RCLC Director’s Report
Submitted to the Regional Coalition of LANL Communities Board on April 26, 2019

**Bank Accounts:**
As reported previously, bank Accounts have been opened at New Mexico Bank & Trust. All necessary documents have now been filed and our fiscal agent reports that all RCLC funds have now been transferred into these independent RCLC accounts.

**Auditor:**
The commencement of the audits was delayed because of a misunderstanding at the Office of State Auditor that resulted in them not issuing approvals for all six year that are to be audited. Approval letters have now been issued. The contracted IPA firm, Kubiak CPA is scheduled to meet with RCLC staff and our fiscal agent, Los Alamos County on May 13 to begin collecting all necessary data. Los Alamos County staff and I have reviewed the IPA’s requests for financial records and data and find that they largely mirror what the OSA asked for last year during the special audit. This means that the process should be fairly smooth and quick as that information has already been collected.

**Joint Powers Agreement Rewrite:**
The RCLC Board adopted an amended Joint Powers Agreement during our March 1, 2019 meeting. The updated JPA was developed during our retreat in January and through input of various member communities. This amended JPA will help bring the RCLC into full compliance with the OSA recommendations and concerns raised by members. The amended JPA now goes to our member communities for consideration. Santa Fe County took up consideration of our newly amended JPA during their April 9, 2019 meeting. A final vote was moved to the April 30 meeting. We are speaking with individuals in the community and business community to support the adoption.

**New Website Development:**
In response to requests made at our January retreat, the RCLC has been developing a new webpage. Sandbox versions will be ready within the next week, and we are seeking board members to review the draft site and help makes sure the new site meets the board’s expectations.

**DC Trip Prep:**
The RCLC and two board members will be traveling to Washington DC next week to attend a local community round-table discussion and briefing on DOE’s reclassification of “high level nuclear waste”, or HLW. The round-table is jointly sponsored by ECA and ECOS to review how the proposed changes to the definition of HLW could affect sites like LANL, the surrounding communities, and the state as a whole. During the visit we have also scheduled meetings with
DOE, congressional delegation members and key staff with the goals of requesting the reversal of cuts to the cleanup budget, updating members on the RCLC status since last year, and requesting that local communities be included in possible future discussions about defining what cleanup will look like at the LANL site.

**Partners & Government Relations:**
The RCLC presented an update on the organization to the Town of Taos Council on April 21, 2019. In particular, we discussed the change in management, the goals of the organization and the proposed amended JPA. The Town Council asked that the amended JPA to be presented to them in the coming months.

The RCLC also held conversations with CAB board members about possible coordinating with them on discussions over the NMED Consent Order. This is a topic that also came up with our conversation with the NMED Secretary James Kenney in February. This is a topic that is becoming more pertinent and staff recommends that the RCLC form a study group to address this issue and the related subject of insuring local communities have a voice in the discussion of how DOE and the State of New Mexico define what a final cleanup of legacy waste entails.

**Inspector General Investigation:**
The RCLC was contacted by multiple media outlets recently regarding a “tip” that was sent to them saying the organization is under investigation by DOE’s Inspector General (IG). After multiple conversations with media sources, we were unable to ascertain the source of the rumor, but can report that the RCLC has received no formal notification of an investigation. However, we have received information that an IG investigation into the internal handling of the grant process is underway. During multiple interviews with media sources, we had to explain that the RCLC is a chartered JPA, within the state of New Mexico, not a DOE administered entity. We will continue to monitor this situation.

**RCLC Dues:**
Please be aware that invoices for the current fiscal year have been mailed to all our member communities. You may be contacted by your finance departments regarding payment soon.