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While we fully support the new provisions, further steps can and should be taken, specifically around inclusion of community voices. For many New Mexicans, English is not their first language, and internet access is uncertain at best. For these individuals, many of whom live in frontline communities, the public notice of comment or a hearing only posted on DOE and NMED websites, in English, is not enough.

Sarah Stewart 4/14/23

We support the proposed regulations for nuclear waste storage.

We fully support the requirement that the state receive a report each year on the federal government's efforts to find a permanent repository in another state, and the automatic permit revocation if Congress changes the law increasing the disposal limit of 6.2 million cubic feet of storage, and quarterly public forums that provide notice and allow for ample opportunity for public engagement on Permit and non-Permit related issues.

However, we strongly suggest that the the permit also should include measures for giving public notice. Notice in written English on the internet is not adequate. Many New Mexicans don't have internet access, and many don't communicate in written English. The permit should require that notice be given using other equitably accessible means!