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Contacts: Miranda Haley 505-982-7747 or Greg Mello 505-577-7333

**U.S. Agrees to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons, Now LANL Can  
Focus on Clean-up**

- U.S. Agrees to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons Under New Agenda of Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT)
- Los Alamos Lab Can Now Revise Mission, Focus on Cleanup

SANTA FE, NM- The U.S. agreed Saturday to the “unequivocal” elimination of its nuclear weapons arsenal, just in time to liberate limited Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) resources desperately needed for immediate and long-term damage control. The agreement is part of a new agenda agreed to by 187 countries, including the four other original nuclear powers, as part of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference. In light of the new NPT agenda, the costly U.S. Stockpile Stewardship Program, which provides for the indefinite maintenance of the mammoth U.S. nuclear stockpile, can now be “edited” to redirect important Department of Energy (DOE) resources toward the long-awaited cleanup of its contaminated nuclear weapons production facilities.

This “unequivocal” agreement to end nuclear weapons production comes at an opportune time for Los Alamos National Laboratory, which urgently needs to redirect resources originally budgeted for weapons work to the long process of evaluating and containing contamination released by the Cerro Grande Fire. Likewise, many lab workers who live in Los Alamos lost their homes to the fire and will need to take extensive time off from work to rebuild their lives.

According to Miranda Haley of the Los Alamos Study Group, “This is wonderful news for Los Alamos! Now all those brilliant people formerly working on weapons design can join the clean-up effort.”

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