<Date – Comments due Mon. Dec. 20, 2021>

By email to: [ricardo.maestas@state.nm.us](mailto:ricardo.maestas@state.nm.us)

Mr. Ricardo Maestas

New Mexico Environment Department

2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1

Santa Fe, NM 87505

Re: Deny Class 2 Permit Modification Request Due to On-Going Panel 8 Permit Violations OR Consider As a Class 3 Permit Modification Request

Dear Mr. Maestas:

The Department of Energy (DOE) has not explained in its Class 2 permit modification request why it raised the height of the underground waste disposal Panel 8 from 13 feet to 16 feet. The New Mexico Environment Department’s Hazardous Waste Permit allows for ceiling heights of 13 feet. DOE has violated the Permit.

DOE did not provide proper notice to the Environment Department of the change – another violation of the Permit.

DOE is now asking the Environment Department to ignore the Permit violations and approve the requested increased height and adjustments to the potential volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that workers may be exposed to.

I request the Environment Department deny the Class 2 permit modification request OR consider the request as a Class 3, which would require a public hearing if significant public concern is shown.

Thank you for your careful consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,