Meeting Follow Up Record
March 23 – 26, 2026
Washington, DC
Los Alamos County, New Mexico Fly-In

Report to Los Alamos County Council April 7, 2026

1. Participants included: Chair Ryti, Vice-Chair Herrmann, County Manager Laurent, and Intergovernmental Affairs Manager Duran
2. All participants, along with one or two members of the Los Alamos County Team from Cogent-Strategies attended 15 meetings in four days.
3. The Federal Priorities and other topics of interest to advance the positions of Los Alamos County were presented to the Congressional members, staff, committees, and Federal Agencies in a manner that was most relevant to the meeting participants, e.g., Environmental Management related issues were discussed with DOE-EM, items that included appropriation issues were discussed with Senate Appropriations Committee staff, etc.
4. The following are a list of Congressional offices, committees, and Agencies that were met along with topics of discussion.

   House Science Committee Majority Staff, Cody Elkins, Minority Staff, Sindhu Nathan

   Two separate meetings as Majority and Minority staff could not coordinate time

   - NNSA-highly supportive
   - Quantum – high interest area
   - Tech transfer – would like to know more about our success and challenges
   - Wildfire
   - Advanced Computing
   - Future Energy related policies
   - Lab Staffing
   - Possible future visit to Los Alamos
   - Housing
   - Plume

House Energy and Commerce Committee, Majority Staff, Peter Spencer, Andrew Furman, Calvin Huggins

- The LAC/DOE Electric Coordination Agreement and our thoughts on how we would view DOE installation of an SMR or other electricity resource as well as long-term PPAs
- The ECIP
- Water well

Senate Appropriations Committee, Energy & Water Development Subcommittee Majority Staff, Bill McNavage, and Minority Staff, Amanda Wyma-Bradley

- Water well – funding options
- Housing issues
- ECIP – funding source may need to be clarified, maybe an easier way than creating a grant program
- Plume cleanup

Office of Management and Budget, Majority Staff Will Sampson, Katherine Kaye, Alexa Walker

- President's budget for NNSA and EM
- LANL water usage – regarding water well replacement
- LAC/DOE Electric Coordination Agreement
- Wildfire
- Jemez Mountain Fire Protection Project FEMA grant

Senator Ben Ray Luján with policy staff Brooke Studell

- ECIP: extend discussion for bicameral, bipartisan support. Add various caucuses to conversation.
- Land Transfer: NDAA Language will be added. Danielle provided a rewrite of previous language.
- Community support in the contractor RFPs

Senate Armed Forces Committee

- Land Transfer: Will work with Brooke
- Electric Coordination Agreement: will take some action and is complex

Rep. Bill Foster (D-IL)

- Represents Argonne and Fermi National Laboratories
- AI/Advanced Computing
- Interest in Energy Communities Alliance

- Interest in ECIP idea
- Reprocessing: Newton Program at ARPA-E and the Spent Fuel Solutions Caucus

House Armed Services Committee, Majority Staff Peter Schirtzinger, Minority Staff Sapna Sharma

- Interest/sympathy for need for infrastructure in communities around DOE facilities, direct funding easier than a grant program
- Land Transfer: will send language to them after finalization

House Appropriations Committee Energy and Water Development Subcommittee (Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN), Chair)

- Water well replacement – interested in report language on the plume. Congressman planning a visit to LANL in April
- ECIP
- NNSA/EM support. EM - defense funding yields better budget
- WIPP support
- Land Transfer
- Water well and plume: when LAC will execute payments for the well is important for them to understand

National Park Service, Amy Bowron, Acting Director and Comptroller

- Wildland Fire has all been unified within Department of Interior. We should expect the same level of local, on-the-ground coordination.
- Appreciated concern regarding staffing at Bandelier
- Interested in the Dorm/NPS office: We have heard that she would like to receive an invitation and plans to attend the ribbon cutting when it happens

DOE- NNSA, Scott Pappano, Principal Deputy Administrator, Jason Miller, Deputy Assistant Administrator

- Land Transfer: clarified with NNSA that Rendija Canyon terrain makes is most unsuitable for housing developments but we are moving forward with study for clearance with Army Corps of Engineers. Invited to Los Alamos for a tour, which they agreed was needed.
- Could not discuss TA-21 and MDA-T due to active litigation
- Pit production
- Wildfire – understand the increased risk

DOE-Environmental Management, Assistant Secretary Walsh, Joel Bradburne, John Howard,

- Water well replacement – asked about funding
- Has met with Secretary Kenney several times and will continue to have discussions as the hexavalent chromium plume is a top concern and restarting the interim measure is needed
- TA-54 upgrades completed
- Interest in the ECIP idea – was able to help WIPP with a road and will investigate whether it is possible to do something similar with other laboratories
- A shared vision of priorities between EM and LAC

Senator Heinrich staff and Senate Energy and Natural Resources, Dom Saavedra, Tomas Gallegos, Max Katz

- ECIP – interested in the previous discussions LAC had during the fly-in. Concerned about direct funding idea becoming a pawn in political maneuvering.
- Land transfer
- Housing – major topic of concern and hope to hear more about how they might help

5. Several follow-up items - evolving ideas on housing and the ECIP, investigations into tech transfer and quantum policies that might improve local economic development, sharing land transfer language, acquiring more detailed information on future water usage, providing links between DPU and the House Energy and Commerce Committee, sharing information on Energy Communities Alliance with Rep. Foster's office, and confirming invitations to visit Los Alamos County.