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**National Nuclear Security Administration**  
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*Date:* September 26, 2008  
*Refer To:* EP2008-0526

James P. Bearzi, Bureau Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1  
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

**Subject: RACER Project**

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

The Chromium Settlement Agreement of June 14, 2007, requires that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Los Alamos National Security (LANS) "continue to fund the 'Risk Analysis, Communication, Evaluation, and Reduction at Los Alamos National Laboratory' (RACER) project, managed by Colorado State University and Risk Assessment Corporation," to complete certain specified tasks. The remaining task states that the "database will be turned over to an independent manager, the New Mexico Community Foundation, by September 30, 2008." LANS has worked diligently on the RACER project and has continued to fund the project managers, Colorado State University and Risk Assessment Corporation. The following actions have been completed.

1. The public was involved in beta testing of the RACER database at several public locations in August, 2008.
2. The project has organized all environmental data into a database and all LANS and NMED environmental data are available in the RACER database.
3. The New Mexico Community Foundation is running the RACER database and is providing public access to the database through its website at [www.racernm.com](http://www.racernm.com) and the database link at <http://www.lanlracerdat.com/>. Until such time as an independent contract with NMCF is signed, the current LANS contract with Colorado State University/Risk Assessment Corporation is in effect until June 30, 2009, and will allow the New Mexico Community Foundation to be reimbursed for the RACER project.
4. The prototype of the Ranking tool has been developed. LANS and NMED have agreed to continue funding the Colorado State University/Risk Assessment Corporation through June 30, 2009, and will be able to accept an improved version of the Ranking tool within that time frame.
5. LANS and NMED received Revision 1 of the Recommendations for Increasing Public Involvement on March 31, 2008.
6. LANS is updating the RACER database weekly.

LANL has fully met its obligations under the Settlement Agreement dated June 14, 2007. Per discussions with New Mexico Community Foundation, it is expected that the contract will be accepted in October to directly fund NMCF's operation of the RACER database. We are available for any discussions as may be necessary. Thank you for your support of the RACER project.


If you have any questions, please contact Alison Dorries at (505) 665-6952 (adorries@lanl.gov) or Nancy Werdel at (505) 665-3619 (nwerdel@doeal.gov).

Sincerely,



Susan G. Stiger, Associate Director  
Environmental Programs  
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Sincerely,



David R. Gregory, Project Director  
Environmental Operations  
Los Alamos Site Office

SS/DG/AD:sm

Attachment: a/s

Cy: Laurie King, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX  
Steve Yanicak, NMED-OB, White Rock, NM  
Tom Skibitski, NMED-OB, Santa Fe, NM  
Alison Bennett, DOE-LASO (date-stamped letter emailed)  
Nancy Werdel, DOE-LASO, MS A316  
Susan G. Stiger, ADEP, MS M991  
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EP-WES-DO File, MS M996  
RPF, MS M707  
IRM-RMMSO, MS A150 (date-stamped letter emailed)