

# NORTHERN NEW MEXICO CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD NEWSLETTER



NNMCAB Newsletter

Spring 2016

## NNMCAB Hosts Fall Meeting in Santa Fe

The NNMCAB and the Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office were pleased to welcome the Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) to Santa Fe and Los Alamos last September. The EM SSAB is comprised of eight site specific advisory boards located at major Department of Energy facilities across the country. Participants traveled to Santa Fe from South Carolina, Washington, Kentucky, Ohio, Nevada, Idaho, and Tennessee. The leadership of these local boards meet twice a year to hear presentations by DOE officials and discuss common issues and concerns. Each board also shares accomplishments and top issues from each site. The meeting usually results in complex wide recommendations for DOE EM consideration.

Attendees toured Los Alamos National Laboratory environmental management cleanup sites and were introduced to EM's top priorities, including efforts to remediate and protect groundwater and ensure safe management of the radioactive waste inventories. One of the highlights of the day was a tour of Tsirege Pueblo, which was occupied by ancestors of the Pueblo de San Ildefonso. Governor James Mountain and members of his staff welcomed the group and led the tour, along with LANL archeologists.

The meeting in Santa Fe began with a welcome by Mayor Javier Gonzales and Christine Gelles, Acting EM-LA Field Manager, along with David Borak from DOE Headquarters and Doug Sayre, NNMCAB Chairman. During the course of the day and a half meeting, participants heard updates on: EM Waste Management, Contracting Strategies, Site Restoration, EM Communications, and the WIPP Recovery. The meeting was open to the public and public comment periods were held each day, with members of the public addressing issues of concern.

The group approved a draft recommendation on Supplemental Environmental Projects, asking DOE to pursue, with its regulators, the use of supplemental environmental projects in lieu of fines, for future fines levied against DOE for cleanup violations. The draft recommendation also calls for any SEPs and/or fines and penalties not to be paid out of EM cleanup budgets.

The EM SSAB will meet again during the Spring Chairs' Meeting, April 19-21, 2016, hosted by the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board. The NNMCAB leadership will travel to Oak Ridge to meet with their EM SSAB colleagues.

## In This Issue

- Meet the New Board Members, Page 2.
- Slowing the Chromium Plume, LANLs Interim Measure, Page 5.
- Members Tour the LANL Site, Page 6
- EM-LA has a New Site Manager, Page 7
- San Ildefonso Pueblo Presents at NNMCAB meeting, Page 7
- The NNMCAB has a New webpage optimized for todays web browsers, Back Cover.

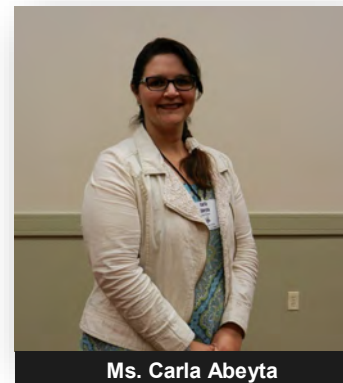


EM SSAB Board Members Visit LANLs TRU Waste Loading Facility at Technical Area 54, Sept. 1, 2015

# Meet the New Members of the Board

## Carla Abeyta

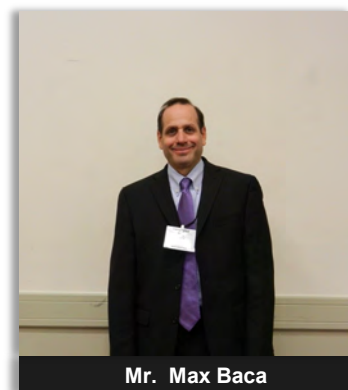
*M*s. Abeyta has been working as a Consultant for the Greater Chimayo Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association since April 2015. She also owns and operates MTZ Photography since July 2012. Her works have been published in national publications and have received numerous awards. Ms. Abeyta previously worked at the University of New Mexico as a Senior Contracts Specialist and at Los Alamos National Laboratory in the Acquisition Services Management group as a Contract Administrator. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communications from New Mexico State University in December of 1995. She has expressed an interest in environmental and public health issues. Ms. Abeyta currently resides in Chimayo, New Mexico.



