golden opportunity to increase the factors of safety, whether it be packaging, safety design, etc. The next 18-months should be used to increase safety standards. There will be a
more robust packaging scheme.

Each site has a little different way of dealing with waste. Waste is different at each site, so they have different areas of expertise. There is only one repository, which is WIPP. There must be a path forward to deal with this waste.

Joe Garcia from Ohkay Owingeh ...asked about conditions on that day or other factors involved. Wallace indicated that the experiments are setup in order to determine all the factors.

A registered nurse asked about radiation effects. Wallace indicated there was no observed radiation issue above ground.

Presentation WIPP Situation: Jeff Kendall

Kendall thanked everyone for having him present. Has been working with the Governor and Secretary Flynn about the WIPP situation, he indicated Mr. Wallace has covered much of the basic information. There are 16 distinct waste barrels. There are many oversight bureaus in place within the state to deal with issues like this. The hazardous waste bureau is a key player. WIPP was issued a permit in 1999 and renewed in 2010. The next renewal is up in 2020. CMERC helps monitor the soil, air and water.

The timeline from the fire to present was shown.

Two reports have been issued by DOE. There is an extensive list of various types of monitoring and testing that have been done. Four major orders:

1) Determination that those drums would be best kept in storage above ground
2) LANL and WIPP have permit requirements, daily technical calls with updates on sampling and monitoring
3) They require the suspect drums to be isolated, data was submitted to verify
4) Waste isolation order for access to the underground. The recovery plan will call for the closing of panel 6. A steel bulkhead must be put in place in this area.

Since LANL was directly implicated, there have been several requests of LANL information.

The conclusions are that they are doing everything they can to determine the best route forward. Staff is working extremely hard on this issue. Information that is obtained will lead to administrative action.

In late July both the WIPP and LANL have some issues with waste that is present, but should not be located in LANL. The waste codes need to be applied to the appropriate barrels of waste. Both facilities will be issued administrative orders for non-compliance.

DOE is liable, they are the responsible party.

A question about the permit modification was related to the closure. The panel closure is a very significant issue. Councilor Maestas asked about the particular drum and recovery of that drum, but indicated the EPA should be satisfied with the experiments. The sampling is happening in room 7. That means
panel 7 - room 7 will not be closed until that sampling is done. No approval has been issued to
close the room.

There was a public question about the number of barrels that would be an issue; indicated that
there are 368 barrels that could have issues. There will be no shipment of waste until all
approvals are in place.

Meetings at a glance:
September 19th is the next meeting in Los Alamos. Cabral indicated that an economic
development update might happen at this meeting.

Redi-Plan State of the Region Update: Erik Vasquez
Mr. Vasquez indicated that the REDI conference will be occurring in August 21st. The agenda is
set to start with an 8am registration and then the meeting starting at 9am. They will be working
on a jobs council at this conference.

Cabral indicated he will be asking the Coalition for $2k to be a co-sponsor of this conference.

Cabral indicated there will be a letter campaign starting in the next few days for the board of
governors meeting.

Public Comment:
Cabral is requesting $2k for co-sponsorship REDI Plan Meeting Summit.

Motion: To approve $2k for Co-Sponsorship – passed.

Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = unanimous).

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:30

___________________________________
Darien Cabral, Director

ATTEST:

_____________________________________
Mayor Alice Lucero, Chair
LETTERS / STATEMENTS
Statement Draft on CMRR

The Regional Coalition of LANL Communities has a mission of gaining the maximum advantage in regards to economic development, job training and creation, and economic diversification from the Laboratory’s presence in our communities.

Recently, Congress authorized plutonium pit production and determined that the Laboratory is likely the most appropriate place to manufacture these nuclear components. As a group, we do not take a position either promoting or working against the nuclear mission of the Lab, recognizing that its primary mission is lamentably a national necessity in a dangerous world. However, in line with our mission, we will use our influence both to help the local community capitalize on local construction jobs coming from this work and work to ensure that safety considerations and transparency are fully considered. Because this project is likely being authorized at LANL, our opinion is that now is the time to begin discussions about safety issues. Our understanding is that safety issues are now a top priority of the Department of Energy, and we appreciate their leadership in that regard.

Our mission as an organization also includes promoting environmental remediation and safeguarding public safety as they relate to LANL activities. We are concerned about safety issues brought out by the WIPP incident as well as by recent findings from the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. We believe that new DOE leadership will take these events and warnings seriously and act expediently to take substantive corrective action so that protections for our communities and the State of New Mexico will be stronger than ever. Part of our task is to work with the State and partner organizations to make sure that occurs.

The Regional Coalition of LANL Communities is an intergovernmental organization made up of the elected officials from the cities, counties and Pueblo governments that surround Los Alamos National Laboratory.
Good Evening,

We have been making progress on the local subcontractor issue at LANL. This is a good example of what we can accomplish when we work together. As you know, addressing procurement policy adopted by NNSA concerning the Supply Chain Management Center (SCMC) in Kansas City has been a top priority for our Board. Even though we can all support the goal of saving taxpayer dollars, the Regional Coalition has been concerned that the way SCMC Policy is currently being administered runs the risk of hollowing out our regional subcontractor base with the potential loss of millions of dollars of local revenue and hundreds of jobs over time.

We are all aware of the recent direct layoffs at LANL, but when procurement budgets are cut and subcontractors cut back, the resultant job losses impact our local economy just the same even though they are normally not reported. Although we must all work within the constraints of federal budgets, we believe that we can work with SCMC, LANL, the RDC, the Subcontractors Consortium and NNSA to attain the cost saving goals of SCMC without running the risk of losing our subcontractor base. It is vital that we address this issue before it impacts our local economy, as once local businesses downsize or close their doors there is a considerable investment to ramp back up that likely won’t happen even if policy is changed.

