



## REGIONAL COALITION of LANL COMMUNITIES

City of Española – Pueblo of Jemez – Los Alamos County – Pueblo of Ohkay Owingeh  
Rio Arriba County – Santa Fe County – City of Santa Fe – Taos County – Town of Taos

### RCLC Director's Report

Submitted to the Regional Coalition of LANL Communities Board on October 18, 2019

#### National Cleanup Workshop/DC Trip

Sept 10-12 Mayor Sanchez, Councilor Izraelevitz and Director Vasquez attended the National Cleanup Workshop and ECA member meeting in Alexandria Virginia. At that time, they also met with DOE-EM representatives including the newly appointed EM-2, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Todd Schrader and staff at DOE headquarters in DC.

The RCLC also met with all members of the New Mexico congressional delegation and/or their staff to advocate for issues impacting RCLC member communities including federal funding for legacy clean up and working with DOE to provide any necessary information to resolve anticipated findings from the Inspector General's investigation.

As requested at the September RCLC board meeting, the draft talking points used for this visit are attached to this report.

#### Audits Update

As reported last month, the RCLC has submitted six years (FY 2013-2018) worth of audits to the Office of the State Auditor (OSA) for review and approval.

The OSA responded on October 8, 2019 with identical notes for each year requesting four amendments to the audits. Three of the amendments were simple but one required our contracted IPA, Kubiak Melton & Associates, to include a Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures compared to the Board approved budget. This was completed and the amended audits were resubmitted to OSA on Wednesday, October 16, 2019.

Once the OSA sends release letters for each year, the audits will be made available to the public after a statutorily mandated five-day period.

Our contracted IPA reports that these second reviews are usually fairly quick as the OSA staff will simply review that the requested changes were completed. They do warn that OSA is in the middle of reporting season so we may experience some delay.

The RCLC has also submitted a formal request to the OSA to authorize that Kubiak Melton & Associates to serve as our IPA for FY 2019.

#### NNMCAB

RCLC staff has been in communication with Mr. Hull, the newly elected vice-chair of NNMCAB in on a possible collaboration between the two organizations for community outreach. During the September meeting, the NNMCAB elected Max Baca as Chair, Robert Hull as Vice-Chair and voted to create a public outreach committee.

We estimate that joint community outreach activities and public forums may be possible early in 2020.

### **JPA Update**

On October 10, RCLC Executive Director met with Mora County commissioners regarding their inquiries into possible membership. Mora was originally invited to join the RCLC in its early days and is currently considering joining. Mora county commissioners expressed an interest in collaborating with RCLC member communities on economic development activities and workforce training.

RCLC staff emphasized and reiterated the benefits to communities of RCLC membership. The current move to adopt an amended JPA was also discussed.

Rio Arriba County is scheduled to consider the amended JPA at their upcoming meeting on October 22. Taos County has also been looking at a near future date for a vote and the City of Santa Fe is tentatively scheduled to take up the issue in November.

### **LANL Subcontractor (MSC) Outreach**

On Oct 10, 2019, RCLC staff attended the MSC annual banquet and grant awardee recognition to meet with MSC office holders, local contractors and grant awardees to determine possible areas of collaboration and advocacy such as local business investment and support and ensuring northern New Mexico competitiveness in federal procurement.

### **Collaboration Efforts**

At the September RCLC board meeting, the Executive Director reported on efforts to collaborate with a regional economic development organization to further the RCLC's stated economic development goals. Board members requests a survey be conducted of regional actors that could be partners with the RCLC in fulfilling our mission.

That survey of potential partner organizations is attached to this report.

In addition, in discussions with some of our member governing bodies, a repeated request was made for the RCLC to provide information or a chart explaining the division of powers around LANL. Attached to this report is a draft infographic that RCLC staff developed.

### **Website Update**

The new RCLC website is now live and 90% of all archives have now been transferred to the site. We anticipate full transfer by the end of the week. We will then start redirecting traffic to the new site. The new site is designed to be cleaner and more easily navigated than the original site. The new site can be viewed at [www.RegionalCoalitionNM.org](http://www.RegionalCoalitionNM.org).

One new hiccup is that we did not receive the domain registration when taking over the original site. We have contacted JHL Media who has it registered and they are working with us to acquire the credentials needed to forward traffic from the old site to the new one.

We also have received a request from a board member to create a Transparency Portal on the site to allow easier searches of all financial documents, minutes, official publications and audits. We are currently working on adding that feature.

**RCLC Annual Retreat Prep**

The RCLC 2<sup>nd</sup> annual retreat is tentatively scheduled for February 8, 2020. RCLC staff is looking at continuing last year's activities for further refining the organization's goals in the short and long term.

