

TOWN OF TAOS, NEW MEXICO RESOLUTION 05-65

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING COMPLIANCE BY THE UNITED STATES WITH THE TREATY ON THE NONPROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

WHEREAS, the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) was ratified by the United States on November 24, 1969 and entered into force on March 5, 1970, becoming part of what the U.S. Constitution calls the supreme Law of the Land, and;

WHEREAS, the NPT has now been ratified by 188 countries, and according to the United States Department of State, in all but four, it has been remarkably successful in achieving its main goals and is an indispensable tool in preventing the spread of nuclear weapons, and;

WHEREAS, Article VI of the NPT requires that "each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a Treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control."

WHEREAS, the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) and the Department of Energy (DOE) are considering expanding an area of LANL known as Area G which is used for the disposal of low level radioactive waste (LLW);

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE TOWN OF TAOS that:

Section 1. The governing body recommends:

- (a) That Area G not be expanded, rather that DOE and LANL immediately pursue alternatives for the receipt and disposal of low level radioactive waste at Area G and seek public input before a final decision is made.
- (b) That before a final closure plan of the current acreage is submitted to the New Mexico Environment Department, that a comprehensive long term performance assessment (PA) be commissioned and accomplished by an independent Board of nationally recognized experts in the fields of climatology, tectonic geology, geomorphology, and human and government history and sociology. The PA should address impacts, risks and reasonable probabilities associated with the dynamics of

- trends in human history, historic national and international shifts in government and long term climatological and geological change.
- (c) That DOE and LANL address the challenge to permanently cease and desist from disposing of radiologically contaminated and hazardous wastes by means of underground burial at Area G.
- (d) That the DOE and LANL bring the best science available to create lasting solutions for reducing and eliminating the production of contaminated wastes.

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Councilwoman Erlinda Gonzales	Councilman A. Eugene Sanchez

Councilman Meliton Struck

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A-TTEST:

Bobby F. Duran, Mayor

Renee Lucero, Interim Town Clerk

Approved as to legal form:

Town Attorney