Our Board would like to thank our Congressional Delegation, especially Senators Heinrich and Udall as well as Representatives Lujan and Grisham for assisting us with this issue. We felt frustrated after receiving a somewhat evasive response from NNSA regarding specific concerns that were expressed in a letter coordinated by Senator Udall and signed by our Delegation members. We would like to express our appreciation to Senator Udall for his follow-up, and also to Senator Heinrich for addressing this issue at the confirmation hearing of Dr. Sherwood-Randall. That, along with the immediate response we received from Secretary Moniz when we were able to meet with him at the Quadrennial Energy Review in Santa Fe got the attention of NNSA. We are now working directly with Kim Davis Lebak at LANL. She has agreed to serve as a liaison between us and the appropriate parties at NNSA.

Our strategy is to work closely with the Major Subcontractor Consortium, LANL and the Regional Development Corporation along with others on a proposal designed to address our concerns. Although this is a complex issue that will involve considerable detail, we believe that policy recommendations can be developed whereby all parties “win”. The Subcontractor Consortium is coordinating the appropriate technical assistance to put a strong proposal together. It is anticipated that this will be a multi-year effort that can be implemented in phases. It cannot be done successfully without direct input from NNSA and the SCMC to determine what is indeed feasible and so there are no “surprises”.

The process of soliciting input from local communities and subcontractors that will potentially be impacted by SCMC Policy is likely something that should have occurred in a more robust fashion prior to the implementation of the SCMC. However, now that policy is actually being implemented, the unintended impacts can be more readily seen and dealt with.
Thank you all for your concern and support on this vital issue for our regional economy that will have national implications.

Alice A. Lucero
Mayor City of Española
alucero@espanolanm.gov
(505) 747-6100 Office
We should consider writing a letter of support from ECA for the new bipartisan group of senators that are launching an effort to support the work of the national laboratory system. We may also want to speak with our house members about the same. We will distribute to all ECA members later today.

“DOE’s national labs have always been a meeting place for the world’s best researchers,” said Sen. Richard J. Durbin, D-Ill., “The labs are also an important part of maintaining the United States global competitiveness.”

Durbin spoke on Capitol Hill, where directors of the various labs gathered to showcase advancement in research on nuclear reactors, super computers and energy efficiency.

“The caucus is going to serve as a forum to discuss policy and funding issues that confront the national lab system,” Durbin said.

The labs are a place for “superb scientists seeking answers to the difficult problems facing our world,” said Sen. Jim Risch, R-Idaho. “In this time of tighter budgets it is important that the Department of Energy leverages the unique assets at each laboratory.”

Energy Secretary Ernest J. Moniz said the system has a capacity not just for increasing knowledge but shaping a “vision of how we address the transformation of the energy system.”

In global trade, the United States has a much stronger edge on innovation than cheaper production, said Norm Augustine, a former undersecretary for the Army, who worked on a new report from the American Academy of Arts & Sciences that urges investment in basic research.

“We have to compete on innovation, it’s our only choice,” he said.

Also on the Lab Caucus --- Senators Chris Coons (D-Del.), Tim Johnson (D-S.D.), Mark Kirk (R-Ill.), Michael Bennett (D-Colo.), Tom Udall (D-N.M.), Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.), Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.), and Mike Crapo (R-Idaho).
ARTICLES
Secretary Moniz Meets with Local Governments

When Dr. Ernest Moniz, the nation’s 13th Secretary of Energy, visited the Savannah River Site (SRS) recently, he was quick to recognize that SRS still has unique capabilities that lend themselves to new Department of Energy and international missions. He singled out the Savannah River National Laboratory as a “national treasure” and H-Canyon, the only secure nuclear chemical separations plant in the U.S.

He also noted that SRS is the only site in the DOE complex to actually empty and permanently close high-level waste tanks and successfully convert high-level waste into glass -- a process pioneered at SRS that no other site has been able to duplicate.

Yes, throughout its history, SRS has been a place for solutions.

When America needed special materials like plutonium and tritium for the U.S. nuclear arsenal during the Cold War, SRS delivered.

When scientists needed a reliable, long-term energy supply for deep space missions, SRS delivered.

When DOE needed to convert Cold War-era liquid radioactive waste into a solid form for safe storage, SRS delivered.

When international treaties demanded that former world foes mutually a lish their stores of key ingredients for nuclear weapons, SRS delivered.

When the government wanted to demonstrate that high-tech nuclear production operations could co-exist harmoniously with the environment, SRS delivered, becoming the nation’s first National Environmental Research Park.

During his visit, Secretary Moniz paid tribute to the SRS workforce that made those solutions possible. It is impressive in size, formidable in talent and has been a juggernaut in the region’s economy for six decades. With nearly 11,000 highly skilled workers, SRS by itself has nearly as many workers as the combined total of South Carolina’s two other major industries – Boeing and BMW. Both South Carolina and Georgia benefit immensely from the SRS employees residing in our two states.

While we have a strong workforce now, the dedicated workers in the nuclear industry at SRS and local power utilities are reaching retirement age. It is yet another challenge in need of a solution.

As a region, we have been working hard with DOE’s help to boost future nuclear-related job opportunities for local residents through the Nuclear Workforce Initiative (NWI®). New training programs were created and implemented at five area colleges and universities under a Department of Energy grant which is administered by the NWI® and overseen by the SRS Community Reuse Organization.

The grant, now in its fourth year, has resulted in 300 local students being enrolled in the nuclear curricula developed under the grant. Nearly 60 have graduated and are beginning careers in the region. An additional 1,000 students have received information and training in Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programs. This next generation workforce is ready to assume leadership roles in our important nuclear culture as the existing workforce exits in retirement.

