



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544



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June 28, 2006

Mr. Michael Kolb
Los Alamos National Laboratory
Community Relations Office
1619 Central Avenue, MS-A117
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Dear Mr. Kolb:

A copy of the *Draft Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for Continued Operation of Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico (SWEIS) (DOE/EIS-0380D)* and/or a Summary of the Draft SWEIS is enclosed with this letter. We welcome your comments on this document.

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), an agency within the Department of Energy, proposes to continue operating the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The Draft SWEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with a No Action Alternative and two action alternatives: a Reduced Operations Alternative and an Expanded Operations Alternative. Under the No Action Alternative, NNSA would continue the historical mission support activities at LANL at currently approved operational levels. Under the Reduced Operations Alternative, NNSA would eliminate selected activities and limit operations of other selected activities. In the Expanded Operations Alternative, NNSA would operate LANL at the highest levels of activity currently foreseeable, including full implementation of the mission assignments. NNSA's Preferred Alternative is the Expanded Operations Alternative.

In preparing the Draft SWEIS, NNSA considered comments received from the public during the scoping period (January 5 through February 27, 2005). Public hearings on the findings of the environmental impact analyses contained within the Draft SWEIS will be held at the following dates and locations in New Mexico: Tuesday, August 8, 2006, Fuller Lodge, Central Avenue, Los Alamos; Wednesday, August 9, 2006, Eagles Memorial Sportsplex at the Northern New Mexico Community College, Española; and Thursday, August 10, 2006, Main Building at the Santa Fe Community College, Santa Fe. The doors will open at 6:00 p.m., with the hearings being held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. NNSA presentations will be made at 6:30 p.m. and oral comment opportunities will be scheduled thereafter starting at about 6:45 p.m.

Written comments on the Draft SWEIS will also be accepted at the public hearings, or may be sent to one of the addresses listed on the following page. The comment period on the Draft SWEIS will extend through September 5, 2006. All comments received during the comment period will be considered during preparation of the Final SWEIS. Comments received after the close of the comment period will be considered to the extent practicable. Comments or requests for information can also be submitted by calling a toll free telephone number and leaving a message: 1-877-491-4957.



Individual names and addresses (including E-mail addresses) received as part of comment documents on this Draft SWEIS normally are part of the public record. NNSA plans to reproduce comment documents in their entirety in the Final SWEIS (as appropriate and to post all comment documents received in their entirety on the Website for this SWEIS at the close of the public comment period). Any person wishing to have his/her name, address, or other identifying information withheld from the public record of comment documents must state this request prominently at the beginning of any comment document. NNSA will honor the request to the extent allowable by law. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be included in the public record and open to public inspection in their entirety.

Written comments or requests for additional information should be submitted electronically by E-mail to: LANL_SWEIS@doeal.gov; or via facsimile by dialing: (505) 667-5948. Comments may also be mailed to:

Ms. Elizabeth Withers
U.S. DOE/NNSA
Los Alamos Site Office
528 35th Street
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544-2201

In keeping with the Department's commitment to public participation, please place this document in the reading room/library. If you would like further information or additional copies, please contact me at (505) 845-4984. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth R. Withers
Document Manager

Enclosure: Draft SWEIS and/or Summary

(Copy located in the LANS Study Center - Public Reading Materials under the "Assessments" Category.)