Forest fire near Los Alamos National Laboratory

June 26, 2011

Los Alamos, New Mexico, June 26, 2011, 6:07pm—The Las Conchas fire burning in the Jemez Mountains approximately 12 miles southwest of the boundary of Los Alamos National Laboratory has not entered Laboratory property at this time. All radioactive material is appropriately accounted for and protected. LANL staff is coordinating the onsite response and supporting the county and federal fire response.

Lab Closely Monitoring Las Conchas Fire ProgressLos Alamos, New Mexico, June 26, 2011, 10:40pm—Los Alamos National Laboratory emergency officials are closely monitoring progress of the Las Conchas fire as it burns toward the east. It was last reported less than one mile from the Lab's southwestern boundaries. A special task force was dispatched to Water Canyon to protect LANL facilities there and Lab heavy equipment is assisting Los Alamos County and federal fire crews. Environmental and weather monitoring personnel have been mobilized. LANL announced it would be closed Monday and ordered all but essential employees to remain off Lab property and keep roads clear for emergency crews or citizens trying to leave the area. Los

Alamos County has encouraged residents with health concerns to consider leaving the area voluntarily because of thick smoke likely to settle in overnight. “I’m asking all our employees to stay clear of the Lab so the fire crews can do their jobs,” said Lab director Charles McMillan. “And please keep those crews in your thoughts tonight.” “We’ve been in contact with (NNSA Administrator) Tom D’Agostino as well as senior DOE officials,” said NNSA Los Alamos Site Office Manager Kevin Smith. “They are ready to support the Laboratory and people of Los Alamos County with additional resources as needed.”

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