It is important that all of us recognize the value of the immense intellectual capital working at SRS safely and securely for decades. The Site’s management and skilled labor force and its one-of-a-kind facilities are uniquely qualified to handle many of the global a ller challenges facing us now and in the future.

SRS capabilities have been in the spotlight in recent weeks amid public discussion of plans to receive and process used fuel containing Highly Enriched Uranium from German research reactors. Although our group -- the SRS Community Reuse Organization -- has taken the position that more information is needed to reach an informed decision on this particular project, we have no doubt the SRS people and facilities are up to the task.

(Continued on page 7)
Secretary Moniz Meets with Local Governments

Despite its past significant contributions to national security and the fact that it is now in a cleanup mode, as community leaders, we believe the Savannah River Site’s mission will remain relevant in the years ahead. When it comes to complex nuclear issues and potential new missions in both the Federal and private sectors, America still needs a place for solutions.

We know SRS is prepared to deliver once again. We’re glad Secretary Moniz sees the same promise we do for the Savannah River Site’s future.

Dr. Susan Winsor is President of Aiken Technical College and Chair of the SRS Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO). Sanford Loyd is a Certified Public Accountant in Augusta and serves as Vice Chair of the SRSCRO.

Visit with Secretary Moniz in Northern, NM

By: Darien Cabral, Director, Regional Coalition of LANL Communities

US Energy Secretary Moniz along with Interior Secretary Jewell were in Santa Fe, New Mexico on August 11th for the Quadrennial Energy Review, an administration-wide effort to receive regional recommendations regarding key infrastructure needed for transmission, storage and distribution of energy. The Regional Coalition of LANL Communities Chair, Española Mayor Alice Lucero, along with Coalition Director, Darien Cabral, were able to meet with Secretary Moniz prior to the start of the Energy review session. The meeting was attended by Kim Davis Lebak, head of the NNSA LANL Field Office and Pete Maggiore, Deputy Assistant Manager for the Environmental Projects Office at LANL in addition to members of the Secretary’s Washington staff.

Lucero and Cabral spoke of how important it was for northern New Mexico to see the expedient re-opening of WIPP and the successful culmination of the 3706 campaign so that LANL, DOE and the Regional Coalition could begin to turn their attention to other areas of environmental concern. Mayor Lucero told the Secretary that the suspension of shipments to both WIPP as well as the storage site in Andrews, Texas had resulted in the loss of close to 100 jobs that had impacted her community. The Secretary estimated that WIPP could potentially open within about 18 months.

IPP incident the Regional Coalition strategy for promoting clean-up laybook from the success of the 3706 Campaign, and in coordination with the Citizens Advisory Board, DOE and the State Environment Department, prioritize discrete environmental campaigns with budgets and timelines that would receive across-the-board support and prioritization according to risk. We hoped to be able to put WIPP behind us as long as safety was not compromised and be back on that track as soon possible. Mayor Lucero stated how important it was that monies allocated to the WIPP remediation effort not be drawn from funds earmarked for LANL environmental management. The Secretary assured us that that was not the case.

The Regional Coalition brought up the fact that one of our Board’s top concerns was that new procurement policy being implemented by the

(Continued on page 5)
After they crafted the atom bomb, they helped develop cutting-edge technology, such as GPS, advanced car batteries and revolutionary cancer treatments. But the U.S. Department of Energy’s 17 national laboratories, including Los Alamos and Sandia in New Mexico, fail to collaborate with businesses that could benefit from partnering with them, according to a report released Wednesday by the Brookings Institution.

The labs could serve as better springboards for the high-tech industry to get products to market, particularly in the cases of small and midsized businesses located near them, the report found.

“While most labs provide technical assistance or analytic work to support regional economic development initiatives, the majority of lab activities remain ‘behind the fence,’ ” the report said. “Meanwhile, when private-sector collaboration does occur it tends to be oriented towards large, remote firms with the financial capability to pay the costs of collaborating with the labs.”

The report sees fostering commercial technology as a low priority at the labs, but a logical step into a less weapons-focused future.

“As they did in the years following World War II, the labs must pivot once more to embrace a new mission that includes more active engagement with regional innovation systems within which they are located,” the report said. “Such engagement will not substitute for the labs’ critical national mission, but will instead complement and advance it.”
Mark Muro, a senior fellow with the Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings that conducted the study, said the labs are capable of accomplishing both missions, and that management teams at the labs embrace the dual role. But bureaucratic and cultural barriers exist.

“In many cases, the lab directors and front-line personnel would like to engage more with their regions, but there are a significant number of administrative and rules-based — as well as financing — rigidities that make it really hard,” Muro said.

Throughout their 70-year history, the national labs have focused on defense technology and cleaning up after testing those weapons.

“This deep heritage of defense activity has created a culture within the labs that is occasionally still resistant to collaboration outside of the federal government and prone to programmatic stovepipes,” the report said. “Although the focus of research has shifted in the postwar decades, even today the legacy of military history ensures that the basic science and defense labs often still operate as if commercial applications and private-sector partnerships were inconsistent with their scientific mission.”

Los Alamos National Laboratory and the Department of Energy did not respond to requests for responses to the report.

Other practical obstacles to small and midsized regional tech firms establishing a footing at the labs exist. Few of the labs are near hubs with sizable technology workforces, and large firms are better suited to navigate the labs’ contracting bureaucracy.

The Department of Energy’s tight reins on activity at the labs — referred to in the report as “intrusive oversight” — has posed a barrier to new, smaller businesses benefiting from the research and development they conduct, according to the report.

Despite the report’s findings that too few partnerships have been forged between the federal labs and industry, technology transfer involving Department of Energy labs is picking up, primarily through licensing of intellectual property and research collaboration with industry and universities.

