



NMED's mission is to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations.

Susana Martinez, Governor
Ryan Flynn, Cabinet Secretary
Butch Tongate, Deputy Secretary

Allison Scott Majure, Communications Director
New Mexico Environment Department
(505) 231-8800 · allison.majure@state.nm.us

LANL Draft Consent Order Released for Public Comment

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Updated Cleanup Agreement Will Enhance Legacy Waste Cleanup and Support Stronger Federal Funding Requests

Santa Fe – Today the New Mexico Environment Department released the [Draft Consent Order](#) for public review and comment. The Draft Consent Order, an agreement between the New Mexico Environment Department and the U.S. Department of Energy, guides and governs the cleanup of legacy waste at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

“We are pleased to open the Draft Consent Order to public review and comment as we continue our dialogue with stakeholder groups and individuals. Multiple public meetings in the next 45 days and online posting of the Draft Consent Order, along with its summary documents and appendices, are providing transparency for the continuing cleanup of legacy waste at Los Alamos that is described in the Draft Consent Order,” said New Mexico Environment Department Secretary Ryan Flynn.

Five months ago the Environment Department initiated public discussion and feedback on the Draft Consent Order through conceptual presentations and discussions at meetings with the Regional Coalition of Los Alamos Communities, the Northern New Mexico Citizen Advisory Board, and with other stakeholder groups including tribes, local governments and non-governmental organizations to obtain feedback as the document was drafted.

“Any cleanup work not completed under the former 2005 Consent Order will be carried forward by its inclusion in the Draft Consent Order,” said Flynn. “We are optimistic that the updated Draft Consent Order, once finalized, will serve as a stronger tool for substantiating federal budget requests for greater cleanup funds. Unfortunately, the former Consent Order saw federal cleanup funds drop to \$189M. We believe a cleanup level of \$255M is more appropriate and that a stronger Consent Order, with an achievable campaign approach to cleanup, could be a helpful factor to obtain such funding.”

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