NORTHERN NEW MEXICO CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD Recommendation to the Department of Energy

No. 2011-07

"Maximum Utilization of WIPP by Increasing MDA G TRU Shipments"

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Background:

The Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB or CAB) has recently become aware that planned shipments of Transuranic (TRU) Waste from such sites as the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Site for 2011 have been curtailed. In a recent Recommendation (No. 2011-02, "Accelerate TRU Waste Shipments from Area G to WIPP"), the NNMCAB recommended that DOE consider accelerating the movement of TRU Waste from Material Disposal Area G (MDA-G).

Comments and Observations:

The EM Complex-Wide goal is to complete disposition of 90% of the legacy transuranic waste by the end of 2015. This goal directly supports the NMED-LANL Consent Order clean-up deadline of 2015.

Recommendation:

No. 1. DOE/HQ should provide resources and funding to LANL to allow the increase shipments of TRU Waste from MDA-G to WIPP to make up for the shortfall created from the reduction of shipments of TRU Waste.

Intent:

The intent of this recommendation is to ensure optimization of WIPP shipment schedules while helping to keep commitments to Consent Order milestones at MDA-G.

References:

- 1. NNMCAB Recommendation 2011-02, "Accelerate TRU Waste Shipments from Area G to WIPP".
- 2. New Mexico Order on Consent, March 2005.
- 3. Office of EM Update SSAB June 15, 2011, S. Olinger.
- 4. 2011 Spring National TRU Corporate Boards in Las Vegas, Nevada.