Ms. Carla Abeyta

## Max Baca

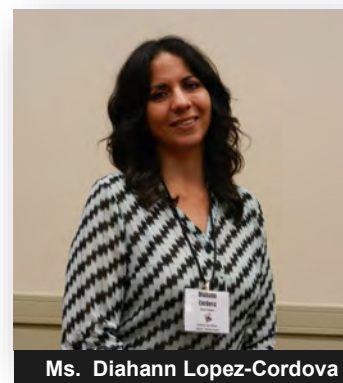
*M*r. Baca is the Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration at New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU). He has been an employee at NMHU since 1986, and previously served as the campus-wide IT Services Manager. Mr. Baca has been the President of Vivid Solutions since 1986. He is on the board of the Innovate Educate New Mexico, a committee member on the State-Wide Learning Management System Executive Team, and President of New Mexico TIE. Mr. Baca received his Master's in Business Administration from NMHU in 2015. He was a commissioned officer in the United States Army until 1986. Mr. Baca currently resides in Las Vegas, New Mexico and has shown an interest in education and economic development.



Mr. Max Baca

## Diahann Lopez-Cordova

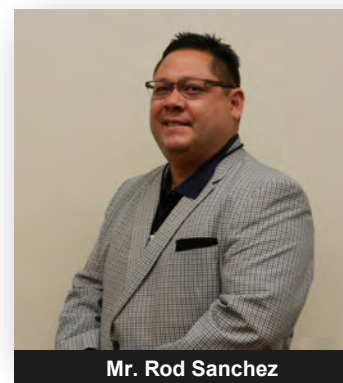
*M*s. Lopez-Cordova has worked as the Executive and Board Secretary supporting the district Superintendent and Board of Education for Pojoaque Valley School District since 2011. Previously, she worked for Blue Sky Builders as a Field Project Manager. Ms. Lopez-Cordova is also a freelance graphic designer for Modoc Designs, specializing in web design and development, illustration, and digital imaging. She received her Associate Degree in Visual Communications from Colorado Institute of Art and Design in May 1990. Ms. Lopez-Cordova is a Communications Director for the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Santa Cruz and has an interest in environmental and public health issues. She currently lives in Santa Cruz, New Mexico with her family.



Ms. Diahann Lopez-Cordova

## Rod Sanchez

*M*r. Sanchez is the President of Purple Neuron LLC, and is also the Founder and President of Cerelink Incorporated. Mr. Sanchez is currently working as a Professor of Interdisciplinary Film and Digital Media at New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU). His previous job experience includes working as a Worldwide Manager for Intel Corporation and as a Visiting Professor for Media Arts at NMHU. Mr. Sanchez has served on the Board of Directors for: the Los Alamos National Laboratory Foundation, the Center for Hands on Learning, and the University of New Mexico School of Management. He was also awarded a Fellowship with the Society for Neuroscience and the National Institute of Health. Mr. Sanchez received his Ph.D. in Applied Management from Indiana University/Walden Institute, and is in the Ph.D. Candidate Program for Neuroscience at Princeton University. He has expressed an interest in education and economic development. Mr. Sanchez currently resides in Corrales, New Mexico.



Mr. Rod Sanchez

# One Year Anniversary



## Michael Whiting

*M*r. Whiting currently works at the New Mexico Regulations and Licensing Department as a Board Administrator. He previously worked as a Relief Manager at Big 5 Sporting Goods and a research assistant at the Center for Women's Surgery. Mr. Whiting Graduated from the University of New Mexico in May of 2012, with a Bachelors of Business Administration with emphasis on Human Resources. He served as a fire fighter for the Corrales Fire Department from 2008 to 2013; he was a certified Emergency Medical Technician Basic. Mr. Whiting also has certificates in Hazardous Materials Incident Response and Rope Rescue Awareness and Operations. He is currently a member of the Los Duranes Neighborhood Association in Albuquerque.



## Joshua Madalena

*M*r. Madalena is a member of the Jemez Pueblo Tribal Council. Mr. Madalena served as the Governor of Jemez Pueblo in 2010, 2012, and completed his third term in December 2014. The Governor became a member of the Tribal Council for life at the conclusion of his term as Governor. Mr. Madalena is a former State Monument Superintendent; he holds certificates in Archeology/Anthropology. Mr. Madalena has an Associate's Degree in Business Administration from National American University.



