



RESOLUTION 26-37

A RESOLUTION OBJECTING TO PLUTONIUM WARHEAD CORE "PIT" PRODUCTION AT LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY AND REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TO PRIORITIZE REMOVAL OF LEGACY WASTE OVER NEW WASTE

WHEREAS, on February 11, 2026, David E. Beck, Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs at the Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration ("NNSA"), issued a memorandum with a framework entitled "Responsive Today, Dominant Tomorrow: Enhancing American Nuclear Dominance," which identifies transformation objectives for NNSA's nuclear security enterprise, including accelerated modernization of the nuclear weapons stockpile and associated facilities, infrastructure, and production capabilities; and

WHEREAS, the framework includes an objective to complete near-term modifications at Los Alamos National Laboratory's Plutonium Facility to enable production of 100 plutonium pits (the triggers for nuclear warheads) and achieve a production rate of at least 60 pits per year; and

WHEREAS, plutonium pit manufacturing is dangerous to workers and, in the event of accidents, also to the public and the environment; and

WHEREAS, the framework calls for evaluating major production and infrastructure projects to validate execution strategies, optimize funding, remove "needless regulatory constraints," and enable risk-informed decisions, and the Governing Body is concerned that accelerated production should not come at the expense of worker safety, public health, environmental protection, or meaningful public review; and

WHEREAS, Northern New Mexico cities and towns, including the Town of Taos, have historically opposed plutonium pit production at Los Alamos National Laboratory and through Town of Taos Resolutions 19-22, 11-03, 82-09, and Joint Resolutions, 08-56 and 08-24; and

WHEREAS, nuclear weapons activities at Los Alamos National Laboratory use disproportionate amounts of water and electricity and cause permanent environmental contamination and degradation, including of tribal lands and sacred sites; and

WHEREAS, industrial-scale plutonium pit production at Los Alamos National Laboratory will add large amounts of radioactive and hazardous waste to existing on-site legacy waste, which NNSA plans to permanently store on-site; and

WHEREAS, Ted Wyka, Manager of NNSA's Los Alamos Field Office, has publicly stated that the Los Alamos National Laboratory Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement is based on prior pit-production assumptions and the Governing Body finds that those assumptions are not consistent with the objectives of the memorandum framework issued on February 11, 2026 such that the Governing Body objects to any attempt to rely on such environmental review to justify expanded pit production beyond the assumptions actually analyzed; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body is concerned that any additional or expanded plutonium pit production at Los Alamos National Laboratory should be addressed through adequate environmental review, including review of impacts to waste generation, water use, public health, worker safety, and the surrounding environment; and

WHEREAS, nuclear weapons proliferation does not deter but increases the risk of thermonuclear war; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis declared, "[t]he use of nuclear weapons, as well as their mere possession, is immoral. Defending the idea of mutual deterrence inevitably ends up poisoning relationships between people and obstructing any possible form of real dialogue."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body, on behalf of its constituents, states its objection to all plutonium pit production at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

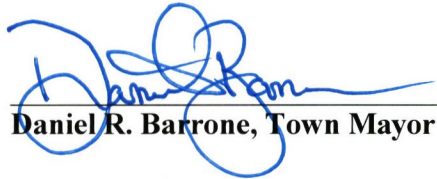
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governing Body calls on the President and Congress to prioritize removal and disposal of legacy plutonium waste from Los Alamos National Laboratory over production of additional nuclear waste from nuclear weapons manufacturing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governing Body directs the Town Clerk to send copies of this resolution to the New Mexico congressional delegation, the Governor of New Mexico, the Department of Energy, and the National Nuclear Security Administration.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 9th day of June 2026, at the Regular Meeting of the Town Council by the following vote:

Mayor Pro Tem Genevieve Oswald	<u>Yes</u>
Councilmember Darien Fernandez	<u>Yes</u>
Councilmember Billy Romero	<u>Yes</u>
Councilmember Tetsuro Namba	<u>Yes</u>

TOWN OF TAOS


Daniel R. Barrone, Town Mayor

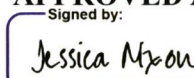
ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL:


Lupe E. Martinez, Town Manager

ATTEST:


Denise Martinez, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Signed by:

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Jessica L. Nixon, Town Attorney