In 2011, the labs earned nearly $45 million in licensing revenue from about 5,300 technology licenses, the report acknowledged. The same year, federal labs participated in 700 cooperative research and development agreements with private-sector firms and universities.

The labs subcontracted $500 million in research to universities to conduct joint projects in 2011. The labs’ unique designs and incomparable facilities make them attractive teammates for companies and universities, the report said.

New Mexico, more than some states that are home to national labs, fosters a relationship between the labs and smaller businesses by
providing state funds to link them, Muro said. And he emphasized that Sandia has been aggressive in its push to partner with innovative technology firms.

“I’ve been persuaded that they have their eye on this kind of issue and would like to see more happen,” Muro said.

New Mexico’s dearth of technological startups, compared to some states with labs, puts New Mexico at a disadvantage in its quest to spread the research benefits of its labs to the private sector, Muro said.

The Department of Energy has launched a number of initiatives in recent years to accelerate collaboration with industry and promote innovation in areas such as energy development.

“However, the fact remains that these aggregate technology and tech-transfer impacts — while welcome first steps — fail to aggressively and fully seize the opportunity to turn federally funded research into new products and services, particularly at the state and regional level,” the report said.

It lauded a congressionally mandated commission assessing potential areas of reform, including technology transfer, lab management, private-sector engagement and budget consolidation.

The report calls on U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz to direct national labs to be more involved with regional technology clusters. It recommends that the Department of Energy create a dedicated fund that goes further than any existing efforts to expand technology transfer programs within the department, including establishing an oversight office to coordinate it.

It also recommends establishing an expedited contract process that enables small and medium-sized, regional firms to more easily partner with labs on projects as well as expanding opportunities for them to conduct research at the labs.

“After all, 60 years have passed since the labs moved beyond their solely military objective,” the report said. “Consequently, the time has come to reorient national laboratory efforts more fully toward economic development and global competitiveness.”

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Plan to make more nuke pits at LANL raises questions

By Patrick Malone
The New Mexican | Posted: Saturday, August 23, 2014 8:00 pm

Los Alamos National Laboratory, birthplace of the atomic bomb, could ramp up production of triggers for nuclear weapons to levels not seen since the Cold War, if federal defense and energy officials get their way.

The federal government sees the site atop a rugged canyon cliff overlooking the vast expanse of plateaus and distant hills in Northern New Mexico as the perfect place — really, the only one — for an ambitious mission to massively increase production of plutonium pits — the softball-sized cores that can have the explosive power of the Nagasaki bomb. The pits are used to set off thermonuclear reactions in weapons tens of thousands of times more powerful than the pits themselves. The new pits would not be used for new weapons, proponents of the plan say, but to replace aging pits in the nation’s nuclear stockpile.

But questions abound over the proposal. Foremost among them: Are more pits needed? Thousands of pits already are warehoused at a storage facility in Texas that scientists say could be used to supply the needs of the nation’s nuclear industry for many decades.

There are also questions about the costs of increased production, whether Los Alamos has the space to increase production and whether the lab has the ability to safely house the dangerous and delicate war-grade plutonium required to produce the weapon components. The lab facility designated for pit production at Los Alamos is considered too small for the levels of production officials propose, and it sits over a seismic fault.

In a report to lawmakers this month, the Congressional Research Service describes a national defense agenda to produce 30 war reserve plutonium pits per year by 2026, and up to 80 pits per year by 2030.

To put the magnitude of the strategy in perspective, the U.S. has produced a total of 30 pits — all at Los Alamos — between 2007 and the present. Before that, domestic pit production had been at a standstill since 1989, when federal agents stormed the Rocky Flats Plant in Colorado to investigate environmental crimes and the facility was shuttered. Rocky Flats had produced up to 2,000 pits
annually during the Cold War.

One nuclear watchdog familiar with the idea said the mission at Los Alamos carries the further risk of eroding the trust of countries that, along with the United States, have committed to drawing down their nuclear stockpiles.

“There’s a financial cost. There’s an environmental cost. There’s a cost to our identity as a country, and there’s a cost to our international credibility in nonproliferation,” said Greg Mello, executive director of the Los Alamos Study Group.

In the years following the closure of Rocky Flats, a combination of the shutdown and international treaties prohibiting the production of new nuclear weapons halted production of plutonium pits in the U.S. for nearly two decades. Production resumed in 2007, but only at Los Alamos, which produced 11 that year. The lab has never produced more than six in any year since then.

But the same nonproliferation treaties that halted the production of new weapons also prohibited the testing of existing stockpiles. Those provisions have created uncertainty about the reliability of the aging bombs.

One popular analogy among frustrated factions in national defense circles likens the stockpile to a rusty old car in a driveway. It might unexpectedly need to be driven someday, but turning the key to test whether it will start is strictly forbidden.

The U.S. Department of Defense, some in Congress and the National Nuclear Safety Administration — an arm of the Department of Energy that manages the country’s nuclear weapons program — want to replace aging triggers with new ones to ensure the weapons will work if they’re ever needed.

A debate has raged for years between nuclear hawks and nonproliferation advocates about whether the pits need updating. Mello and other skeptics point to a 2006 report from the JASON Defense Advisory Panel, an independent scientific group, that said the useful life of a plutonium pit is up to 100 years. That would give many of the existing pits another half-century before they would need to be replaced.

For subscribers to that theory, the roughly 15,000 plutonium pits manufactured at Rocky Flats and stored at the Pantex Plant in Amarillo, Texas, are already more than enough.

But proponents of increased production, including some members of Congress, say it is critical to have an arsenal they know will work. And having new pits would provide that confidence.

