

**NORTHERN NEW MEXICO CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD (NNMCAB)
Recommendation to the Department of Energy
No. 2008-09
Regarding DOE/LANL Funding Priorities
Environmental Monitoring, Remediation and Surveillance Committee**

Background

The Northern New Mexico Citizen's Advisory Board (NNMCAB) has consistently recommended as one of its "Top Three Issues" reported to Environmental Management (EM) Headquarters¹ the full funding of Los Alamos National Laboratory's (LANL) Certified Baseline cost estimate to complete the cleanup of legacy wastes in accordance with the Consent Order (CO) with New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) by the scheduled completion of 2015. In past years, annual EM funding of LANL for implementation of the CO has been approximately 50% of the amount required under the Certified Baseline.

Comment

The Department of Energy (DOE) through budget requests has not vigorously insisted on sufficient funding to conduct timely and effective cleanup at LANL while at the same time has requested and received monies for new non-EM programs at LANL.

Recommendation

The CAB recommends that DOE provide future funding for the EM Legacy Waste Cleanup Program at LANL at the full level provided in the current 2006 Certified EM Baseline to accomplish the cleanup work in accordance with the terms of the CO and the scheduled completion date of 2015. This full funding must be provided for cleanup as a priority task before consideration is given to initiating new non-EM program activities at LANL. Funding will be sufficient to cover new scope of work required by NMED and to make up for the deficits of the past few years.

Intent

The intent of this recommendation is to get DOE to request the funding at the full level provided in the 2006 Certified EM Baseline necessary to assure Consent Order deliverables will be met by 2015 deadline.

Effect

The DOE will request funding at the level provided in the 2006 Certified EM Baseline to accomplish the cleanup work in accordance with the terms of the CO and the scheduled completion date of 2015.

References

1. **EM Site-Specific Advisory Board Chairs Meetings Las Vegas, NV March 28-30, 2007**