



**SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR**

Butch Tongate, *Cabinet Secretary*

J.C. Borrego, *Acting Deputy Secretary*

## **NEWS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*

**November 3, 2016**

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

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### **Nov 16<sup>th</sup> Public Meeting on Annual Plan for Cleanup of Los Alamos National Laboratory Legacy Waste**

*At Fuller Lodge in Downtown Los Alamos--Facilitated by NMED*

*with Content Provided by DOE's Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office*

**Santa Fe** – The state of New Mexico's Environment Department and the U.S. Department of Energy's Environmental Management Los Alamos field office are hosting a public meeting November 16, 2016 at 5 p.m. at Fuller Lodge in downtown Los Alamos, concerning cleanup priorities for legacy waste at Los Alamos National Lab for 2017.

The 2016 Consent Order (CO) is a settlement agreement between the state of New Mexico's Environment Department and the U.S. Department of Energy that provides the process by which investigation and remediation of contamination from legacy waste management activities at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) occurs. The CO both guides and governs the ongoing cleanup of legacy waste at LANL. The CO also helps to accelerate the pace of environmental restoration activities in and around Los Alamos through its campaign-based approach and its annual planning process. The dynamic annual planning process allows for revisions to cleanup campaigns due to, for example, actual work progress, changed conditions, and upward or downward adjustments in funding.

"The CO's requirement for this public involvement meeting to review progress, targets, and milestones, enhances transparency of LANL's cleanup activities. The agreement governing cleanup that was used prior to 2016 had no such requirement," said New Mexico Environment Department Secretary Butch Tongate. The annual planning process provides a reality check to ensure that cleanup milestones and target dates remain achievable, which ultimately supports congressional funding requests for additional cleanup monies by demonstrating tangible results.

DOE's Environmental Management Los Alamos field office will present information concerning cleanup work completed in fiscal year 2016 and the current and coming year's cleanup milestones and target dates. This information, made public last summer, continues to be publically available in the Consent Order's [Appendix B](#).

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#### **For your Twitter Feed:**

Public Meeting at Fuller Lodge, Los Alamos on Wed. 11/16 on Annual Cleanup of Los Alamos Legacy Waste:

<http://bit.ly/2ekQRR9> #NMED #New Mexico

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**For your Facebook Feed:**

Public Meeting at Fuller Lodge, Los Alamos on Wed. 11/16 on Annual Cleanup of Los Alamos Legacy Waste: <http://bit.ly/2ekQRR9> . DOE's Environmental Management team will present information concerning cleanup work completed in 2016 and the coming year's cleanup milestones and target dates, which are publically available in the Consent Order's [Appendix B](#). #NMED #New Mexico

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