

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst
Cabinet Secretary

Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD
Deputy Secretary

Office of the Secretary



March 3, 2023

Ms. Jill Hruby
Under Secretary for Nuclear Security and Administrator
National Nuclear Security Administration
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Ms. Hruby:

The New Mexico Radioactive Waste Consultation Task Force (Task Force) is a consortium of state legislators serving on the Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Interim Committee and executive administrators for the Cabinet-level agencies that regulate activities associated with radioactive and mixed wastes being transported, produced, stored, and/or disposed of within the borders of our state. Transparency regarding these activities is an important goal of the Task Force, and as such, in response to public input we request that the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) better engage with the Task Force on current and future plans with respect to the disposal of such wastes. The Task Force also finds it imperative that the NNSA engage in public meetings with the citizens of New Mexico regarding its plans.

Specifically, New Mexico and its citizens expect to be the first state engaged by NNSA in any discussion of waste streams coming to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). Therefore, the Task Force requests that NNSA leadership make themselves available for regular status updates on WIPP, including but not limited to, the surplus plutonium program and transportation plans for surplus plutonium shipments between DOE facilities that will enter New Mexico for treatment or disposal.

Please reach out to Louise Martinez, Louise.N.Martinez@emnrd.nm.gov, to arrange further discussion of these requested regular updates and logistical support. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Cottrell Propst".

Sarah Cottrell Propst
Chair, New Mexico Radioactive Waste Consultation Task Force
Cabinet Secretary, Energy Minerals, and Natural Resources Department

**Cc: Secretary Patrick Allen, NM Department of Health
Secretary Jason Bowie, NM Department of Public Safety
Secretary David Dye, NM Department of Homeland Security and Emergency
Management
Secretary James C. Kenney, NM Environment Department
Secretary Ricky Serna, NM Department of Transportation
Randy Varela, State Fire Marshal**