Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585

February 13, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR KEVIN SMITH
MANAGER, LOS ALAMOS SITE OFFICE

DR. CHARLES MCMILLAN
DIRECTOR, LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY

FROM: DONALD L. COOK
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR
FOR DEFENSE PROGRAMS

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Guidance on the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement Nuclear Facility (CMRR-NF) Project

This memorandum provides additional guidance in support of the President's Budget Request for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013. In accordance with the President's budget request, no funding is requested for the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement Nuclear Facility (CMRR-NF) in FY 2013, and the construction of the CMRR-NF is deferred for at least five years. An additional $35M in FY 2013 has been requested for Los Alamos to accelerate actions to process, package, and ship excess material out of the PF-4 vault. This budget request will require optimized use of existing infrastructure across the Nuclear Security Enterprise, as well as detailed analysis of options and specific recommendations to maintain continuity of program functions required for analytical chemistry, material characterization, and plutonium staging. I request Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) provide the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) the following information in an interim briefing within 30 days and a final plan within 60 days of your receipt of this memorandum:

- A plan to substantially complete the design of the CMRR nuclear facility by the end of FY 2012. Your plan should assume additional design information regarding long lead procurement items will not be required. Plan details should include:
    - A spend plan for remaining CMRR funds through the end of FY 2012
    - Anticipated project staffing levels through the end of FY 2012
    - Discrete interim milestones through the end of FY 2012 to track progress
    - A clear description of scope in the substantially complete design package for the CMRR Nuclear Facility
    - Design close-out activities to ensure project documentation is cataloged and available for potential future use

- A high level plan containing a sequence of actions and resources required each fiscal year over the FY 14 – 18 FYNSP to:

    - Following completion of planned Confined Vessel Disposition activities in CMR Wing 9, continue the orderly phase out of NNSA program activities from the CMR building concluding in approximately 2019.
    - Continue required analytical chemistry functions, including whether any functions can be addressed using alternative processes. Your plan should maximize use of the RLUOB, and include a recommendation regarding implementation of recent NA-1 Supplemental Guidance for DOE Standard 1027.
    - Move material securely and cost effectively between PF-4 and RLUOB
    - Implement a cost effective solution to address sample preparation capacity in PF-4
    - Consider options with other sites on their ability to support residual analytical chemistry services (similar to the previously developed CMR Bridging Study)
    - Maintain required material characterization capabilities, including a gap analysis against program requirements, and an assumption to share workload between PF-4 and Building 332 at Livermore as a Hazard Category 2, Security Category 3 nuclear facility
    - Minimize material at risk in PF-4 by processing, packaging, and shipping excess special nuclear material out of PF-4. Your plan should include an estimated timeline to stage bulk quantities of plutonium for future program use at the Device Assembly Facility

I realize that my request is challenging and requires significant coordination with many colleagues at NNSA Headquarters and other sites. I have asked Mike Thompson to work with you to designate a Federal support team to ensure LANL and the Los Alamos Site Office are getting the support they need. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Thompson at (202) 586-5091.

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