



**Kieling, John, NMENV**

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**From:** Jeanne Fair [jmfair1@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 15, 2010 5:31 PM  
**To:** Kieling, John, NMENV  
**Subject:** LANL Hazardous Waste Permit

Dear Mr. Kieling,

I am writing in support Los Alamos National Laboratory obtaining and maintaining a hazardous waste disposal permit for open burning. After hearing of the possible decision to not allow LANL to obtain a disposal permit for open burning, I investigated the ecological risk assessment for the decision. As a wildlife toxicologist I understand the technical aspects and complexities of ecological risk assessment. However, I have not come across denial of permits for open burning based on impacts to deer mice and earthworms. While they are commonly used as surrogate species to extrapolate to humans, it appears in this case they are the ecological endpoint of concern. In this case, I think that the environmentally responsible thing is to allow the open burning for the diverse and important work that is being done for the Nation. The carbon-foot print alone for transporting and managing the waste elsewhere is large.

Deer mice and earthworms are neither threatened or endangered. The environmentally responsible reduction in this waste would not impact large populations. I hope that the New Mexico Environment Department will reconsider the disposal permit for open burning.

Sincerely,  
Jeanne Fair, Ph.D.  
Santa Fe, NM

