



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Los Alamos National Laboratory Natural Resource Damage Assessment**

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**Contact:**

Rebecca Neri Zagal  
Executive Director  
New Mexico Office of Natural Resources Trustee  
(505) 243-8087/ [rebecca.nerizagal@state.nm.us](mailto:rebecca.nerizagal@state.nm.us)

Toni Chiri  
Public Affairs  
Department of Energy/National Nuclear Administration  
Los Alamos Field Office  
(505) 667-6691/ [Toni.Chiri@nnsa.doe.gov](mailto:Toni.Chiri@nnsa.doe.gov)

**LANL NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE TRUSTEE COUNCIL EXTENDS  
COMMENT PERIOD FOR DRAFT ASSESSMENT PLAN**

LOS ALAMOS, NM -- The Los Alamos National Laboratory Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustee Council (LANL Trustee Council) announces a 30-day extension to the public comment period for the Draft LANL Natural Resource Damage Assessment Plan.

The Trustee Council released the draft assessment plan last month, followed by a public meeting about the plan. The comment period will run through January 13.

The LANL Trustee Council is composed of representatives of the State of New Mexico, the U.S. Department of Energy, the Pueblo of Jemez, the Pueblo de San Ildefonso, Santa Clara Pueblo, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

A Natural Resource Damage Assessment evaluates the impacts of releases of hazardous substances on natural resources and the services provided by those resources. Unlike the ongoing environmental remediation process, which focuses on removal or containment of contaminants that pose a threat to human health and the environment, the Natural Resource Damage Assessment process focuses on the restoration of resources and their services to the condition they would have been in absent the release of the contaminants. A major goal of a Natural Resource Damage Assessment is to compensate the public “for injury to, or loss of, natural resources” and the services provided by those resources.

The Draft Damage Assessment Plan describes how the LANL Trustee Council plans to conduct the Natural Resource Damage Assessment. The Draft Damage Assessment Plan is available for download at [www.lanlnrda.org](http://www.lanlnrda.org). Public review and feedback on the Draft Damage Assessment Plan is an important component of the Natural Resource Damage Assessment process. The LANL Trustee Council is seeking public comment on the Draft LANL Damage Assessment Plan.

The public comment period for the Draft Damage Assessment Plan began Nov. 14. Comments must be submitted in writing by **January 13, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.** either via e-mail to [lanlnrda@gmail.com](mailto:lanlnrda@gmail.com) or via mail to:

New Mexico Office of Natural Resources Trustee  
4910-A Alameda Blvd. NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87113

The Draft Damage Assessment Plan is available electronically on the LANL Trustee Council website at <http://www.lanlnrda.org/> and at the New Mexico Office of Natural Resources Trustee website <http://www.onrt.state.nm.us/LANL.html>. Hard copies or DVDs for review can be requested by sending an email to [lanlnrda@gmail.com](mailto:lanlnrda@gmail.com). Hard copies may also be found in the following libraries:

- **NNSA Albuquerque Complex Reading Room**, Zimmerman Library, 1 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131
- **LANL Public Reading Room**, 94 Cities of Gold Road, Santa Fe, NM, 87506
- **Santa Fe Public Library**, 145 Washington Street, Santa Fe, NM 87501
- **Los Alamos County Mesa Public Library**, 2400 Central Avenue, Los Alamos, NM 87544
- **New Mexico State Library**, 1209 Camino Carlos Rey. Santa Fe, NM 87507
- **Northern New Mexico College Library**, 921 N. Paseo de Oñate, Española, NM 87532

*For more information, to access key documents, to identify contacts, or to sign up for updates and alerts on important events and dates, see [www.lanlnrda.org](http://www.lanlnrda.org) or contact Rebecca Neri Zagal at 505-243-8087 or [rebecca.nerizagal@state.nm.us](mailto:rebecca.nerizagal@state.nm.us) or Toni Chiri at [505-667-6691](tel:505-667-6691) or [toni.chiri@nnsa.doe.gov](mailto:toni.chiri@nnsa.doe.gov)*

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