Indiana's Purdue University has teamed up with Bechtel National to submit a bid for the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Management and Operating contract. This makes four universities that have submitted LANL contract bids: the University of California, the University of Texas, Texas A&M University and Purdue University.

New Mexico's Gross Receipts Tax: A bill proposed to tax the gross receipts of certain non-profits which would include any new non-profit contractor managing Los Alamos National Laboratory was vetoed by Governor Susana Martinez at the beginning of March. See full article here.

A new analysis of the number of Los Alamos National Laboratory publications in Nature Family and Physical Review journals compared to those of other national laboratories and specific universities show a marked decrease in LANL publications, especially since LANL's privatization in 2006.

Former Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) Health Physicist, Lisa Gordon-Haggerty, was confirmed unanimously by the U.S. Senate to head the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). Her top priority will be the production of plutonium. See full article here.

We Had Good Schools – Sign a Petition So That Our Kids Can, Too

Please call the SPSE-UPTE office to arrange to sign the Schools and Communities First ballot petition that SPSE-UPTE is circulating. If approved by California voters, public schools and local communities would have $11 billion more for services, whether we live in Livermore, Oakland, Tracy or Modesto. Unless we provide public schools with the funds they need to enable qualified teachers to live in our communities, the schools may soon be unable to provide our children with a quality
education. This *Schools and Communities First* fact sheet explains that by reassessing corporations and commercial property at least every three years, we could restore school funding to levels prevalent before Proposition 13. That proposition essentially froze assessed values for 8% of commercial properties at 1978 values. These select properties, including Disneyland and many oil refineries, get 77% of the benefit from this corporate loophole.

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