

SUSANA MARTINEZ
GOVERNOR

JON BARELA
CABINET SECRETARY



September 18, 2015

Dr. Ernest Moniz
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

Re: DOE Deep Borehole Field Test

Dear Secretary Moniz,

We understand that DOE is seeking a site to perform research and development to evaluate the geosciences of the approach and technical capabilities for deep borehole disposal of smaller DOE radioactive waste forms. The selected site will be required to meet stringent geological and logistical requirements that support the research.

We are aware that southeastern New Mexico land owners have ideal sites for this research and fully support the use of a New Mexico site for this project. There is broad support in the region for a project of this kind and Otero County has already expressed their support. The residents of southeastern New Mexico have a high level of understanding of the nuclear industry and will appreciate the importance of this research. There is a strong pre-existing scientific and site support workforce in the area and elsewhere in New Mexico to execute the project.

We support a New Mexico based solution to this research that integrates Sandia National Laboratory with New Mexico geological, drilling and project management experts, A New Mexico land owner, and institutes

such as New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology and University of New Mexico. We have no doubt that a New Mexico site and project team will serve DOE well for this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jonathan A. Bush". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Cabinet Secretary
New Mexico Economic Development Department

Cc:
Mark Payne
Contract Specialist
Department of Energy
Idaho Operations Office
1955 Fremont Ave.
Idaho Falls, ID 83401