

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 29, 2010

The Honorable Steven Chu
Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-1000

Dear Secretary Chu,

We are strong proponents of protecting the environment by being good stewards of the land, and naturally have a special place in our hearts for Northern California. As you know first-hand, Northern California, the East Bay and the Livermore Valley are treasures in their own right.

We are very proud to represent the Northern California Districts near or home to the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), the Lawrence Berkley National Laboratory (LBNL) and their many hardworking employees. The cutting-edge scientific innovation by our national laboratories' workforce is a national asset. LLNL and LBNL are also doing their part to be good environmental stewards of the land and have been very forward thinking in how they protect the laboratories' population, neighbors, and the area's resources.

As you know, on February 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. The Department of Energy (DOE) received over \$36 billion, including \$6 billion towards environmental cleanup of its sites. Specifically, these funds were placed into DOE's Office of Environmental Management. Currently, \$5.5 billion of the funds placed into the Office of Environmental Management have been allocated to other Department of Energy cleanup projects. LLNL and LBNL have taken the initiative to request ARRA funds to address priority environmental cleanup areas at their facilities. We respectfully urge the Department to allocate \$35.3 million of the remaining funds for the environmental cleanup at the main site in Livermore and at "Site 300" in nearby Tracy, and to allocate \$41.7 million for the deconstruction and clean up of the Old Town Site at LBNL. Specifically, both labs requested ARRA funds in April of 2009 for the following projects:

Treatment Facility A West (TFA-West)

Underground pipeline extension to connect TFA-West to existing mitigation infrastructure. This project would accelerate groundwater cleanup beneath a community park and near a local public school.

\$1M

Reactor Dome

Remove a pool type reactor built in 1956 to conduct weapons research. LLNL decommissioned the reactor in 1980, but the reactor dome and some of its infrastructure remain.

\$3.5M

Excess Facilities

Remove 13 excess Environmental Management program facilities, enabling easier access to subsurface contamination source areas.

\$1.5M

Contaminated neutron source facility and associated soil remediation

Demolish a 1940's era accelerator neutron source facility and remediate adjacent contaminated shallow soils.

\$9.0M

Accelerator

Demolish a facility at Site 300 used to conduct high energy laser tests in the early 1980s, which has been out of commission for over 20 years.

\$18.0M

Groundwater

Accelerate groundwater cleanup and increase the protection of human health and the environment through increased surveillance of contaminant movement towards the Site boundary at Site 300, near the city of Tracy.

\$2.3M

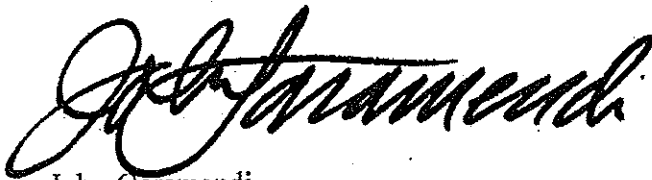
Deconstruction and Clean Up of Old Town Site, Berkeley Lab

Deconstruct Buildings 25A, 44, 44A, 44B, 52, 52B, 4, 5, 7C, 14, 16, 16A, 40 and 41, and for environmental restoration beneath and surrounding these facilities.

\$41.5 M

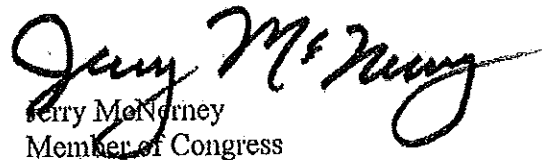
Unfortunately, the Department has yet to fund these important projects to date. These LLNL and LBNL projects are 'shovel-ready' and very worthy of ARRA funding.

We write to request that you look into this matter and look forward to your response. We are hopeful funds for these proposals will be awarded as soon as possible. Please do not hesitate to call our offices with any questions.



John Garamendi
Member of Congress

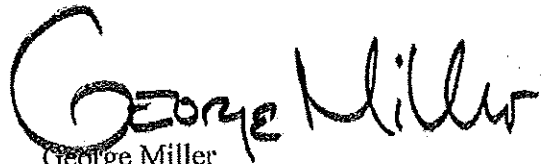
Sincerely,



Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



George Miller
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Ines Triay, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management