CITY OF BELEN

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-29

OPPOSING TRANSPORTATION OF HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE VIA RAILWAY THROUGH THE CITY OF BELEN FOR THE PURPOSE OF TEMPORARY CONSOLIDATED STORAGE OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS the City of Belen has many residential, business, and community properties along the railway within city limits, and;

WHEREAS the City of Belen is dedicated to protecting the health, welfare, safety and security of its residents and visitors in these areas, and;

WHEREAS two major high-level radioactive waste storage facility companies have applied to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for licenses to store tons of "spent" nuclear reactor fuel and waste, which contains all of the nation's most dangerous nuclear waste, in temporary in-ground storage facilities throughout New Mexico, and;

WHEREAS some of this nuclear waste could be shipped by rail through the City of Belen, effecting the residential, business, and community properties within the area, and;

WHEREAS if nuclear waste is brought to New Mexico temporary, it could result in a second transport of this waste doubling the dangers of this process, if during transportation an accident occurs, any small amount of nuclear waste could contaminate an area of approximately 42-square miles in all directions, which could then cost $620 million for clean-up in rural areas and $9.5 billion in heavily contaminated urban areas, and;

WHEREAS our lives, land, and natural resources must be protected from any radioactive contamination that could results from accidents, radiation releases, leaks, or malicious actions, during the transportation of the thousands of "spent" nuclear reactor fuel waste shipments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the City of Belen hereby opposes the transportation of high-level radioactive waste, including "spent" nuclear reactor fuel, on our railways through the City of Belen for the purpose of temporary consolidated storage of high-level radioactive waste in New Mexico.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 19th day of November 2018.

[Signature]
Jerah Cordova, Mayor

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Brian McBain, MPA, City Clerk