“Modernization of infrastructure and a robust plutonium science and technology program are key to our ability to respond to emerging issues and threats, to ensure safety of our facilities and personnel, and to assure the safety, security and effectiveness of the U.S. nuclear deterrent,” said Kevin Roark, a spokesman for the lab, which supports the plan.
The Republican-controlled U.S. House of Representatives believed enough in the stepped-up pit production plan that it included it in the defense authorization bill adopted for fiscal year 2015.

The Congressional Research Service report makes it clear that Los Alamos is the front-runner — if not the sole candidate — to house those activities. It describes Plutonium Facility 4, or PF-4, at Los Alamos as “the only building in the United States with the combination of attributes required to make pits.”

But the building, constructed in 1978 over a seismically active fault, would need expensive modifications to make it big enough and safe enough for increased production, the report said.

In comments at the National Republican Club of Capitol Hill in Washington last year, Jack Mansfield, a member of the federal Defense Nuclear Facility Safety Board, called the building “brittle” and not sufficiently constructed to survive a serious earthquake.

“There is a probability, albeit small, that the building could collapse with great loss of life within and with dispersal of plutonium,” he said.

Another building at the lab also would have to be retrofitted to safely store between 400 and 1,760 grams of plutonium for increased production, the report says. The building is currently designed to hold 26 grams.

The congressional report makes no recommendations about how the nuclear defense complex should proceed with the strategy to increase pit production and doesn’t speculate at the cost. Rather, it poses questions for Congress to consider about the steps and associated costs necessary to execute the plan.

“With NNSA, Los Alamos National Laboratory is exploring a wide spectrum of options to fulfill our mission commitments to plutonium manufacturing,” LANL spokesman Roark said. “While using existing facilities both at Los Alamos and across the complex is a short-term solution, it is not sustainable for the long haul.”

Mello questions the report’s conclusion that Los Alamos is the best place to do the work. But he thinks the report makes clear that the decision already has been made.

“Nobody should doubt that this is a high-hazard industrial operation,” he said. “The bigger it is, the more complicated it is, the more likely it is that there will be accidents.”

Mello worries the shifting international landscape of nuclear posturing — Iran’s capability to produce weapons and unknowns about Russia’s intentions in Ukraine — will be leveraged to convince some members of Congress to support the plan.

And he expects little resistance from New Mexico’s members of Congress, who have been largely mum on the plan.

“The citizens of Santa Fe have to wake up and realize that the identity of their metro area is tied up in
this,” he said. “It would only take one disaster to end community development.”

Of the state’s five-member congressional delegation, only the offices of U.S. Sen. Tom Udall and U.S. Rep. Ben Ray Luján, both Democrats, answered The New Mexican’s questions about the plan.

Jennifer Talhelm, a spokeswoman for Udall, said the senator supports reducing the number of nuclear weapons around the globe, but also supports replacing weapon components to ensure the safety, security and reliability of the U.S. stockpile.

“Los Alamos is the only lab capable of this work,” she said.

Luján said he also embraces nonproliferation, but he believes the existing stockpile should be well maintained, and that Los Alamos should play a big role in that.

But he did not commit to a firm position on the plan described in the report and said Congress should proceed cautiously.

“While this report discusses many of the factors that go into pit production, there are a number of questions that remain,” Luján said, “along with the need for significant discussion and research to determine the best path forward.”

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Federal study: U.S. nuke labs unprepared for catastrophe

By Patrick Malone
The New Mexican | Posted: Saturday, September 13, 2014 7:00 pm

The nation’s nuclear weapons laboratories are woefully unprepared to respond to emergencies, from small radiation leaks to large-scale disasters like the 2011 Fukushima meltdown in Japan, according to a sweeping new federal study.

The study, released this month by the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, looked at 17 sites across the country over the last three years, including three in New Mexico — Los Alamos National Laboratory, the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad and Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque.

The report points to the three New Mexico sites as examples of various gaps in emergency readiness endemic throughout the nation’s nuclear defense system. The troubling assessment also comes as Energy and Defense department officials are considering sharply ramping up production of nuclear weapons components at Los Alamos and Sandia.

Safety and regulatory problems at the nuclear facilities have been under a harsh spotlight in recent months after a drum containing radioactive waste from Los Alamos burst in an underground cavern at WIPP where it was stored. The Feb. 14 accident exposed more than 20 workers to radiation and shut down shipments of waste to the nation’s only underground nuclear waste repository. The rupture came just days after a truck caught fire at the facility.

The Sept. 2 report to U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz represents the first of its kind in 15 years. It draws on emergency response lessons learned from disasters such as the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil rig spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the earthquake-triggered meltdown at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station to point out deficiencies in emergency preparedness at American nuclear facilities.

“DOE has not comprehensively and consistently demonstrated its ability to protect the worker and the public in the event of an emergency,” the report said. Such shortfalls, it added, were “clearly evidenced by the truck fire and radioactive material release events at WIPP.”
The cause of the chemical reaction that triggered the release at WIPP remains under investigation. A report issued in April by the Department of Energy’s Accident Investigation Board documented a long list of emergency readiness shortcomings.

The accident investigation identified weaknesses in WIPP’s response, beginning with the reluctance of personnel to acknowledge the first signs of the radiation release. Investigators blamed inadequate safety training and emergency planning and lax Energy Department oversight for a series of missteps throughout the 10-hour initial reaction to the event.

“Many of the site-specific issues noted at WIPP are prevalent at other sites with defense nuclear facilities,” the safety board said in its new assessment.

Emergency planners at the lab in Los Alamos erred by establishing response plans based on worst-case scenarios and limiting readiness for less catastrophic but still dangerous circumstances, according to the report.

“When decision makers know that the release is less severe than the worst case accident, they may be reluctant to implement conservative protection actions, particularly those that involve the public,” the report said.