Staff has begun interviewing possible retreat facilitators for this effort.

**Upcoming RCLC Related Events:**

**2019 Intergovernmental Meeting**

The 2019 National Cleanup Workshop will occur Nov. 19-21, 2019 in Nashville, TN. This is a joint meeting between the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG), the National Governors Association's Federal Facilities Task Force (NGA FTF), the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS), and the State and Tribal Government Working Group (STGWG), along with ECA, of which the RCLC is a member.

This meeting is intended to provide opportunities for increased communication and coordination between these groups with DOE and among states, Tribes, and local communities affected by the ongoing cleanup of the nation's nuclear weapons complex.

As a member of the ECA, the RCLC is invited to participate. Staff will attend and encourages board members to consider attending as well.

---



**Executive Director Report  
October 18, 2019**

**Addendum  
Draft Talking Points**



## RCLC Advocacy Meeting Talking Points - DRAFT

### NM Delegation Meetings

First, we'd like to thank you for your continued support for the Regional Coalition of Los Alamos National Lab (LANL) Communities (RCLC) and for your representation of each of our local communities.

As you know, the RCLC serves as the united advocacy voice for the communities impacted by the national lab. We are locally elected officials, each representing the best interests of our own community, coming together to work, with one voice, on the lab issues that directly affect all of us. These issues include: advocating for sufficient clean up funding and taking advantage of investment opportunities from DOE to grow and diversify our economy.

The RCLC has also been a chief advocate in making sure that hiring at the lab prioritizes local New Mexicans over out-of-state applicants for good, highly paid employment. Over 11,000 New Mexicans are employed at LANL with an average salary above the area mean. The lab provides a standard of living for northern New Mexico that would not exist otherwise and the RCLC is working hard to make sure it is for New Mexicans.

All of these activities benefit northern New Mexico's workforce, standard of living and economy and give local governments a say in the decision-making that impacts their communities.

#### Today's issues

- Legacy Waste Cleanup Funding

We applaud your efforts to restore funding for legacy cleanup to the same levels it has been at for the last two years, \$220 million and ask how we can support your efforts to maintain at least that rate.

- RCLC Reorganization Update

The RCLC has faced some organizational issues, but starting a year ago, the local communities have been reenergized. The RCLC underwent a *thorough* management overhaul and is now headed up by the Chicanos por la Causa (CPLC NM), one of the largest Hispanic nonprofits in the country. The CPLC has prioritized compliance as the *number one* issue facing the RCLC and has taken concrete steps to ensure that its mission and activities are transparent and compliant, including tighter financial controls and third party oversight of expenditures and reimbursements.

As part of this process, the RCLC welcomes the investigation from the DOE Inspector General's office and is committed to working with the Department of Energy to provide them with any information they need to complete the process. We look forward to continuing to represent our local communities to the Washington leadership who control the lab.

- Longterm Cleanup Discussion

The RCLC communities recognize that DOE and the State of New Mexico will be making decisions regarding the long-term disposition of legacy cleanup sites at the lab. These sites impact our communities directly since this is where we live and work. We ask only that we be included in this process and that we have a seat at the table.



## RCLC Advocacy Meeting Talking Points - DRAFT

### **DOE Meeting**

The RCLC welcomes the investigation from the Inspector General's office and is committed to working with the Department of Energy to provide you all with the information you need to complete the process. We look forward to continuing to represent our local communities to the Washington leadership who control the lab.

There are benefits and challenges to hosting a DOE facility. If the lab is going to be a part of our community, it is vital that our local leaders are a part of the conversation. Prior to the RCLC's formation our communities have been impacted by decisions from the feds and the state with no participation at the local level. We need a voice. We need a seat at the table. The RCLC is our voice. To date, the RCLC is the only organization in northern New Mexico that speaks for cleanup and improving the lab's economic impact on our communities. Our membership consists of democratically elected officials whose residents depend on the success of the national laboratory.

As such, we are pleased that this investigation is wrapping up and look forward to reenergizing that voice for our local communities.

We are looking forward to continuing our positive relationship with the Department. We want to ask for your guidance and suggestions on how we can carry on our partnership on these important issues.



