

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

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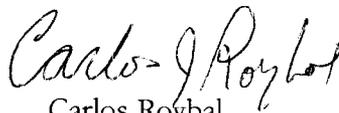
October 24, 1997

The Honorable Mark Weidler
Cabinet Secretary, State of New Mexico
P.O. box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110

Dear Mr. Weidler:

Post 307 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars is providing you with a Resolution we adopted in September. It addresses the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant and the waste destined for WIPP from Los Alamos National Laboratory. We are aware that before WIPP can accept hazardous-radioactive waste from Los Alamos it must receive a hazardous waste permit from your agency. The waste at LANL has been in temporary storage for decades, and we believe a better place for the waste is WIPP. It's time the waste was taken to a permanent disposal site. We ask that your agency issue the hazardous waste permit quickly.

Sincerely,


Carlos Roybal
Commander



Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 307, Santa Fe, New Mexico

A RESOLUTION by the VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 307, SANTA FE in support of removal of dangerous, stored radioactive waste from Los Alamos National Laboratory and calling on the New Mexico Environment Department and all agencies and governments involved in the decision to act quickly so that the waste can be placed in a safe repository and the safety of our citizens can be assured.

WHEREAS, transuranic waste has been stored in temporary structures in and around Los Alamos National Laboratory for decades, and

WHEREAS, the storage containers are, at best, questionable for further longterm use, and

WHEREAS, there have been two major forest fires in proximity to this dangerous storage, posing a threat of radioactive spread, and

WHEREAS, the community of Cimarron, New Mexico, was struck by a tornado within the past 12 months and the community of Tesuque similarly hit within the past decade, and

WHEREAS, Los Alamos is always at risk of a similar natural disturbance capable of immense destruction, and

WHEREAS, there is a constant danger of flash floods throughout New Mexico, and

WHEREAS, the radioactive waste at LANL is highly dangerous if inhaled or otherwise ingested, and

WHEREAS, we are located downhill and, often, downwind from LANL and are subject to distribution of such perilous waste through winds, water, fire and other forces of nature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THIS ORGANIZATION that all responsible agencies and officials act promptly to eliminate the dangers of LANL waste to our community and our citizens by removing it to a safe, longterm repository.

Carlos Roybal, Commander