Blind spots at LANL created by myopic planning for only the worst disasters “would not lead to the initiation of protective actions for accidents of a lesser degree,” the assessment found. The report identified similar deficiencies at Sandia.

Throughout the national nuclear weapons complex, emergency action plans “were too generic to be effective,” according to the report.

Last year, the safety board reviewed hazards and threats considered during emergency planning at Sandia National Laboratories and found them to be incomplete, a shortcoming shared at WIPP that the radiation leak there exposed, according to the report.

Emergency readiness drills at Sandia also earned low marks in the assessment.

“The drills involving facility personnel are only evacuation drills and are essentially the equivalent of fire drills,” the report said.

Assessors further criticized Sandia for not conducting simulated emergency exercises at all of the on-site facilities.

“At [Sandia National Laboratories], the staff team was particularly concerned that emergency management personnel are not scheduling drills and exercises that address the different types of hazards and accident scenarios possible at its nuclear facility,” the report said. “The drills and exercises should train and test the various elements of their capability for responding to radiological hazards and scenarios.”
During a review of safety at Sandia last year, a federal assessment team revisited findings from a 2009 safety report that identified poor execution of emergency plans by response personnel. Assessors blamed poorly drafted emergency response procedures for the weaknesses.

“The staff found them to be of poor quality and difficult to implement,” according to the report.

Sandia responded to the finding by reporting that it had corrected the deficiencies, but the federal assessors found that claim to be untrue.

“The staff team found that the original problems … still existed,” according to the report. “[Sandia National Laboratories] did not address the implications of the systemic program weaknesses identified.”

Oversight of contractors’ emergency readiness also proved to be weak at Sandia and WIPP, according to the report.

“Based on its review of numerous contractor assessment reports, the staff team observed that many of the assessments were not effective at identifying problems and weaknesses with their programs,” the report said.

After reviewing a draft copy of the report last month, Moniz vowed to fix the most disturbing deficiencies within a year.

“DOE agrees that actions are needed to improve emergency preparedness and response capabilities at its defense nuclear facilities,” Moniz wrote in a letter to the safety board.

A Los Alamos spokesman declined to comment about the report’s findings, deferring to Moniz’s letter.

The report comes as federal officials are actively seeking to step up production of components to replace aging bomb parts in the nation’s nuclear weapons stockpile.

Los Alamos stands to significantly boost production of plutonium pits, the small nuclear bombs that detonate full-scale weapons. Congressional budget documents outline a plan to produce up to 80 triggers annually at Los Alamos within 15 years. In the quarter-century since the Cold War ended, no more than 11 have been built in a single year.

Plutonium Facility 4 at Los Alamos, a 36-year-old building on a seismically active fault with structural vulnerabilities that prompted the lab to close it more than a year ago, would be home to the stepped-up pit production.

The building needs extensive modifications to safely house the 1,760 grams of plutonium required for expanded pit production,
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CAREER SUMMARY

Multi-talented, innovative Marketing / Communications / Business Development professional with expertise in supporting growing businesses, from small to large. Strategic thinker and problem solver with demonstrated success in implementing tools for growth, streamlining processes and improving ROI. Effective communicator and flexible team player who enjoys working with diverse groups.

Experience in:
• Technical Systems and Process Implementation
• Communications / PR Planning and Implementation
• HR, Finance, IT Processes and Procedures Implementation
• Operational / Organizational Evaluation and Recommendation
• Web and Email Marketing
• Expert Writer: Technical, Journalistic, PR, Marketing
• Company Branding, Culture and Marketing Development

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

WEB & IT CONSULTANT, Santa Fe, NM  2014
Website publishing, content editing and IT problem solving on a consulting basis.

SANTA FE NATURAL TOBACCO COMPANY, Santa Fe, NM  2007 – 2013
Tobacco manufacturer and marketer; subsidiary and reportable segment of Reynolds American, Inc., a Fortune 500 company.

Lead Manager, Consumer Marketing  2012 – 2013
Developed electronic marketing strategies, including web and email marketing, for both company and product, with focus on meeting company objectives and budget. Managed external creative, interactive and database vendors.
• Developed and executed entirely new company website, www.SFNTC.com, collaborating with senior management, establishing new branding and 80+ pages of content, resulting in rave reviews from both senior management and consumers; increased company brand awareness and credibility.
• Increased successful registrations 8% for product site (www.NASCIGS.com), added product style selector that was adopted across all consumer touchpoints, and increased customer feedback 200%.
• Led design and development of unique mobile site reaching smartphone users, comprising 30% of web traffic, with database-driven, user-targeted product and company content.
• Achieved accurate, on budget and timely delivery of site, email content and associated database elements by specifying and approving all vendor Business Requirement Documents, Scopes of Work and managing $750K+ annual budget.
• Created websites and marketing materials with responsible tobacco marketing content, meeting company guiding principles; partnered with company legal department to comply with all state and federal regulations for tobacco marketing.

Lead Manager, Communications  2007 – 2012
Working with VP, established internal and external communications objectives and plans for new department, implemented ongoing media, philanthropy and outreach plans to improve company visibility in the community and trade publications. Implemented publishing intranet (SharePoint) site and created and published content in print and electronic form for employees.
SANTA FE NATURAL TOBACCO COMPANY (Continued)

- Met and exceeded goals for daily publishing of stories and images on employee intranet, achieving education and awareness goals across 400 employees and 3 locations; researched, wrote and edited stories for publication using AP style and company editorial standards.

- Managed external communications, including media inquiries and press releases; developed communications and PR plan for organic tobacco growing book; drafted talking points and interview responses for executives; received, responded to, and resolved inquiries from the general public, upholding set customer relations goals.

