

## **Work Plan for NNM CAB Environmental Monitoring, Surveillance and Remediation Committee**

**Fiscal Year 2005**

### **SECTION 1. MISSION STATEMENT**

The NNM CAB Environmental Monitoring, Surveillance and Remediation (EMSR) Committee provides the citizens' perspective to the Department of Energy (DOE) on current and future environmental remediation activities resulting from historical and on-going Los Alamos National Laboratory operations. The EMSR Committee will keep abreast of DOE and LANL's Environmental Restoration and Long Term Environmental Stewardship programs and plans. The committee will work with DOE and LANL to provide assistance in determining priorities and the best use of limited funds and time. Formal recommendations representing the public's position on issues pertaining to air, surface water and groundwater quality will be created when needed, and after approval, sent to the DOE for action. The EMSR committee will also work to ensure early, ongoing community access to LANL Environmental Remediation and Stewardship information and to increase community dialogue that improves the quality of the decision making process of DOE and LANL.

### **SECTION 2. ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN FY 2005**

#### **1. NMED Compliance Order on Consent.**

The New Mexico Environment Department Draft Order on Consent was issued on September 1, 2004 with a 30-day public review period. The Order specifies in detail how LANL will conduct cleanup work, under what guidelines, and in within what time schedule. The EMSR Committee will react to the Corrective Action Order upon final settlement, especially concerning scope, priorities, and funding, and review deliverables mandated by the Order. This committee also will carefully monitor the implementation of this order by all the parties in agreement.

#### **- Ready for Reuse/Environmental Covenants Bill.**

The EMSR Committee remains interested in a New Mexico State permitting process whereby waste sites outside the laboratory boundaries that are slated for industrial use need not be cleaned to residential standards. Although prospects for such a process appear unlikely, the EMSR Committee will continue to follow and encourage developments.

#### **- The EMSR Committee will also review and respond to public notices issued by the NMED addressing any segment or activity of the LANL, ER and LTS programs.**

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### 3. Groundwater Issue- Development and Implementation of the LANL Hydrogeologic Work plan

- Track updating and implementation of HWP – review scope of annual revisions to work plan by LANL
- Attend quarterly meetings of the HWP
- Review modeling of groundwater migration vs. data obtained from deep wells
- Consider the placement and design of deep wells and consider adequacy of these efforts as a continuing means for characterizing area hydrology
- Evaluate the facts surrounding the “day-lighting” of contaminants in springs along the Rio Grande basin
- Review the effectiveness of methods / formats by which the Laboratory communicates EMS data
- Review the circumstances surrounding the delays in the implementation of the HGW
- Review Watershed Management Program Plan and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans, including their regulatory drivers
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the Mortandad Canyon Passive Reactive Barrier by reviewing project goals and evaluating upstream versus downstream analytical data.

### 3. Material Disposal Areas (MDA).

The LANL ER High Performance Team (HPT), an effort by DOE, LANL, and NMED experts with developing a process for addressing high-priority MDAs, has, unfortunately, been disbanded. However, the MDA H pilot project continues through the Corrective Measures process. The EMSR Committee expects to follow the pilot project to its conclusion through the choice of a final remedy. The committee will also follow progress of investigations and remediation / cleanup of all the MDAs referenced in the LANL Order on Consent. (Including: MDA G, H, and L in TA54; MDA A, B, T, U , and V in TA21; and MDA C in TA50.

### 4. Long Term Environmental Stewardship (LTES)

It is important that LANL include LTES in planning for environmental restoration projects. To that end, LANL is preparing a site-specific LTES plan. The EMSR Committee will continue to review and comment on both the DOE and LANL plans for long-term stewardship. DOE has not been consistent in pursuing LTES; citizens' advisory boards across the DOE complex are concerned that the process is not proceeding well. The EMSR Committee is charged with tracking the LTES issue for the NNM CAB. The committee concurs with the LTES concept and will continue to emphasize it as an overlying concept.

### 5. Remedy Selection/Implementation Review.

The EMSR Committee expects to review remedy selection for legacy waste sites listed on LANL's RCRA operating permit. Of special interest are those waste sites proposed for no further action (NFA) and removal from the permit. The

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committee looks forward to briefings and tours of the sites in order to make informed conclusions at public hearings required for NFA as part of the permit modification process. The EMSR committee will select from among

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several plans and reports scheduled for 2005, including the Airport Landfill Drainage Work Plan, the Shops Mercury Contamination site, TA-21 In-situ Vitrification Report, several land transfer sites and TA-21 sites.

6. Budget Tracking.

Each year DOE briefs the NNM CAB on expected funding for the upcoming fiscal year. Each year the NNM CAB recommends that the DOE aggressively pursue funding to adequately perform the duties the public expects for restoration, monitoring, and disposition of hazardous waste. The EMSR Committee expects this annual cycle to continue and that the NNM CAB will keep these issues before DOE managers. The EMSR Committee will review and comment on budgets for risk reduction cleanups.

7. Recommendation Tracking.

The EMSR Committee will follow up on DOE responses to NNM CAB recommendations and will track DOE compliance with NNM CAB recommendations. .

8. Risk Based End States.

The EMSR Committee will stay abreast of risk-based end state (RBES) developments and progress around the DOE complex and recommend adoption of those aspects of the RBES program of most benefit to DOE and LANL. We will also review the inclusion of eco-risk in public documents and presentations and the LANL ER budget allocation.