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NEW MEXICO  
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RON CURRY  
Secretary  
JON GOLDSTEIN  
Deputy Secretary

March 31, 2008

Mr. Thomas D'Agostino  
Administrator  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

**RE: NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR 90 DAY EXTENSION ON COMMENT PERIOD FOR DRAFT COMPLEX TRANSFORMATION SUPPLEMENTAL PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Dear Administrator D'Agostino:

Through this letter The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) would like to request a 90-day extension to the comment period on the Draft Complex Transformation Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Complex Transformation SPEIS, DOE/EIS-0236-S4). This would extend the closing date for the comment period from April 10, 2008 to July 8, 2008. The purpose of this request is to provide the people of New Mexico with ample time to review and comment upon this extremely important and far reaching proposal.

This SPEIS analyzes the potential environmental impacts of numerous alternatives to "continue transformation of the nuclear weapons complex to be smaller, and more responsive, efficient, and secure in order to meet national security requirements." (Abstract, Cover Sheet to SPEIS Summary, December 2007). These proposals threaten to have major impacts on New Mexico especially on Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) and its surrounding communities.

Currently, LANL maintains production capabilities for limited quantities of plutonium components (i.e., pits) for delivery to the stockpile. The SPEIS states that one of the perceived needs for action is to provide adequate production capacity for a presumed smaller stockpile, and assumes the need to develop a manufacturing capacity to produce anywhere from 50 to 125 new weapons annually (Summary, Section S.2.3). The people of New Mexico deserve ample time to review and comment upon a proposal of this magnitude.

Mr. Wyka  
March 27, 2008  
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This letter is in addition to NMED's formal comments on the SPEIS transmitted to Mr. Theodore Wyka on March 27, 2008. NMED, and the State of New Mexico, are gravely concerned that increased pit production at LANL will only further divert needed funding and management attention from crucial cleanup activities. For this reason, we strongly oppose any increases in pit production capability, or any expansion of LANL's mission in general.

We hope you will grant this request for a 90-day extension in order to give interested members of the public every possible opportunity to digest and voice their opinions on this far reaching proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron Curry for". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "C".

Ron Curry  
Cabinet Secretary  
New Mexico Environment Department