## Angelica Gurulé

*M*s. Gurulé is currently the Environmental Services Manager for Los Alamos County, where she manages the solid waste recycle program and contracts related to Environmental Services operations. She is also working to develop the Environmental Sustainability Plan for Los Alamos County. Ms. Gurulé previously worked at the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish as a business operations specialist. She has also worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory in the Environmental Stewardship Group (January 2011 through March 2012) and in Human Resources for Environment, Safety, Health, and Quality Directorate (October 2010 through January 2011). Ms. Gurulé received her B.S. in Environmental Science from UNM; M.S. in Sustainable Environmental Resource Management from Royal University of Malta; and M.S. in Information, Science and Technology from James Madison University. Ms. Gurulé is active in the community and has taken part in volunteer work in Valletta, Malta; and Northern New Mexico. Her volunteer work ranges from environmental outreach for the United States Embassy to community clean-up projects and outreach. Ms. Gurulé currently lives in Española, New Mexico and has expressed an interest in environmental and public health issues.

## The NNM CAB is Currently Recruiting New Members for Appointment in November 2016



Meeting November 2015

“Get Involved,  
Be Informed,  
Make a Difference  
Because you Love  
New Mexico!”

### What is the Northern New Mexico Citizen’s Advisory Board (NNMCAB)?

Site-Specific Advisory Boards were developed to involve stakeholders more directly in the Department of Energy (DOE) cleanup process. The NNM CAB provides DOE with advice and recommendations concerning: environmental remediation, waste management, and monitoring and surveillance of legacy waste.

### Who Serves on the NNM CAB?

Membership reflects a broad range of cultures, demographics, and views from citizens in the affected communities and regions. Members include stakeholders from local governments, Tribal Nations, environmental and civic groups, universities, labor organizations, and others. Liaison members to the NNM CAB come from LANL, DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the New Mexico Environment Department.

### Board Member Responsibilities

- \* Submitting advice and recommendations to DOE on integral Environmental Management Issues.
- \* Representing and communicating the views of their communities in board discussions.
- \* Keeping the public informed on key issues,

upcoming decisions, board recommendations, and public hearings.

- \* Attending the NNM CABs bi-monthly meetings and serving on one of the boards standing committees. Board meetings occur on Wednesdays once every other month from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Committee meetings occur on the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 2:00p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### How Can You Get Involved?

Board meetings serve as a two-way exchange between members of the public and the NNM CAB, DOE, and Liaison members. All NNM CAB board meetings have a public comment period through which members of the public can voice their concerns, issues, and submit written comments.

### Interested in Becoming a Board or Committee Member?

Please call Menice B. Santistevan, Executive Director at (505)995-0393 or e-mail [menice.santistevan@em.doe.gov](mailto:menice.santistevan@em.doe.gov). Feel free to stop by our office at 94 Cities of Gold Rd., Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506 or visit the website at [www.energy.gov/em/nnmcab](http://www.energy.gov/em/nnmcab) for additional information.



Members Tour the WCCR Facility at LANL October



NNM CAB Chair, Vice-Chair, Member, & Student attended the Spring 2015 Chairs meeting in South Carolina



Members tour TA-16 to see the site of the RDX contamination August 2015



## NNMCAB Members

Douglas Sayre, Chair  
Santa Fe, NM

Gerard Martínez y Valencia,  
Vice-Chair, Santa Fe, NM

Carla Abeyta  
Chimayo, NM

Max Baca  
Las Vegas, NM

Diahann Cordova  
Santa Cruz, NM

Mary Friday  
Taos, NM

Nona Girardi  
Los Alamos, NM

Angelica Gurulé  
Española, NM

Joshua Madalena  
Pueblo of Jemez, NM

Tessa Mascareñas  
Española, NM

Daniel Mayfield  
Nambe, NM

Alex Puglisi  
Santa Fe, NM

Angel Quintana  
Pueblo of Pojoaque, NM

Rod Sanchez  
Corrales, NM

Ashley Sanderson  
Santa Fe, NM

Stephen Schmelling  
Santa Fe, NM

Joey Tiano  
Santa Fe, NM

Irene Tse-Pe  
San Ildefonso Pueblo, NM

Carlos Valdez  
Albuquerque, NM

Michael Valerio  
Taos, NM

Mona Varela  
Albuquerque, NM

Michael Whiting  
Albuquerque, NM

Nicole Habbit  
Student Representative

Ashlee Herrera  
Student Representative

James Valerio  
Student Representative



Danny Katzman, LANL, explains how the Chromium Interim Measure Works, September 2015

## Mortandad Canyon Chromium Groundwater Plume

The Chromium Interim Measure has held special interest for the NNM CAB Members, especially those from the Pueblo de San Ildefonso. The plume is located beneath an area of Mortandad Canyon that is surrounded by numerous historical sites that are sacred to the Pueblo. This has presented a challenge for Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in drilling the wells that will be used as part of the interim measure to slow the migration of the chromium, while full plume remedy alternatives are identified. LANL will be drilling its first ever angled well from an existing well pad that is located outside of the historical site area, so that the sacred sites remain undisturbed. The proposed plan in the interim measure is to use extraction wells in combination with ion exchange columns to remove the hexavalent chromium from the contaminated groundwater. The clean water will then be put back into the regional aquifer using injection wells that are located in strategic locations that may help to contain the plume.

