

Martha Kemper

Emplace the Waste. Reduce the Risk. The risk of wildfires in New Mexico is indisputable. Couple with that, the risk of wildfire mixed with radiation should make the emplacement of the radiation waste and the imperative of reducing such waste a 'no-brainer'--a foregone conclusion. The only reasonable and safe option is to TAKE ACTION as soon as possible to contain the waste and to reduce the risk of legacy waste. The risk is clear. If a disaster occurs, there will be no looking back and saying, 'we had no idea.'

"Mixing wildfire and radiation create a disaster (Union of Concerned Scientists). The smoke plume of one fire at LANL covered parts of 5 states. If radioactive particles were in the plume they would settle, making the land unusable for the 500,000 years it takes plutonium to decay. If your house is under the plume you couldn't live in it, sell it, and insurance isn't available for this type of contamination."