



NORTHERN NEW MEXICO CITIZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD

**Recommendation to the Department of Energy
No. 2009-04**

**Priorities for ARRA Stimulus Funding for Environmental Cleanup
at Los Alamos National Laboratory**

Drafted by NNMCAB Member, J. D. Campbell

Background

The Northern New Mexico Citizens Advisory Board (NNMCAB) has had presentations by and discussions with the Department of Energy (DOE) Los Alamos Site Office (LASO) regarding the environmental cleanup efforts at Los Alamos National Laboratory for many years. The NNMCAB recognizes the needs to make immediate progress in cleanup efforts at TA-21 with the removal of buildings and facilities to obtain access to potential below ground contamination. Provisions to cleanup MDA-B at TA-21 are well underway and will allow this area on the perimeter of LANL and adjacent to public and commercial operations to be available for future use by Los Alamos residents.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) has provided the DOE Office of Environmental Management with funds to accelerate the cleanup of legacy waste at DOE facilities across the United States (ARRA funding). An additional objective of ARRA is to provide work opportunities for the public in areas affected by the economic slowdown. The LASO expects to receive ARRA funding in the near term for these objectives. The NNMCAB understands LASO has targeted TA-21 for initial use of these funds.

The Office of Environmental Management has requested any comment and recommendation from the NNMCAB regarding the priorities to be considered for the use of available ARRA funding at LANL.

Recommendations:

- 1. The NNMCAB recommends that LASO utilize available ARRA funding to ensure adequate training of workers and monitoring of site conditions**

1 to provide the public with information demonstrating safe conditions for
2 workers and the public during the proposed cleanup operations at TA-21.
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4 2. The NNM CAB recommends and agrees with the priorities developed by
5 LASO for the removal of buildings and facilities at TA-21 and the
6 excavation and removal of legacy waste remnants from MDA-B as an
7 initial use for a majority of the ARRA funding for LANL.
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9 3. The NNM CAB further recommends that LASO show immediate and
10 excellent progress in the beneficial use of available ARRA funding so
11 LASO and the NNM CAB may recommend to the DOE Office of
12 Environmental Management that LANL is deserving of additional ARRA
13 funding to further accelerate the cleanup of legacy waste at our site.
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15 **Intent**

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17 The intent of this Recommendation is to encourage LASO and the DOE Office of
18 Environmental Management to show immediate and beneficial acceleration of the
19 cleanup of legacy waste at LANL and to encourage additional ARRA funding be
20 provided for this use at LANL. Further, the intent of this Recommendation is to provide
21 future employment opportunities for the citizens of Northern New Mexico in the high-
22 paying cleanup jobs over the next several years at LANL.
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24 **Effect**

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26 The effect of this Recommendation will be to accelerate the cleanup of legacy waste at
27 LANL and to allow the students and workers from Northern New Mexico to participate
28 in this and future cleanup activities at LANL.
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