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Thursday, March 08, 2007

# Domenici Decries Lack of Cleanup Funds

*Associated Press*

The U.S. Department of Energy has steadily reduced money for environmental cleanup, adding billions of dollars to the final cost of cleaning up contaminated sites — including \$660 million more at Los Alamos National Laboratory, Sen. Pete Domenici said.

The department is setting cleanup priorities based on risk to fit its budget constraints, but "the erosion of funding is undermining the department's existing cleanup obligations and will push back completion dates," the New Mexico Republican said.

The DOE "needs to set budget baselines that match our cleanup goals and then deliver on these commitments year after year," said Domenici, ranking Republican on the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations subcommittee.

The subcommittee on Wednesday



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