March 27, 2009

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RE: DRAFT HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY PERMIT FOR SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES

Dear Sirs and Madams:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) will be convening a meeting concerning the Draft Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) Hazardous Waste Permit (Draft Permit), released for public comment by NMED on August 20, 2007. As a member of the public that requested a public hearing on the Draft Permit, you are invited to attend and participate in the meeting.

Pursuant to 20.4.1.901.A(4) NMAC, “[i]f the [Environment Department] issues a Draft Permit, and a timely written notice of opposition to the Draft Permit and a request for a public hearing is received, the Department, acting in conjunction with the applicant, will respond to the request in an attempt to resolve the issues giving rise to the opposition. If such issues are resolved to the satisfaction of the opponent, the opponent may withdraw the request for a public hearing.”

The purpose of the meeting is for NMED and the SNL applicants (the U.S. Department of Energy and Sandia Corporation) to better understand your comments, and so then be better able to resolve issues you raised that gave rise to your hearing request. At the end of this process, NMED will ask you to consider whether or not your issues were sufficiently addresses such that
you would consider withdrawing your hearing request. Such a withdrawal is, of course, not mandatory to participate in the meeting.

The meeting will be held on April 20-22, 2009. The first day (April 20) will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the NMED District Office located at 5500 San Antonio Dr., NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico. This initial meeting is expected to last the day, concluding at 4:00 p.m. There will be occasional breaks, including a break for lunch. I encourage you to review the Draft Permit and comments at our website prior to the meeting. The website address is:

http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/hwb/snlperm.html#SNL

Arrangements will be made for teleconferencing for those who cannot attend the meeting in person. Please contact John Kieling at (505) 476-6035 if you require this capability, or have any other questions.

Sincerely,

James P. Bearzi
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc:  J. Kieling, NMED HWB
     W. Moats, NMED HWB
     C. Amindyas, NMED HWB
     T. Fox, NMED OGC
     B. Grantham, NMED OGC
     L. King, EPA-Region 6 (6PD-N)
     D. Rast, NNSA/SSO
     M. Reynolds, NNSA/SSO
     A. Blumberg, SNL/NM, MS-0141
     A. Reiser, SNL/NM, MS-1151
     File: Reading and SNL 2008