2019-007

Henry P. Roybal Commissioner, District 1

Anna Hansen Commissioner, District 2

Rudy N. Garcia Commissioner, District 3

January 25, 2019

RS1- OF

Anna T. Hamilton Commissioner, District 4

Ed Moreno Commissioner, District 5

> Katherine Miller County Manager

Honorable Bruce Hamilton, Chairman Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board 625 Indiana Avenue NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20004-2901

Re: Request for Meeting before or after February 21, 2019 Public Hearing in Albuquerque, NM

Dear Chairman Hamilton:

I understand that the DNFSB will conduct a public hearing in Albuquerque, New Mexico on the evening of Thursday, February 21, 2019, on the Department of Energy's (DOE) Order 140.1, *Interface with Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board*. I greatly appreciate the Board's action to conduct a hearing on Order 140.1 in Albuquerque. While I was Chair, the Board of County Commissioners conveyed its serious concerns about the effect of Order 140.1 on the DNFSB's ability to monitor and report on safety issues at DOE's sites in New Mexico. These concerns were expressed in the attached letter to DOE Secretary Perry dated September 25, 2018. In the letter, we joined in the call of both New Mexico Senators Udall and Heinrich to suspend the implementation of the Order 140.1 to allow meaningful review and comment on the Order. As stated in our letter to Secretary Perry, "[w]e unreservedly stand with our Senators in opposition to any action by DOE that would weaken or restrict the DNFSB's statutory authority to help protect our residents."

I anticipate great public interest in the hearing and a correspondingly high level of participation. While representatives of Santa Fe County will be in attendance, I respectfully request that myself or another member of our Board of Commissioners be allowed to meet with a representative of the DNFSB to discuss our concerns either before or after the public hearing on February 21, 2019. Please let me know a time and locations that would be convenient.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Anna Hansen, Commissioner Board of County Commissioners for Santa Fe County

Attachment

cc: Senator Tom Udall, Senator Martin Heinrich, Representative Ben Ray Lujan, Representative Deb Haaland

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Henry P. Roybal Commissioner, District 1

Anna Hansen Commissioner, District 2

Robert A. Anaya Commissioner, District 3



Anna T. Hamilton Commissioner, District 4

Ed Moreno Commissioner, District 5

Katherine Miller County Manager

September 25, 2018

The Honorable Rick Perry Secretary U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue Washington, DC 20585

RE: Call for Suspension of Order 140.1

Dear Secretary Perry:

On behalf of the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County, I write to express our strong support for, and agreement with, Senators Udall and Heinrich's September 5, 2018 letter to you regarding the Department of Energy's (DOE) new Order 140.1. We join in Senator Udall and Heinrich's call to suspend the implementation of Order 140.1 to allow the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB), Congress, affected state and local governments, and the public sufficient time to review and comment on Order 140.1.

Given that Santa Fe County borders Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) to Santa Fe County, to the east and southeast and the fact that many county residents work at or near LANL, the ability of DNFSB to perform its statutory duty to ensure the safety of communities and workers at nuclear security labs and the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) is of paramount importance to Santa Fe County and its residents. We echo Senators Udall and Heinrich's strong support for the mission of the DNFSB, and share their concerns about DNFSB staff's difficulties in accessing information regarding recent safety issues at LANL. We unreservedly stand with our Senators in opposition to any action by DOE that would weaken or restrict the DNFSB's statutory authority to help protect our residents.

We join our Senators in urging you to suspend Order 140.1, and to receive and give due consideration to comments and suggestions from members of the DNFSB and Congress, as well as to concerns expressed by the public at public hearings at DOE facilities located across the country. We support the public's request that DOE hold three hearings in New Mexico—near WIPP, Sandia National Laboratories, and Los Alamos National Laboratory. Thereafter, we request that you reissue a revised order that does not in any way impinge upon the DNFSB's statutory authority to perform its critical mission of helping ensure

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the health and safety of Santa Fe County residents and all New Mexicans who live near or work at federal nuclear facilities in our state.

Sincerely,

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Anna Hansen, Chair Board of County Commissioners for Santa Fe County

Senator Tom Udall cc: Senator Martin Heinrich Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

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