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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-3103  
February 4, 2004

Ms. Jesse Roberson  
Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Ave. SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Assistant Secretary Roberson:

I am writing to bring your attention to the budget for the environmental clean up at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in New Mexico, and to urgently request that the DOE release the \$42 million immediately. At stake is not only the health of thousands of my constituents, but also the future of the Lab and the surrounding community.

It is disheartening to me that while touting the increase in clean-up funds in the FY 2005 budget request, DOE continues to drag its feet on the LANL clean up. It is unconscionable that the DOE continues to hold this congressionally budgeted funding hostage when the welfare of so many people is at stake. The time has undoubtedly come to begin working on this important clean up project and it is incumbent upon DOE to facilitate this process by releasing the funding. I believe that DOE should act swiftly on this matter, considering past experience with undocumented buried waste in Idaho.

I hope that you will act expeditiously first, to release the funding in question and second, to continue sincere efforts to reach an agreement with the state over the clean up plans. These actions are crucial to the health and well-being of my constituents.

Sincerely,

Tom Udall  
Member of Congress



Cc: Governor Bill Richardson  
Secretary Ron Curry, NMED

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