In an effort to help get information to the public and to increase awareness about the proposed interim plan, the NNM CAB hosted a Chromium Plume Control and Chromium Plume Center Characterization public information session. The session was held at the Cities of Gold Conference Center in Pojoaque, New Mexico on September 30, 2015. Posters with information about the stages in the interim measure were on display. Subject Matter Experts (SME) from LANL and the Department of Energy were on hand to answer questions and provide additional information. In addition, copies of the draft Environmental Assessment were available in electronic and hard copy formats in an effort to provide the attendees with all pertinent information on the subject. The meeting was well attended by individuals who live in the area surrounding LANL.

LANL and the DOE have stressed that this is just an interim measure for the chromium plume in Mortandad Canyon, not the final remedy. The interim measure was approved by the New Mexico Environment Department, in October 2015.

By: William Alexander

# New Members Tour the LANL Facility to Learn about the Cleanup Issues at the Site

## NNMCAB Members Tour LANL

This past fall the new NNMCAB members had an opportunity to tour the Los Alamos National Laboratory environmental sites. The members started their tour at the Bradbury Science Museum, giving them the opportunity to learn about the rich history of the site. After the museum the members were taken to Material Disposal Area G, the site on the laboratory that holds much of its Legacy Transuranic Waste. The disposition of waste at the MDA G site as well as other disposal areas is one of the major topics that the NNMCAB members will have input in while on the board.

After a brief break for lunch on site at the laboratory cafeteria, members were taken to Mortandad Canyon to see the site of the chromium contamination plume at LANL (see Mortandad Canyon Chromium Plume on Page 3). The tour concluded at the White Rock Overlook with a presentation on Surface Water Protection by the Laboratory Surface Water Team. The team covered topics on Best Management Practices (BMPs) that are used to keep possible contamination from locations on the Laboratory site, from migrating downstream through surface water. These important topics are great to bring new members up to speed on what the NNMCAB looks at for remediation of legacy contamination across the site.

Previous tours have included looking at the Waste Characterization and Repackaging Facility, and the Technical Area 16 RDX plume that LANL is also looking at for remediation. These tours are important to familiarize the members with the site and the issues that they will be asked to make recommendations on.

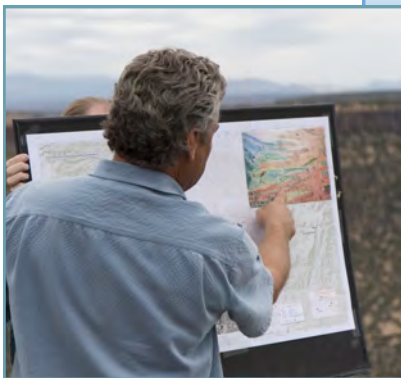
By: William Alexander



NNMCAB Members assemble inside the MDA G Dome 375, one of the Legacy Transuranic Waste storage areas.



Members see one of the permacons located at Material Disposal Area G.



Surface Water protection, how do we do it and what does it mean for remediation at LANL.



Members listen to a presentation by Danny Katzman at the Chromium extraction area in Mortandad Canyon.

# New Field Manager for Environmental Office at Los Alamos



Mr. Hintze at the NNM CAB January Meeting

The NNM CAB would like to welcome Mr. Douglas Hintze to the Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA). Mr. Hintze came to EM-LA in September 2015, from the Savannah River Site. Mr. Hintze is the new Field Office Manager for the EM-LA Office; the new office was stood up in early 2015 to address the Los Alamos National Laboratory environmental clean-up pro-

jects. In his short time at the EM-LA Office, Mr. Hintze has attended NNM CAB meetings in Pojoaque, Las Vegas, and Ohkay Owingeh, New Mexico. He has committed to working with the NNM CAB in its mission to provide the Department of Energy with recommendations on clean-up at Los Alamos.



