



NORTHERN NEW MEXICO CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD

**Recommendation to the Department of Energy
2009-05**

Recommendation for 2011 Priorities for LANL Remediation

Drafted by NNMCAB Member, Kathleen Hall

Background

The NNMCAB has been asked to identify sites at LANL that should receive top priority for remediation in 2011. The selection of sites is somewhat complicated by the current funding climate, specifically the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds that have been allocated to New Mexico sites for environmental cleanup. Los Alamos National Laboratory has received ARRA funding specifically for the Decommission and Demolition (D & D) of Technical Area 21 (TA -21). Other cleanup is proceeding according to the LANS schedule such that by 2011 the gaps in the Well Monitoring Network will be filled and excavation of Material Disposal Area B (MDA-B) will be completed.

The Material Disposal Area G (MDA-G) site will not be completely remediated until some time in 2015. By 2011, all Transuranic (TRU) Waste should be moved, and only Low Level Waste will remain. MDA-G remediation must continue if it is to meet the New Mexico Order on Consent (Order or Consent Order) timetable.

TA-21 cleanup will not be complete in 2011. Remediation of this site is a major milestone and also a very public demonstration of Legacy Waste cleanup.

In 2011, the Canyon Investigations can be comprehensive using the completed Well Monitoring Network. The investigation focus is on fate and transport of contaminants from the point of origin to each canyon watershed drainage system to the regional aquifer and to the Rio Grande.

Recommendation

The Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board recommends that the top three priorities for Fiscal Year 2011 (in no specific order) are:

- 1. Emphasis on funding for closure for MDA-G.**
- 2. Continue remediation of TA-21.**
- 3. Continue Canyon Watershed Investigations regarding ground and surface water quality.**

41 **Intent**

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43 The NNMCAB supports LANS/LANL in its goals for remediation of the Legacy Waste Sites.

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45 **Effect**

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47 The identification of these three priority areas addresses the needs of LANL to make steady
48 progress on complex sites as well as to complete a site. Public awareness of the remediation
49 efforts will be enhanced by the TA-21 cleanup.

APPROVED