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State of New Mexico  
**ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

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JOHN D'ANTONIO, Jr.  
SECRETARY

September 24, 2002

Michael J. Zamorski  
Director  
Office of Kirtland Site Operations  
United States Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 5400  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185-5400

Robert J. Eagan  
Vice President, Division 6000  
Sandia Corporation  
Office of Kirtland Site Operations  
P.O. Box 5400  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185-5400

Re: Sandia National Laboratories Draft Order: Request for Extension to Submit Public Comment

Dear Mr. Zamorski and Mr. Eagan:

On September 23, 2002, the Department of Energy ("DOE") and Sandia Corporation requested an extension to the public comment period on the draft Order issued September 3, 2002 requiring Sandia National Laboratories to take certain remedial actions with respect to the facility. Public comment on the draft Order is currently due October 3, 2002. DOE and Sandia Corporation requested an additional 60 days, until December 2, 2002, to submit comments in order to review the Administrative Record and prepare a complete response.

The New Mexico Environment Department ("NMED") has provided a 30 day period to submit comment. NMED does not find that an additional 60 days, extending the comment period for a total of 90 days, is warranted under the circumstances. In light of the complexity and volume of the Administrative Record in this matter, the DOE and Sandia Corporation's familiarity with the documents contained in that record, and the ability of DOE and Sandia to prepare a response, NMED finds that 60 days is an adequate period for preparation of comments. NMED hereby extends the public comment period an additional 30 days.

The time period for public comments on the draft Order is therefore extended until November 2, 2002 at 5:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

John D'Antonio, Jr.  
Secretary

SNL1136

