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Memorandum

TO: Steve Zappe

FR: Christian Carlsen *CC*

RE: INSPECTION OF WIPP SITE PANEL TWO

Date: October 5, 2000

On September 19, 2000, Compliance & Technical Assistance Program performed an inspection of the Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP) site. We had been asked to inspect the new panel that was constructed at the facility. Steve Zappe gave us the details of the panel. The following is what was observed during our inspection of panel two.

The 2nd panel was completed recently at the WIPP facility east of Carlsbad. The new panel had the survey marks and several brass caps in place along the south corridor. The panel consisted of seven rooms with a corridor along the south side. A corridor existed to the north and was identified as the exhaust shaft for this panel, doors located at the north end of the seven rooms closed off the exhaust corridor. The corridors were 900 feet long and 33 feet wide and 13 feet high. The rooms were 33 feet wide and 13 feet high. The panels between the rooms are approximately 300 feet long and 35 feet wide. The red marker bed in the salt formation was apparent in all of the rooms. The survey utilizes a laser system linked to the surface. Survey marks were visible and dimensions appear correct. The engineer said that transient survey stations were linked to the surface and the survey tolerance is the same as on the surface. Survey points were placed at each junction and several were between the junctions. Extensometers are placed in the rooms to measure creep in the salt. Creep was measured in panel one for the past three years, the rooms in panel one had a range of 0.5 inches to 1.5 inches per year. We were shown the monitoring equipment used to determine airflow rates and radiation monitoring that was occurring at the east end of the panel between room one and room two in the exhaust shaft. All seals and doors were in place and operating properly. A strong flow could be felt in the exhaust shaft. All engineering specifications were correct and stamped by a PE licensed in New Mexico. The surveyed panel two was also stamped by a licensed Surveyor.

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