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NEWS RELEASE

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED FOR THE BUCKMAN DIRECT DIVERSION INDEPENDENT PEER REVIEW INVESTIGATION DRAFT REPORT AND FINDINGS CONDUCTED BY CHEMRISK, LLC

Public Has 7 Additional Days to Provide Comments

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—November 15, 2010

The Buckman Direct Diversion (BDD) Board is extending the public comment period for the draft findings on their Buckman Direct Diversion (BDD) Project Independent Peer Review (IPR) efforts, conducted by ChemRisk, LLC (ChemRisk).

The public has until November 22nd to provide comments on ChemRisk's Independent Peer Review drafts Technical Report, as well as Executive and Lay Summaries, which are shorter versions of the technical report. Copies of the all three drafts, which describe the evaluation of the potential health risks to Santa Fe residents from future tapwater use of the Rio Grande water to be diverted by the BDD Project, can be obtained on the BDD Project website www.bddproject.org and on the ChemRisk website www.chemrisk.com. Copies can also be reviewed at Santa Fe public libraries.

"We have confidence in the preliminary results concluding there will be no health risks to people drinking BDD Project tap water," said Rebecca Wurzbarger, BDD Project Board Chair, City Councilor and Mayor Pro Tem.

According to Virginia Vigil, BDD Board Vice-Chair and County Commissioner, "The public has been involved since the very beginning. This involvement includes: assisting with drafting the scope of work; selecting the IPR contractor, and defining the details of the IPR process such as timelines, data collection, health risks standards and calculations. ChemRisk has given the public direct access for the last ten months to ask questions and provide comments. In appreciation of the public's participation and input, we are extending the comment period one more week," she states.

Comments for the ChemRisk IPR team should be directed to **Matthew H. Le, M.P.H. at MLe@chemrisk.com**

The third and final public meeting will be held on December 7th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Santa Fe Community Convention Center to present the final BDD IPR reports and the responses to comments that have been received. At the conclusion of the IPR Project, the Final Technical Report, Executive Summary, and Community Summary will be publicly available. The Community Summary will also be made available in Spanish.

The BDD Board requested an Independent Peer Review funded by LANL as one of six specific action steps to ensure water quality. The concept of a LANL-funded peer review conducted on behalf of the BDD Board was also supported by public members at a Water Quality Town Hall meeting held in August, 2008.