

Kieling, John, NMENV



From: dick powell [powelldsa2001@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 8:02 AM
To: Kieling, John, NMENV
Subject: Open Burn Permit for Units TA 16-388 and TA 16-399 at Los Alamos National Laboratory

Richard Powell
 PO Box 1000
 Alcalde, NM 87511

March 25, 2010

RE: Open Burn Permit for Units TA 16-388 and TA 16-399 at Los Alamos National Laboratory

Dear Mr Kieling:

The New Mexico Environmental Department has waged a campaign of open burn permit denial to LANL for the past 15 years. The expense to taxpayers has been incredible and their reasons empty. Those that support the NMED's denial make a lot of illogical noise using faulty data and arguments while their home fire places produce more environmental damage in one night than the burn ground at LANL would produce in a number of years. Some groups have only one purpose – close LANL. They actually pay people to attend hearings to oppose any progress on the assumption that anything LANL does has a nuclear component. *LANL is not burning radioactive materials.*

To what end do they deny a permit? The concise answer to this question is unknown but maybe their game is.....

- <!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Cave into a few paranoid conspiracy theory supporters in an effort to close LANL and cause economic devastation on Northern New Mexico.
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Invite civilian casualties along an egress route transporting energetic materials to another site that allows burning. (To justify this NMED sights inappropriate burn models with inappropriate waste. The dioxins and furans they keep referring to don't exist at the temperatures used at the LANL burn ground. Also, the chlorine content of the waste being burned that is necessary to produce a measurable amount of either compound too low.)
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Save a Hantavirus ridden mouse using data on soils that was contaminated 40 years ago saying the burn techniques presently used caused it. (Actually, populations of the deer mice in the canyons immediately adjacent to the burn ground are perfectly healthy.)
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Block efforts to provide security for military personnel overseas and homeland security by limiting or eliminating research into terrorist explosives.

NMED has kept moving the target on LANL so that each time they comply with NMED's requests, NMED comes up with another task. It appears that they are either trying to cave to the irrational whims of the opposition to the permit or they hope that they can come up with a



test that will show LANL is producing air, soil, or water contaminants greater than some arbitrary level they make up. When LANL has done tests that fall within reasonable environmental standards, NMED changes the tolerances. This is not, nor has it ever been, the case using the burn protocols presently used. At one point NMED told LANL to use an incinerator. Problem is they won't permit one. LANL was instructed another time to put the HE in a wooden box during incineration. This would be extremely dangerous and indicates a lack of understanding of the materials being burned.

As a citizen who lives downwind from LANL I support their efforts and believe a permit should be granted, post haste without further waste of time or money.