# Pueblo de San Ildefonso Governor Presents at NNM CAB



Governor Mountain of the Pueblo de San Ildefonso at the NNM CAB September 2015

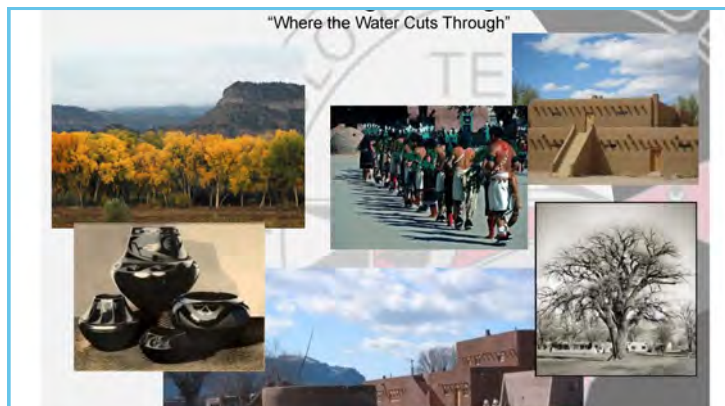
Pueblo, and quantitatively and qualitatively assess risks to the health and welfare of the Tribal Community.” The Pueblo is the only Native American tribe that directly shares a boarder with an operating Department of Energy site. Sharing a border with a DOE site puts the Pueblo de San Ildefonso in a unique position to be impacted by site operations, and to have a voice in how operations at the site are conducted. Governor James Mountain of The Pueblo de San Ildefonso and the Environment Department Director, Raymond Martinez, presented at the NNM CAB September meeting on the Pueblo’s perspective on environmental cleanup at Los Alamos. Governor Mountain made it clear that the clean-up at the site is a



NNM CAB Members listen to Governor Mountain of the Pueblo de San Ildefonso

The Pueblo de San Ildefonso is one of the Eight Accord Pueblos in Northern New Mexico and has a rich tradition in culture and art, especially famous for its black on black high polish pottery.

The Mission of The Pueblo de San Ildefonso Environmental Department is to “Protect and preserve the natural environment and the cultural resources of the



San Ildefonso Images, courtesy San Ildefonso presentation to NNM CAB September 2015

team effort between the Department of Energy, Los Alamos National Laboratory, the Pueblos and the citizens of Northern New Mexico. See our YouTube channel for the complete presentation.

To make sure that the citizens of Northern New Mexico and the Pueblos are well represented, the NNM CAB strives to have representatives from all of the surrounding communities on the Board.

# The New NNM CAB Web Page

In November 2015 the Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB) launched a newly designed website, bringing its website into the world of HTML 5 and mobile device computing. The new website uses the DRUPAL website platform, the site architecture and content was designed by NNM CAB staff member W. Alexander, with the assistance of website designers and content administrators from the Department of Energy Information and Technology Department. The team worked over the course of 4 months to redesign a website that would be user friendly, easy to navigate, and work across multiple platforms. The content for the new site was migrated by hand from the old NNM CAB webpage.

The site is a nested site under Environmental Management, and uses a left hand navigation to enable users to navigate the content of the site. The platform has been optimized to run on mobile devices and Internet Explorer while keeping a crisp, clean feel and auto sizing to fit the appropriate platform. The new home page feature rotator helps visitors easily locate some of the NNM CABs recent meetings, projects, minutes, recommendations, and photos from tours and activities, while maintaining a minimalist feel on the home page. This new look makes the content easier to locate and has a balanced feel. Content on subpages in the navigation is sectioned into category types, using blocks and right rail content to seamlessly present information, allowing users to locate desired information with ease. If you ever need the home page, just click on the NNM CAB logo and you're back home.

Take some time to browse around our new site, it is our hope that you will find the site useful and informative.

By. William Alexander

## Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about the NNM CAB.

**Office Located at**  
94 Cities of Gold Road  
Pojoaque, NM 87506

Office (505) 989-1662  
Toll Free 1-800-218-5942  
Fax (505) 989-1752

Visit Our Social Media on

- Facebook (Nnmcab)
- YouTube (NNMCAB)

Visit us on the web at  
[www.energy.gov/em/nnmcab](http://www.energy.gov/em/nnmcab)

**Be Informed. Get Involved. Because You Love New Mexico!**

### NNMCAB

94 Cities of Gold Rd.  
Santa Fe, NM 87506

## 2016 NNM CAB Meeting Schedule

Meeting Date	Venue	City
March 30, 2016	Sandia Conference Center	Albuquerque
May 18, 2016	Santa Claran Conference Center	Española
July 27, 2016	Santa Fe Community College	Santa Fe
September 28, 2016	New Mexico Highlands University (SUB)	Las Vegas
November 15, 2016	El Monte Sagrado	Taos