

## Allen, Pam, NMENV

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**From:** Cobrain, Dave, NMENV  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 25, 2019 3:59 PM  
**To:** Allen, Pam, NMENV  
**Subject:** FW: [EXT] Sandia National laboratories' Mixed Waste Landfill Five-Year Report

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Paige Murphy-Young <murphyyoung@mindspring.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:46 PM  
**To:** Kenney, James, NMENV <James.Kenney@state.nm.us>; Stringer, Stephanie, NMENV <Stephanie.Stringer@state.nm.us>; Kieling, John, NMENV <john.kieling@state.nm.us>; Cobrain, Dave, NMENV <dave.cobrain@state.nm.us>  
**Subject:** [EXT] Sandia National laboratories' Mixed Waste Landfill Five-Year Report

By email to: Secretary James Kenney  
Division Director Stephanie Stringer  
Hazardous Waste Bureau Chief John Kieling  
Hazardous Waste Bureau Manager Dave Cobrain

**To:** Dave Cobrain, Program Manager  
Hazardous Waste Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building  
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Public Comments concerning Sandia National laboratories' Mixed Waste Landfill Five-Year Report

First, I am greatly encouraged by Sandia National Laboratories' (SNL's) recognition that excavation and off-site disposal of radioactive and hazardous chemicals is both feasible and safe. In the years since NMED endorsed Correction by unlined pit (with a new, improved cover), demands on local aquifers have increased while looming threats to this irreplaceable, yet essential, source fresh water have multiplied.

Even with the most current technology for multiple liners, groundwater protection cannot be reasonably assured for the centuries (millennia, for plutonium) SNL's mixed/radioactive wastes will remain an existential hazard, a hazard that is essentially unremediable. For this reason, the only defensible corrective measure is excavation, with the hazardous and radioactive being packaged, transported and ultimately held in appropriately permitted/regulated facilities. For high level radiation, dry-cask storage seems to provide the highest level of protection.

New Mexico, gifted with amazing people and breathtakingly beautiful natural resources, deserves the best environmental protections available. You are well positioned to make a positive impact on this amazing state.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Respectfully,

Paige Murphy-Young