



**Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board
Waste Management (WM) Committee
Work Plan FY'2009**

WM Committee Mission Statement:

The Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB) Waste Management Committee reviews policies, practices and procedures, existing and proposed, so as to provide recommendations, advice, suggestions and opinions to the US Department of Energy (DOE), New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), and others regarding the waste management operations of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The committee also facilitates community awareness and access to LANL waste management practices and procedures.

Issues Addressed by WM Committee in 2007/2008:

1. Transuranic (TRU) Waste Characterization.
 - Monitored public concern regarding TRU waste storage and transportation.
 - Monitored progress of the transfer of TRU waste from MDA G to WIPP.
 - Monitored the LANL quality control process and handling procedures for TRU waste shipments.
 2. Waste Management Regulatory Issues.
 - Commented on RCRA permit modifications and changes in regulations affecting management and handling of TRU, liquid, and low-level waste.
 - Drafted recommendation on revised storage casks for WIPP waste.
 3. Waste Management Committee Communication
 - Conducted the Public Forum on MDA G to present options and their risks for the environmental restoration
 - Monitored LANL's use of Area G for ongoing waste disposal.
 4. Issued Recommendations to the Department of Energy:
 - A. Recommendation 2007-01 (with EMSR) – Interim Measures for Contaminant Source Removal in MDA L
 - B. Recommendation 2008-01 – Proceed With Planned Change Request for Shielded Containers
 - C. Recommendation 2008-02 – Enhanced Training for LANL in Interfacing With Regulators
 5. Responded to the DOE Response for Recommendations:
 - A. No Responses to WMC recommendations received.
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WM Committee Action Items and Issues to be Addressed for 2008/2009:

(Available Resources estimated as 10 members (levelized annually) for 8 hrs/mo each)

Priority 1 (40 percent of WMC resources, approximately 32 hrs/mo.):

Continue to bring to the public attention the principles of option evaluation using a risk and benefit approach for the environmental remediation of key material disposal areas (MDAs) at LANL.

- A. Ensure MDA work plans have detailed option evaluations.
 - B. Investigate methods for effectively incorporating local cultural and societal values into options assessments.
 - C. Monitor option recommendations for meeting necessary regulatory requirements.
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Priority 2 (20 percent of WMC resources, approximately 16 hrs/mo):

Take a leadership role in public involvement with waste management decisions, by considering the following activities:

- A. Advocate for DOE to fund the environmental restoration effort at LANL to the Baseline budget levels requested.
- B. Advocate with DOE to ensure the Baseline budget accurately reflects the necessary work to completion.
- C. Recommend that DOE/NNSA develop better milestone status tools.
- D. Promote optimum interface with NMED in clean-up activities.
- E. Recommend that DOE always factor in long term stewardship considerations with every work plan and remedy.
- F. Consider having LANL perform a lifetime study of MDA G and MDA L to help the public understand options, alternatives and reasons associated with long term stewardship.
- G. Study closure plans and Corrective Measures Evaluation (CME) for Area G and make recommendations.
- H. Study expansion plans for Area G and make recommendations.
- I. Research modeling tools used for the Performance Assessment (PA) for MDA G, investigate whether the PA was driven by assumptions, models and what inputs were used in the assessment and determine how accurate this baseline set of assumptions was.
- J. Actively pursue public comment and public involvement opportunities related to Waste Management Activities at LANL.
- K. Evaluate and make new Recommendations to DOE, in particular with respect to MDA G actions and newly generated LLW disposition at LANL using total life cycle costs.

Priority 3 (20 percent of WMC resources, approximately 18 hrs/mo)

Maintain Involvement with the NMED Compliance Order on Consent and other Regulatory Issues through the following activities:

- Monitor LANL progress in meeting Consent Order deliverables and due dates.
 - Review and assess Work Plans for MDAs and Record(s) of Decision.
 - Monitor LANL performance regarding the MDAs, particularly MDA B at TA-21 and MDA G when submitted in 2008.
 - Work with DOE, NMED, and LANL to ensure public participation and oversight in review of remedy selection(s).
 - Review and assess the RCRA revisions for LANL to be proposed by NMED in 2008.
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Priority 4 (20 percent of WMC resources, approximately 18 hrs/mo)

Work with the EMSR Committee to improve communications and understanding of the following issues:

- Monitor actions on Perchlorate, Chromium and other hazardous constituents found in LANL effluents and samples from regional groundwater.
 - Promote better understanding among the CAB, NMED and independent reviewers of the way that LANL ensures data quality objectives are achieved in their groundwater monitoring program for the MDAs.
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