- Shot digital photographs of employees, events, projects and requests as needed for use in electronic, print and intranet media, internally and externally; edited and sweetened photographs and executed simple layout projects in Photoshop and Lightroom.

- Developed and executed quarterly internal print magazine for employees; wrote stories and shot photographs; coordinated design and layout with creative department; approved draft and final print proofs.

- Completed media training, including presentation and on-camera practices; performed as team member of Crisis Communications and Emergency Response teams.

- Served as team member in developing community philanthropy programs and employee giving and outreach initiatives, enhancing company reputation and values.

- Supported company culture and encouraged employee engagement through development of employee initiatives and company milestone events, including annual Earth Day celebrations and 25th anniversary event designed to include manufacturing, office and warehouse employees.

- Developed and executed video and DVD materials and stories for company milestone events, national sales meetings and a company-wide tobacco training course; included writing, directing, shooting and editing digital video; digital editing performed in Final Cut Pro.

- Adhered to company budgeting, procurement and legal processes for vendor and equipment services, including completing purchase orders in PeopleSoft and SAP.

CONNECTPRESS, LTD., Santa Fe, NM 2003 – 2007

Publisher & Chief Community Officer
Directed business transition from print publishing to electronic, web-based publishing for technical publisher covering 3D CAD software, mechanical engineering, sustainable building, and alternative energy. Managed development of website foundation tools, advertising functionality, email tools, and web-based customer tools. Managed operations, including staff of 7 editorial, IT, sales, and HR / accounting personnel, including hiring / firing authority.

- Developed and implemented marketing plans, including press releases, trade show presence, monthly marketing broadcasts via email, in addition to managing Google AdSense and affiliate web-based advertising programs; increased email blast marketing and ad package revenues 100%.

- Negotiated advertising contracts and agreements with companies and ad agencies, increasing revenues with promotional packages and then ensuring full use of package incentives to achieve renewals.

- Mastered complex, technical content, and improved company credibility, by interviewing c-level global company representatives, writing and publishing articles on technical subjects, and representing company at trade conferences.

- Promoted from Managing Editor, January 2005 and Editor, January 2004 for mastery of content and business acumen.

MARSHA MASON / RESTING IN THE RIVER, LLC, Santa Fe, NM 1997 – 2003

Product Licensing & Office Manager
Managed rural development and construction issues for Rio Arriba County estate and organic farm, as well as business development issues for medicinal herb and ornamental flower products and special projects for Academy Award nominated actress.
MARSHA MASON / RESTING IN THE RIVER, LLC (Continued)

- Developed products and licensing program, including style guide and marketing plans, in conjunction with external vendor, creating profits from flower products.
- Developed marketing and sales materials including website, licensing campaign and direct mail in conjunction with external vendors, maximizing revenue of herbal products.
- Researched and managed trademark issues and federal and state regulations, adhering to herbal supplement and organic growing and labeling rules.
- Managed book tour, including appearances and press interviews, for actress’s memoir as well as ongoing press interviews and Lifetime network biography filming.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SPARK INTERACTIVE, Santa Fe, NM
Producer / Project Manager, for interactive, CD-ROM-based games Production Company. Managed preliminary game development, video shoots and localization of product into 3 languages, working with Spanish, Italian and Swedish publishers.

TRIBECA FILM CENTER, INC., New York, NY
Director of Operations, for Robert De Niro’s group of 6 related businesses with 28 employees. Established professional management practices and systems for all entities, including human resources, accounting, IT, and image standards; managed facilities and build-out of new space; coordinated development of board and program for innovative new film screening series.

PUBLIC ART, FILM & VIDEO

ALEXANDRA PRATT AND AARON CRAIG, Santa Fe, NM 2002 – 2004
Designer, The Waveform Railing
City of Santa Fe Public Art Project for Bike / Pedestrian Trail. Secured contract; budgeted, coordinated project with partner.

BINDLE STIFF PRODUCTIONS, LLC, Albuquerque, NM 1997 – 2002
Director / Co-Producer / Co-Writer, “The Trailblazer”, $300K budget independent feature about a wilderness program for troubled teens. Managed all creative and business aspects of independent production, including business plan, legal and tax structure; solicited and managed outside investors; researched and adhered to state and federal employment regulations; negotiated Screen Actors Guild contract and managed associated financial and work requirements.

EDUCATION

MFA, New York University, New York, NY
BA, Film / English, Yale University, New Haven, CT

TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

Windows and Mac software, including Microsoft Office 2010 full suite, Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom, SharePoint 2010, HTML, Final Cut Pro, QuickBooks, PeopleSoft, custom enterprise-level marketing, expense, travel, learning applications
The Interim Jobs Council made of selected state legislative leaders, executive cabinet secretaries and key private sector stakeholders is teaming with the state’s seven Council of Government Districts to conduct a series of county level job creation assessment workshops.

The workshops, in which a diverse group of local stakeholders, will deliberate on a series of baseline data points and findings that will be needed to bring clarity and consensus to the economic development agenda at the local, regional and state level. The consensus assumptions and findings will be entered into a real-time on-line database with dashboards for key state and local job creation metrics.

**Why:** Why are we doing this?
Most communities in NM have not been creating enough new jobs to replace the ones they lose every year.

Failure to grow the economic base of the state faster than the population means more and more working age New Mexicans will have to live their lives without the career quality jobs needed for financial independence and self respect. Failure also means starving the state and local tax dependent institutions we depend for critical infrastructure and public services of the resources they need to improve.

The changes and investments required will only come when a diverse spectrum of business and community leaders get clarity and consensus on 1. How many jobs must be created every year, 2. In which economic sectors the want to create them and 3. What specific factor of production gaps must be cured for them to be procured.

