

833 Early Street  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
505-983-7171

.....

# Fraternal Order of Eagles

October 24, 1997

RECEIVED

NOV 24 1997

NM ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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

Dear Mr. Weidler:

The Fraternal Order of Eagles is an organization that has been active in Santa Fe for many decades. We recently passed a Resolution that addresses the disposal of waste at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). We believe WIPP is a better place for that waste. We know that before any hazardous waste is taken to WIPP, it needs a permit from your department. We understand writing a permit for a facility like WIPP is a real challenge, but we don't want the waste to continue to be "temporarily stored" at LANL when a better disposal facility (WIPP) is sitting idle waiting for a permit. We are requesting that you issue the permit in a timely manner.

Sincerely,



Harry Smith  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

RECEIVED  
NOV 24 1997

.....

971039



# Fraternal Order of Eagles

Santa Fe, New Mexico

**A RESOLUTION by the SANTA FE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES in support of the 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**

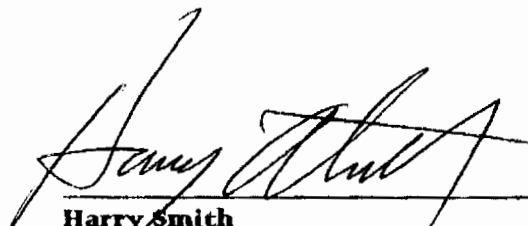
**WHEREAS, Los Alamos is always at risk of a similar natural disturbance capable of immense destruction, and**

**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.**



**Harry Smith  
Chairman, Board of Trustees**