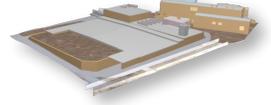




# How to Make Your Comments Count

## Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Nuclear Facility Portion of the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building Replacement Project at Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico



### Making Your Voice Heard: Details on Public Comments

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), invites stakeholders to comment on the scope of the *Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Nuclear Facility Portion of the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building Replacement Project at Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico* (CMRR-NF SEIS). NNSA is proposing changes to its 2004 Record of Decision in connection with the *Environmental Impact Statement for the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building Replacement Project at Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico* (CMRR EIS) and is therefore preparing the CMRR-NF SEIS. NNSA is seeking public input on what options and issues should be examined and included in the Draft CMRR-NF SEIS.

### Making Your Comments Count: Helpful Hints

Commenting on public policy issues or documents as a private citizen can be daunting, especially if the issues are technical. Consider the suggestions below to help make it a little easier and more effective to participate in the development of the CMRR-NF SEIS.

**For scoping, offer ideas for issues to be considered and alternatives to be evaluated.**

Collect information on the issues, including laws, regulations, agency materials or guidance. Sign up for NNSA, and other relevant mailing lists. Make a checklist of the issues you want addressed. Explain how proposed actions may affect you. Give examples. Tell what you do support as well as what you don't.

**During scoping, write your comments, or make notes if you are presenting them orally.**

Cover the following:

- Establish your authority to comment, whether it is as a concerned citizen, representative of an interest group, or an expert. If you are an oral commentator, state your name first.
- For extensive comments, summarize your major concerns first, then describe them in detail.
- If you are recommending changes to a document, suggest specific language when possible.
- If you believe technical information contained in the SEIS or other resource documents is in error or inadequate, cite the reference and explain why. Provide copies of back-up material.
- Offer solutions – draw on your expertise as an interested stakeholder to suggest innovative ideas.
- Consider these format and style suggestions:
  - Start by offering general or summary comments
  - Even if you are commenting orally, use headings, topic sentences, and short sentences
  - Avoid asking questions – rather, pose your questions as comments to be considered
  - Be respectful of your fellow commentators and agency representatives

**Finally, understand comment deadlines and processes.**

Find out how your comments will be used and considered and how responses will be provided.

### Stay Updated

For additional information, check our website, [cmrr-seis.com](http://cmrr-seis.com), or contact Mr. John Tegtmeyer, CMRR-NF SEIS Document Manager at [NEPALASO@doeal.gov](mailto:NEPALASO@doeal.gov), or call 505-665-0113.

*Excerpted and adapted from "Successful Advocacy: Tips for Public Comment" by Wendy L. Wilson, and Elizabeth D. Mullin, from the Environmental Law Institute website at <http://www.eli.org>.*