WHEREAS, the legacy of the Manhattan Project and successive nuclear projects have spread radioactive and other measurable amounts of waste in our environment; and

WHEREAS, residents in our surrounding communities are threatened by radioactive waste that was disposed of before we knew the true hazards proposed by these materials; and

WHEREAS, after sixty (60) years of operating, there are over 58 million cubic feet of hazardous and low level radioactive waste sitting in unprotected dump sites; and

WHEREAS, communities surrounding Los Alamos County National Laboratory were given assurances dating back to the 1940’s that they were safe from the nuclear waste disposed of at that facility; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Taos and Taos County are proud of the contributions that citizens of our state have made to this great nation’s defense; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Taos and Taos County are also proud of the great scientific breakthroughs which could not have occurred without the full and complete dedication of New Mexicans who work every day at our national labs and do the tough jobs that tough science requires; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Taos and Taos County and their citizens are committed to supporting the continuing scientific missions of our national labs; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Constitution has vested the Governor of New Mexico with environmental laws and regulations to protect citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Secretary, Ron Curry, has the power to regulate a great portion of waste because it is “mixed” with the hazardous materials as well.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Governing Bodies of the Town of Taos and Taos County request that the Governor of New Mexico use his authority, by the powers vested in him by the Constitution of New Mexico, to request that the Department of Energy commit to remove all waste buried at the facility, and that no additional waste be allowed to be buried at the facility.
PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 23rd DAY OF JULY, 2008.

TOWN OF TAOS:

__________________________________________
Councilmember Darren Cordova

__________________________________________
Councilmember Rudy Abeyta

__________________________________________
Councilmember Gene Sanchez

__________________________________________
Councilmember Amy Quintana

Bobby F. Duran, Mayor

ATTEST:                                            APPROVED AS TO FORM:

__________________________________________   ____________________________________________
Renee Lucero, Town Clerk                       Marcus Rael, Interim Town Attorney
TAOS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

ATTEST:

Elaine S. Montaño, Taos County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Sammy L. Pacheco, Taos County Attorney

Charlie I. Gonzales, Chairman

Daniel R. Barrone, Vice Chairman

Gabriel J. Romero, Commissioner

Nicklos E. Jaramillo, Commissioner

Joe M. Duran, Commissioner