

June 21, 2006

Dear UPTE Members,

As President of UPTE-CWA at LANL I am very pleased to say that we have been very instrumental through our Tri-Lab Lobbying Activities toward this outcome.

Secretary Bodman has placed on hold DOE Notice 351.1. After mounting pressure from Congress, the public and union members, Secretary of Energy Bodman yesterday withdrew the Bush Administration's April order to stop reimbursing Department of Energy (DOE) contractors for the cost of traditional, defined-benefit pension and comprehensive medical plans.

The AFL-CIO called the decision a victory for working families at a time when vanishing retirement security and rising health care costs are squeezing workers in all industries.

This is really good! I hope that our two senior Senator's can completely take this DOE Notice off the table. The notion of being competitive by sacrificing Contractor's Pension and Benefits as being "Market Driven" is not the solution. The solution is to maintain the current DOE Order 350.1 (Contractor Human Resources Management Programs) which was issued in September 1996 and amended in May 1998. Although this no longer the case for current LANS employees due to our Government's failure to recognize our value, let us not fail to recognize our value and undying contributions to the National Security Interests and well-being of this country by hoping for the best and by supporting all Laboratory workers past, present and future at our "Sister Labs".

Manny Trujillo  
UPTE-CWA  
President