

Candidate's Name: Ralph Wrons

Organization: Sandia National Laboratories

Statement of Qualifications & Interest:

Bachelor of Science in Energy Engineering, University of Arizona, 1986

I have served in many Engineering and Team or Project Leader positions in my 27-year career at Sandia National Laboratories (since 1990), including mechanical systems design, HVAC control systems, energy management, construction management and pollution prevention (P2).

My conviction through all of the various positions was resource conservation, whether it was energy waste, material waste or water waste. In about 1993, while in my mechanical systems design role, I served on an ad hoc committee to develop a paper recycling program at Sandia. As a regular bicycle commuter (for all 27 years), in 1995, I was the instigator for starting a bicycle commuters group at Sandia. The SBCG still exists 22 years later and I'm still the volunteer co-coordinator.

In 1997, in my Energy Management Engineer role, I began to team with the SNL P2 Program and did so for the next 5-7 years, recognizing the relationship of energy savings to preventing pollution. I believe my convictions closely align with the Vision and Mission of the New Mexico Recycling Coalition.

I am prepared to fulfill the stated obligations of being a member of the NMRC Board of Directors

- Professional Experience in Regard to Recycling I have more than 11 years of experience (since 2006) at Sandia as the coordinator of the Pollution Prevention program, which includes as its major focus areas: Technical Assistance for Waste Reduction, Green Purchasing, Electronics Stewardship, Post Consumer Reuse & Recycling and Providing Education & Awareness. In the third year of my position, I introduced a new vision statement of Materials Sustainability and a long term goal of Zero Waste by 2025. Five years ago, I renamed the program to Materials Sustainability and Pollution Prevention (MSP2). In 2014, I raised the Zero Waste goal to upper management attention with the development of a Strategic Plan for Zero Waste to the point that it has been accepted as a Corporate goal.

- What Segment of the Recycling Industry Do You Represent? Sandia is an institutional campus, contractor to the Federal Government (Department of Energy). But my role on the NMRC Board, if elected, would be as a private citizen since I will be retiring by the end of the calendar year 2017.
- Other Board, Managerial or Financial Experience In the late 90's and early 2000's, I served on the Board of the New Mexico Association of Energy Engineers. At that time, I was in the position of Energy Management Engineer for Sandia National Laboratories. For NMAEE. I served in successive years as Program Chair, Treasurer, Vice President and my last year as President. I was also an active member for many years.

- Four Goals for NMRC I believe three of my four goals would fall within Objectives 3 & 4 of the Strategic Plan, specifically 3.1 (promotion of recycling and technical assistance opportunities), 4.1 (leader, convener and initiator of policy initiatives) & 4.3 (assist in setting policy to improve institutional, local and State waste diversion). I really appreciated the presentations by Sarah and Juliana at the annual meeting this past June, on Product Stewardship opportunities for New Mexico and on methods of Education that can effect beneficial behavior change for improved recycling participation. Therefore,

those would be valuable guidance in carrying out my goals for the NMRC Board. My fourth goal would be to help craft, at the appropriate time, the 2019-2021 Strategic Plan for the NMRC .

- What Do You Bring To NMRC? I believe I bring a passion and enthusiasm for the Vision and Mission of the NMRC. I have a wealth of experience in all facets of the Waste Management hierarchy, as spelled out in the Federal Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle before Disposal. And now I subscribe to the Zero Waste Hierarchy that includes Avoid, Substitute, Re-Design, Right-size, Repurpose, Restore, etc. as components of Materials Sustainability. I also want to help make concepts like Circular Economy and Cradle to Cradle a regular and welcome part of dialogue, education and implementation in New Mexico.

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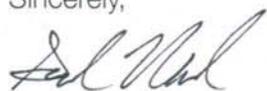
To the Board of Directors Nomination Committee:

For the purpose of joining the Board of Directors, I would like to recommend your consideration of Mr. Ralph Wrons. Mr. Wrons is a passionate, forward-thinking advocate for the environment. From his educational beginnings in renewable energy, to raising children that care for our world, to regularly bicycling to work, Mr. Wrons lives out his beliefs.

For at least tens years, Mr. Wrons has led the Materials Sustainability and Pollution Prevention program at Sandia National Laboratories. In this position he has spearheaded the *Zero Waste by 2025* initiative which advocates green purchasing, reduction of consumption, extension of materials' and products' useful lives, and maximizing end-of-life recycling wherever possible. All of these come together to reduce the volume of materials going to New Mexico landfills, and drive the secondary materials economy.

Mr. Wrons would bring a wealth of experience, ideas, and enthusiasm to the NMRC Board. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Samuel McCord
