



BILL RICHARDSON  
Governor

DIANE DENISH  
Lieutenant Governor

*Permit*  **ENTERED**  
NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

*Hazardous Waste Bureau*

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RON CURRY  
Secretary

JON GOLDSTEIN  
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

July 15, 2008

Okay Owingeh  
The Honorable Earl Salazar  
P.O. Box 1099  
San Juan Pueblo, NM 87566

**RE: COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSIONS FOR LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY**

Dear Governor Salazar:

The New Mexico Environment Department (Department), in collaboration with the New Mexico Community Foundation (Foundation), is hosting a series of "Listening Sessions" to better understand issues and perceptions that residents of northern New Mexico have regarding the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The first session is July 22, 2008 in Santa Fe.

The intent of the sessions is for the Department and the Foundation to better understand peoples' perceptions and thoughts concerning LANL, to provide a forum for the public to express those perceptions, and most importantly, to listen. By listening to what people have to say, the Department will be better able to address communities' interests in its regulatory actions and perhaps hold more targeted workshops in the future to inform interested persons on environmental and regulatory issues. The sessions will help us understand the issues and priorities important to northern New Mexico and tribal communities, and better incorporate these concerns in our decisions about how to handle potential environmental risks posed by LANL.

The conversation is expected to touch on economic, social, political, cultural, and environmental issues pertaining to LANL. The first session is being held in Santa Fe on Tuesday, July 22, 2008 from 5.30 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Genoveva Chavez Community Center on Rodeo Road. Other sessions in Northern New Mexico will be announced at the meeting.

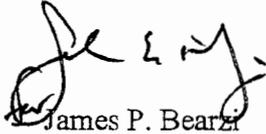
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I take this opportunity to extend an invitation to you and your staff to attend this and future sessions, and to listen along with us. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly, or have your staff contact Rebecca Kay of my staff at (505) 476-6040, or by email at [rebecca.kay@state.nm.us](mailto:rebecca.kay@state.nm.us) for more information.

Sincerely,



James P. Bearzi  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: R. Kay, NMED-HWB  
J. Kieling, NMED-HWB  
M. Bluehouse, Jr., NMED  
C. Lujan, Okay Owingeh-ED