

May 31, 2005

Mr. Ned Farquhar
Energy & Environmental Policy Advisor
State Capitol Building
Suite 400
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501



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Dear Ned:

I recently had the opportunity to meet with Governor Richardson concerning several ORION initiatives in different business areas. I indicated to the Governor that we have received a funding commitment from WIPP to convene a Summit of the top scientists in the field of low-level radiation research. We plan to convene the Summit in Carlsbad during the month of January 06.

The purpose of the summit will be to document the consensus of the research community concerning the need to develop a Low Level Radiobiology Research (L²R²) Facility and the ideal suitability of WIPP to resolve radiation standards at very low levels. In addition, it is anticipated that a working group will complete a report, to be submitted by ORION to DOE/WIPP, with a first draft of a program plan to build and operate the L²R² Facility.

The Governor strongly endorsed our initiative but made it clear this is a DOE issue and there will be no state funding. Nonetheless he wanted you to be apprised of our initiative and I have asked Pete Soliz, PhD, Chief Technology Officer, ORION and, or, Leo Gomez, PhD, Principal Scientist, Low-Level Radiobiology, ORION, to follow up with you. You may wish to visit our offices in Albuquerque at your convenience for a briefing, or we will be happy to visit with you at a mutually convenient time. We certainly welcome your input on this important matter.

I sincerely look forward to meeting you and working with you to build a long-overdue L²R² Facility.

Cordially,

ORIGINAL SIGNED by:

Miguel Rios, Jr., PhD
President and CEO

Cc: Governor Bill Richardson
Pete Soliz, PhD, Chief Technology Officer, ORION
Leo Gomez, PhD, Principal Scientist, Low-Level Radiobiology, ORION

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