June 21, 2019

Mr. John Kieling, Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East  
Building 1  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6313

Mr. Jeffery P. Harrell, Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy  
NNSA/Sandia Field Office  
PO Box 5400, MS 0184  
Albuquerque, NM 87185-5400

Dear Mr. Kieling and Mr. Harrell:

The Water Protection Advisory Board (WPAB) met on Friday, June 14, 2019 during which there was discussion of the Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) Mixed Waste Landfill (MWL) 5-Year Review report that is currently under review by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and open for public comment. In February 2019, the board requested a presentation from both NMED and SNL with an update on the 5-Year Review and an update on the status of the MWL. Both entities declined to present to the WPAB pending completion of the NMED review and public comment period.

The board recognizes that SNL and the Department of Energy hosted a poster session on April 11, 2019 that included a poster on the MWL site. The poster session was not a viable option for this board to receive and discuss information on the site. While the board could attend, Open Meetings Act compliance prohibits the discussion amongst board members. The ability to ask questions and discuss information is valuable to this board, particularly on a site such as the MWL.

The board requests that the public comment period be extended beyond July 23, 2019 and that SNL and NMED present to the board prior to closing of the comment period. The board meets in public session on the second Friday of each month and scheduling should be coordinated with Ms. Diane
Agnew via phone (505-289-3008) or email (dagnew@abcwua.org). This will allow the board an opportunity to prepare an informed and complete comment on the report.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kerry Howe, Chair
Water Protection Advisory Board

Cc: Bernalillo County Commission Chair, Commissioner Maggie Hart-Stebbins, District 3
City of Albuquerque Council President, Councilor Klarissa Peña, District 3
Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority Board Chair, Commissioner Debbie O'Malley, District 1