**Who:** Who are the conveners? Who is the IJC? Who needs to participate? Who will facilitate?

The Legislative Council of the NM State Legislature authorized the creation of the Interim Jobs Council in 2013. The council is a first of its kind, interim legislative committee that includes a mix of legislative leaders from both parties and houses, cabinet secretaries from corresponding executive departments, and representatives from key private sector constituencies. The Council is chaired by New Mexico Speaker of the House Ken Martinez and Senate Pro Tem Mary Kay Papen. The council has been formed to do its second year of work.

**How:** What approach, process, and rules are we using?

Each session is conducted using a new clinical consensus process where participants work through a carefully crafted series of challenge questions in small groups followed by periodic plenary sessions. For each question individuals were asked to estimate or posit a
best guess for the question and through dialogue with other participants at their table reach consensus on a number or a finding. After groups at each table have reached consensus the question was posed for a plenary discussion and consensus.

**What:** What will we have at the end? What questions answered? What priorities set? What actions defined?

The process resulted broad consensus on:

a) How many economic base jobs the state and each COG district must create in the next 10 years to be healthy.

b) Which industry sectors these new jobs would most likely come from;

c) Which factors of production gaps would have to be addressed for those new jobs to materialize

d) A preliminary set of legislative recommendations to be introduced in the 2014 Legislative Session

e) A common language and ordered process for thinking about a region’s economic development issues that facilitates a diverse group of stakeholders to clarity and consensus about what can be done.

At the conclusion of the 2013-2014 IJC program the Council formally recognized that the path to economic recovery will require a much higher and sustained level of investment.

The full report can be found at [http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/fileExists/interimreports/JOBS13_2.pdf](http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/fileExists/interimreports/JOBS13_2.pdf) or [www.marklautman.com](http://www.marklautman.com)

**What will we accomplished**

To that end the IJC authorized a year two program in which the Council of Government and allied organizations in each of the 7 Economic Development Districts would repeat the clinical consensus series at the county level.

Throughout the interim, representatives of in-state, local economic development organization’s and other job-creation stakeholders will gather by region to participate in sessions similar in framework to that of the Jobs Council’s first interim process.

As the consensus numbers and findings are developed at the county level they will be loaded into a real-time digital Job Creation Assessment Framework with dashboards that aggregate and display the data at the District and State levels.

Data and findings generated from these regional sessions, which will be continually updated, will be published online and reported to the Jobs Council. The information is intended to improve policymakers’ and the public’s understanding of each region’s employment profile, potential for job creation and job-creation needs.
Day One:
1. **Coherence:** Establish the goals, process, methodology, theoretical framework and nomenclature to be used to determine actionable economic and workforce development priorities.
2. **Economic Predicament:** Identify the number of new, economic-base jobs that must be created in the next 10 years to remain prosperous. (see sample matrix)

Day Two:
3. **Economic Sector Selection:** Estimate the number of economic base jobs to be created in each of 13 economic sectors and the average number of transactions required. Create a ranked list of the economic sectors with the highest potential for generating the economic base jobs goal.
4. **Factors of Production Gaps:** Identify the major factor of production gaps that must be overcome, in your region, if the jobs in that sector are to be developed.

When and Where: How many meetings? How long? Venues?

County Level Assessment Process
Each of the 7 COGS will be asked to lead the process for the counties in their respective districts. The process will be conducted in a series of full to half day sessions facilitated by a combination of IJC contract facilitators, COG leaders and others familiar with the process.

The process requires a minimum of two full day sessions with a possible 3rd:
- Day One - Coherence and Predicament
- Day Two - Economic Sector Estimates and Factor of Production Gap Analysis
- Day Three - Continue Factor of Production Gap Analysis and Program and Policy Recommendation Development

Who needs to be involved?
Participants should include a broad spectrum of stakeholders and subject matter experts who know and care about the region:

*Recommended workshop audience mix: 30-100 attendees with diverse interests and backgrounds*
1. Employers - representatives of the region's economic base and services employers – HR managers – specifically healthcare and manufacturing
2. Economic development organizations directors and professionals
3. Chambers of Commerce
4. Economists and demographers
5. Workforce development
6. Education P-20
7. Social Services
8. Home builders and residential developers, commercial developers, banks and financiers
9. Utility providers: power, gas, broadband, water & sewer
10. Local government professional managers
11. Elected Officials
12. Media
Sample blank worksheet of the matrix (Please fill in with your own arbitration):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Predicament Matrix</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>Assumed Percent (Current)</th>
<th>Assumed Percent (Future)</th>
<th>Decade Change (Δ)</th>
<th>Descriptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Population</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Change in new population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Workforce</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Change in the amount of people in the workforce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jobs to reach goal unemployment rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Unemployment Rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total jobs needed at goal employment rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Full Employment Rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Economic base jobs needed for full employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. E-base Jobs Rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jobs to replace Economic base jobs lost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. E-base Attrition Rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total E-base jobs needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Total E-base Needs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Average needed per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual E-base</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Senator Heinrich was notified today that the Department of Energy (DOE) will be soliciting services to complete a Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) and Restoration Plan based on injuries to natural resources from the release of hazardous substances from LANL. The opportunity to provide services at LANL will be a set aside for Small Businesses.

In 2008, the State of New Mexico, through the Office of Natural Resource Trustee, DOE and several other federal and tribal entities in the LANL region re-initiated an effort to pursue a NRDA based on releases of hazardous substances from LANL. On October 24, 2013, DOE issued a Request For Information to gauge interest from prospective offerors and aid DOE in the acquisition planning and development process. On June 26, 2014 a Special Notice was issued listing the procurement website where documents applicable to the procurement are located as well as other important information. The website can be located here: https://www.emcbc.doe.gov/SEB/LANLNRLDA/index.php

Please feel free to share this information with anyone you think might be interested.

cheers,
dan