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Kieling, John, NMENV

From: georgiana@windstream.net
Sent: Wednesday, May 05, 2010 9:27 PM
To: Kieling, John, NMENV
Subject: LANL open burn permit comment

NMED is threatening to deny open burning at LANL due to extensive public opposition, possible alternatives to HE waste disposal, and uncertainty of ecological risk to deer mice and earthworms.

I believe the public opposition is heavily swaying NMED with thier emotions. In public hearings and comments, the persons opposing the permit, are blaming LANL for the state of the economy, school budget crisis, the cerro grande fire, poor air quality, ground water contamination, etc. There is no indication that OB has adversely affected New Mexico. The persons making these comments clearly have an opposition to LANL's mission. LANL would not be in operation if they were not meeting requirements and regulations set by the state to protect the public and environment.

The amount of HE that is burned during open burning is a trivial amount compared to the risk associated with transporting HE for burning elsewhere. We have had three incidents in the past year where terrorists have planned attacks against our country using explosives. Transporting HE on a vehicle that is placarded as such can be seen as a CHANCE for these terrorists.

Accidental and prescribed fires, burning wood for heat, and cars cause more pollution and create the same if not more of a risk to deer mice and earthworms than open burning of HE in a planned and controlled fashion. The heat and temperature during the OB burns destroys the dioxins and furans that could possibly hurt deer mice and earthworms.

I hope the hearing officer can see past the emotion of the public opposition, understand the risk with transporting HE on public roadways and see that there is no clear evidence that there is risk to deer mice and earthworms and allow the continuance of OB at LANL.

Sincerely,

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