**Executive Director Report  
October 18, 2019**

**Addendum  
Potential Partners List**



## POTENTIAL PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

ORGANIZATION	MISSION	CONTACT
Buckman Diversion Board	Provides a safe, reliable and sustainable source of drinking water for the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe County. The BDD improves the regional water supply under drought conditions, replaces current groundwater pumping that cannot be sustained, and makes a drought reserve possible.	
Chambers of Commerce <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Santa Fe</li> <li>• Taos</li> <li>• Espanola Valley</li> <li>• Los Alamos</li> </ul>		
Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety CCNS	To protect all living beings and the environment from the effects of radioactive and other hazardous materials now and in the future.	
Feynman Center	Allow Los Alamos to continue to attract the most talented and dedicated staff with the drive and skills necessary to keep the Laboratory at the leading edge of innovation for national security. It is our responsibility to be a trusted adviser on technology development and policy implementation.	Tony Redondo Executive Director
Los Alamos Commerce and Development Corporation LACDC	Building a vibrant community through a thriving economy. We leverage public and private sector investment to achieve sustainable economic development. We drive economic progress by providing services to businesses using a broad portfolio of programs and initiatives. We balance sound economic considerations with social and environmental concerns as we serve the business community, create and retain jobs, and diversify the economy.	Patrick Sullivan Executive Director
Los Alamos National Lab Foundation	To inspire excellence in education and learning in Northern New Mexico through innovative programming, collaboration, and advocacy	





## POTENTIAL PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Los Alamos Study Group	Seeks nuclear disarmament, environmental protection and enhancement, social justice, and economic sustainability. We seek a new balance of federal and state priorities that supports community development and economic improvement, greater democratic enfranchisement, renewable energy and related investments with local ownership, with elevated environmental and climate stewardship and associated education and careers in New Mexico. We aim not only to change public policy but also to prevent the implementation of bad policies. The latter is often easier to achieve; it comprises de facto policy change and often leads to <i>de jure</i> change.	
Major Subcontractors Consortium MSC	Positively impact the economy of Northern New Mexican regions through collaborative investment in qualified economic development programs and projects which will result in the diversification of Northern New Mexico's economy and reduce its dependency on federal dollars	Greg Newell Board President
New Mexico Citizens Advisory Board NMCAB	Provide input and recommendations on difficult and sometimes controversial national and site-specific issues; such as future use, risk, management, clean-up levels, economic development, and budget prioritization activities.	
New Mexico Consortium	To facilitate research in the state of New Mexico, and specifically to increase research collaborations between universities, industry and Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL)	
New Mexico Economic Development Department EDD	Enhance and leverage a competitive environment to create jobs, develop the tax base and provide incentives for business development.	



## POTENTIAL PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

New Mexico Environment Department NMED	To protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations.	
Northern New Mexico College NNMC	To ensure student success by providing access to affordable, community-based learning opportunities that meet the educational, cultural, and economic needs of the region.	
Nuclear Watch NM	Through comprehensive research, public education and effective citizen action, Nuclear Watch New Mexico seeks to promote safety and environmental protection at regional nuclear facilities; mission diversification away from nuclear weapons programs; greater accountability and cleanup in the nation-wide nuclear weapons complex; and consistent U.S. leadership toward a world free of nuclear weapons.	
Project Y	A place to work solo — but not alone	Lauren McDaniel Executive Director
Regional Development Corporation RDC	Focused on creating a diverse and sustainable economy especially in Northern New Mexico.	Val Alonzo Executive Director
Santa Fe Community College SFCC	to “Empower Students, Strengthen Community”	
Santa Fe Community Foundation	To ensure that philanthropy and nonprofit service are effective in supporting healthy and vital communities.	
Small Business Development Center SBDC	To develop skilled entrepreneurs and strong businesses.	
Taos Entrepreneurial Network (TEN)	Our goal is to provide professional services to individuals in need of guidance in starting or growing their business	William Hood, President
United Way	Working in a United Way to improve the lives of children and families through service collaboration.	



## POTENTIAL PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

<p>University of New Mexico Los Alamos UNM-LA</p>	<p>Preparation for Transfer...Pathways for Careers...Passion for Lifelong Learning!</p>	
<p>University of New Mexico Taos</p>	<p>Serves students from northern New Mexico and the larger community with comprehensive educational opportunities in order to better prepare them to successfully participate in the world as educated, skilled, creative and responsible individuals. The Taos Campus is an open-access, student-centered, affordable college offering dual-credit, basic skills, transfer, career-technical, workforce training and lifelong learning courses and programs.</p>	
<p>Valley Entrepreneurial Network VEN</p>	<p>To focus energy by providing resources to entrepreneurs, small, large and startup businesses, or anyone for that matter, to help start, grow, or sustain their business or initiative</p>	



**Executive Director Report  
October 18, 2019**

**Addendum  
Infographic**

# LANL IN NEW MEXICO

## WHO'S WHO

Los Alamos National Laboratory is not a single entity, but a complex mix of state and federal, governmental and non-governmental actors, along with several outside organizations working to influence its impact.



INFORMATIONAL GRAPHIC COURTESY OF THE RCLC

