



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

For Immediate Release
July 5, 2006

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Governor Richardson Names Thomas Bowles Science Advisor

(Santa Fe, NM) – Governor Bill Richardson today named Los Alamos National Laboratory Fellow and former LANL Chief Science Officer Thomas J. Bowles as scientific adviser.

“New Mexico is becoming a national leader in the high tech field and Tom Bowles will help further this progress,” said Governor Richardson. “Our high tech industry and national labs can work together to become a job creation dynamo for New Mexico.”

In his role as science adviser to the governor, Bowles will provide counsel and assistance to Governor Richardson and members of the state government on science and technology matters. Bowles succeeds a number of fellow Los Alamos scientists who have served as previous governor's science advisers, most recently Larry Winter, Paul Cunningham and Denny Erickson.

"I see this as a way of sharing the Laboratory's scientific and technical expertise with the state of New Mexico," Terry Wallace, the Laboratory's Principal Associate Director for Science, Technology and Engineering, said of the appointment. "Tom will not only help build a stronger science and technology community in the state, but his counsel will help improve the quality of life in New Mexico by utilizing the scientific and technical resources available in the state, including those at Los Alamos National Laboratory."

Bowles said one of his first efforts would be to assist the Governor in analyzing better methods to integrate high technology across multiple policy areas. In particular, Bowles will be the Governor's liaison with New Mexico's major research universities looking for more effective ways to advance science and technology collaborations and will be working with industry to better couple advances in science and technology at the Labs and universities into the public sector.

Named the Laboratory's Chief Science Officer (CSO) in July 2004, Bowles served in the position until turning the job over to his former deputy and designated successor, David Sharp. As CSO, Bowles was responsible for enhancing theoretical and experimental science throughout the laboratory. Bowles came to the CSO position from research and management in the Laboratory's Physics Division. As the principal investigator on the Laboratory's Ultra-Cold Neutron program, Bowles also served as the Nuclear Physics Program manager.

Bowles came to Los Alamos in 1979 after working as a postdoctoral position at Argonne National Laboratory, and shortly thereafter founded the Laboratory's weak interaction physics effort. Under Bowles direction, that effort has established Los Alamos as a world leader in non-accelerator nuclear and particle physics. He earned his bachelor's degree in physics and mathematics from the University of Colorado and received his doctoral degree in physics from Princeton University in 1978.

Elected as an American Physical Society Fellow in 1993 and made a Los Alamos Fellow in 1994, Bowles was made as an affiliate professor at the University of Washington in 1995. Bowles received a Laboratory Distinguished Performance Award in 2000 for his work on the Ultra-Cold Neutron program. In 2003, the Institute for Nuclear Research of the Russian Academy of Sciences honored him with the M.A. Markov Prize for his work as a principal investigator of the Soviet-American Gallium Experiment, a major solar-neutrino investigation.

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