



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

Ms. Rebecca Wurzburger
Santa Fe City Councilor and Mayor Pro Tem
Buckman Direct Diversion Chair
c/o Buckman Direct Diversion Project Manager
Sangre de Cristo Water Division
City of Santa Fe
P.O. Box 909
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Dear Ms. Wurzburger:

Thank you for your letter dated January 24, 2010, where on behalf of the Buckman Direct Diversion (BDD) Board you updated me on the discussions between the BDD Board and the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Los Alamos Site Office (LASO). In your letter, you requested my intervention in what you described as "challenging negotiations", specifically with respect to the implementation of an early warning system of gauges upstream of the BDD Project point of diversion, as well as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Please be assured that working collaboratively with the BDD Board is an important priority for the Department of Energy. Based upon your letter, we have contacted our colleagues at the NNSA regarding the status of the two main items referenced above. With respect to the MOU, Mr. George Rael, LASO Environmental Manager, has already scheduled a meeting with the BDD Project Team for February 3, 2010. The purpose of this meeting is to formally initiate discussions regarding the scope of the proposed MOU and to establish a schedule for completing these discussions. In an attempt to be more transparent and accessible to the BDD Board, Mr. Rael has agreed to personally attend future BDD Board meetings.

I am also appreciative of your concerns regarding delays which have occurred with regard to the implementation of the early warning system. Recent weather-related impacts have caused delays in the construction schedule. I have requested



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that Mr. Rael update the BDD Board regarding the revised implementation schedule at the February 4, 2010, meeting. Regarding data sharing, Mr. Don Winchell, LASO Manager, wrote a letter to the BDD on January 22, 2010, committing to share information on radionuclides applicable to the project.

Thank you for bringing this important matter to my attention.

Sincerely,



Inés R. Triay
Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Management

cc: D. Winchell, Manager, LASO
G. Rael, LASO
J. Talbot, NNSA-HQ
J. Lehr, NNSA-HQ
R. Curry, NMED
J. Bearzi, NMED