



**TOWN OF TAOS, NEW MEXICO  
&  
TAOS COUNTY, NEW MEXICO  
JOINT RESOLUTION  
Town of Taos Resolution No. 08-24  
Taos County Resolution No. 08-27**

**A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF TAOS AND TAOS COUNTY  
OBJECTING TO PROPOSED NUCLEAR WEAPONS COMPLEX  
“TRANSFORMATION” ACTIVITIES AT THE LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL  
LABORATORY, INCLUDING EXPANDED PLUTONIUM PIT PRODUCTION.**

WHEREAS, the National Nuclear Security Administration, (NNSA), the Department of Energy’s semi-autonomous nuclear weapons agency, has released a draft *Complex Transformation Supplement Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* in order to implement its plans to transform its nuclear weapons complex, including the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL); and

WHEREAS, planned “transformation” of the nuclear weapons complex will expand nuclear weapons activities across the nation, most particularly at LANL; and

WHEREAS, nuclear weapons activities at Los Alamos were previously expanded in 1999, but now LANL has been designated the nation’s permanent production center for up to 80 plutonium pits per year, with related increases in hazardous and radioactive wastes; and

WHEREAS, plutonium pits are used as the “triggers” for weapons of mass destruction and plutonium creates health and environmental hazards; and

**WHEREAS**, the governing bodies of the Town of Taos and Taos County do not support the creation of further health and environmental hazards related to nuclear weapons for the citizens of Northern New Mexico; and

**WHEREAS**, independent experts have found that plutonium pits have reliable lifetimes of a century or more, thus making production unnecessary to begin with; and

**WHEREAS**, the new Nuclear Posture Reviewed by a new president could have impacts on the nuclear weapons complex and LANL, significantly different from the old Review; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 14, 2008 Taos County sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration requesting that public hearings be held in Taos County regarding the proposal that Los Alamos National Laboratory serve as the nation's center for plutonium manufacturing for the united States' nuclear arsenal as hearing had been held in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Los Alamos, and Espanola, attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

**WHEREAS**, public hearings in Taos County are necessary to inform the public to allow proponents and opponents of the proposal to make presentations to the Department of Energy prior to any decision being made; and

**WHEREAS**, a letter was received by Taos County on March 17, 2008 from The National Nuclear Security Administration stating that no additional hearings were to be conducted, attached hereto as Exhibit B; and

**WHEREAS**, because the National Nuclear Security Administration was unwilling to hold additional public hearings to address the concerns of Taos County and its citizens, the respective governing bodies therefore felt it was necessary to pass this Resolution.

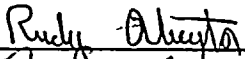
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY** the Town of Taos and Taos County that the governing bodies do hereby state their objection to NNSA's draft *Complex Transformation Supplement Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* and resolve that it be withdrawn until after the 2009 Nuclear Posture Review.

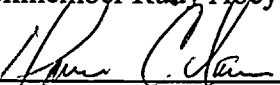
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the governing bodies do hereby state their objection to the expansion of nuclear weapons activities at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, including further increased plutonium pit production.

RESOLVED THIS 30<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2008 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

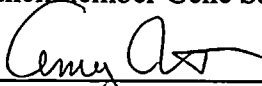
(SIGNATURE PAGES TO FOLLOW)

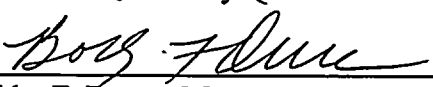
TOWN OF TAOS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Rudy Abeyta

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Darren Cordova

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Gene Sanchez

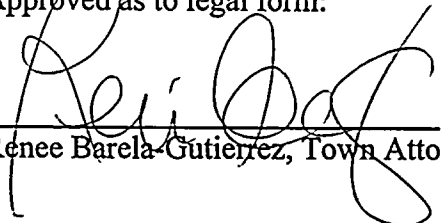
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember Amy Quintana

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bobby F. Duran, Mayor

ATTEST:

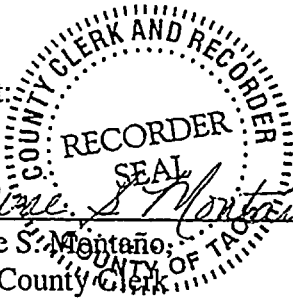
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Renee Lucero, Town Clerk

Approved as to legal form:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Renee Barela-Gutierrez, Town Attorney

TAOS COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS:

Attest:

  
*Elaine S. Montano*  
Elaine S. Montano,  
Taos County Clerk

Approved as to form:

*Sammy L. Pacheco*  
Sammy L. Pacheco,  
Taos County Attorney

*Charlie I. Gonzales*  
Charlie I. Gonzales, Chairman

*Daniel R. Barrone*  
Daniel R. Barrone, Vice Chairman

*Gabriel J. Romero*  
Gabriel J. Romero, Commissioner

*Nicklos E. Jaramillo*  
Nicklos E. Jaramillo, Commissioner

*Joe M. Duran*  
Joe M. Duran, Commissioner

EXHIBIT

tabbles

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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE of the

TAOS COUNTY COMMISSION

COUNTY  
 COMMISSIONERS  
 DANIEL R. BARRONE  
 CHARUE I. GONZALES  
 GABRIEL J. ROMERO  
 NICKLOS E. JARAMILLO  
 JOE M. DUHAN

105 Albright Street, Suite A  
Taos, New Mexico 87571

Telephone (505) 737-6300  
Telefax (505) 737-6314

March 14, 2008

Mr. Theodore Wyka  
 Complex Transformation SPEIS Document Manager,  
 Office of Transformation, NA-10.1  
 U.S. Department of Energy/NNSA  
 1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
 Washington, D.C. 20585

TAOS COUNTY  
 ELAINE S. MONTANO, CLERK  
 000343131  
 Book 647 Page 355  
 6 of 7  
 05/12/2008 10:28:47 AM  
 BY DOLORES

Re: Los Alamos National Laboratory  
 National Plutonium Manufacturing Center Proposal

Dear Mr. Wyka:

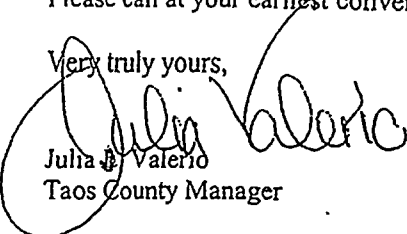
The Taos County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously on March 11, 2008 to request that you hold hearings in Taos County regarding the proposal that Los Alamos National Laboratory serve as the nation's center for plutonium manufacturing for the United States' nuclear arsenal. The proposal is of vital interest to the citizens of Taos County. Taos is roughly 55 miles in a direct line from Los Alamos. Residents of Taos County work in Los Alamos and commute there daily.

We understand that hearings have been held in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Los Alamos and will be held in Espanola in late March. Perhaps a hearing could be scheduled in Taos in late March when you are already scheduled to be in Espanola, which is approximately a 45 minute drive from Taos. Although we are not familiar with the format that has been utilized for hearings elsewhere, we would ask that you allocate equal amounts of time for proponents and opponents of the proposal to make presentations and in addition set aside substantial time for citizen questions.

We would like to work with you to insure that the citizens of Taos County have an opportunity to learn about this proposal directly from the Department of Energy and to communicate their thoughts about the proposal directly to the Department of Energy.

Please call at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

  
 Julia J. Valerio  
 Taos County Manager



Department of Energy  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Washington, DC 20585



March 17, 2008

Ms. Julia L. Valerio  
Taos County Manager  
105 Albright Street  
Taos, New Mexico 87571

TAOS COUNTY  
ELAINE S. MONTANO, CLERK  
000343131  
Book 647 Page 356  
7 of 7  
05/12/2008 10:28:47 AM  
BY DOLORES

RECEIVED

MAR 24 2008

Dear Ms. Valerio

Thank you for your letter on March 14, 2008, requesting a public hearing in Taos, New Mexico, on the draft Complex Transformation Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (SPEIS). The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations that implement the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and DOE's NEPA procedures (10 CFR Part 1021) require at least one public hearing. NNSA is conducting 20 public hearings, including 7 public hearings in New Mexico. The final public hearing in New Mexico is scheduled for March 27, 2008, in Espanola, New Mexico.

NNSA does not plan to conduct any additional public hearings. However, comments can be submitted via regular mail, email or fax. NNSA invites comments on the draft SPEIS during the 90-day public comment period, which ends on April 10, 2008. As stated in the Notice of Availability published on January 11, 2008 (73 FR 2023), NNSA will consider comments received after this date to the extent practicable as it prepares the final SPEIS. Comments can be submitted to me at the following address: Complex Transformation SPEIS Document Manager, Office of Transformation, NA-10.1, Department of Energy/NNSA, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, or by facsimile to 1-703-931-9222, or by e-mail to [complextransformation@nnsa.doe.gov](mailto:complextransformation@nnsa.doe.gov).

Please be assured that all comments will be treated the same, whether they are provided in person or in writing. These comments will be considered both individually and collectively and the appropriate action will be taken, which may include supplementing the alternatives; improving, modifying, and supplementing the analyses; or making factual corrections.

Please call me at (202) 586-3519, if you have any questions regarding this letter or the NEPA process for the SPEIS.

Sincerely,

Theodore A. Wyka  
National Nuclear Security Administration  
Complex Transformation Document  
Manager

