



GARY E. JOHNSON  
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico  
**ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**  
Water and Waste Management Division  
Harold Runnels Building  
1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110  
Telephone (505) 827-1758  
Fax (505) 827-0310

[www.nmenv.state.nm.us](http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us)



PETER MAGGIORE  
SECRETARY

PAUL R. RITZMA  
DEPUTY SECRETARY

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

July 26, 2001

Dr. Inés Triay, Manager  
Carlsbad Field Office  
Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 3090  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-3090

Mr. John Lee, General Manager  
Westinghouse TRU Solutions, LLC  
P.O. Box 2078  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-5608

**RE: EXTENSION OF CLASS 3 PERMIT MODIFICATION COMMENT PERIOD  
WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT  
EPA I.D. NUMBER NM4890139088**

Dear Dr. Triay and Mr. Lee:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is currently receiving public comment for a Class 3 modification request regarding Centralized Waste Confirmation dated June 5, 2001, and received by NMED on June 6, 2001. The Department of Energy's Carlsbad Field Office and Westinghouse TRU Solutions LLC (**the Permittees**) published public notice of this permit modification request on June 13, 2001, establishing a 60-day public comment period ending on August 13, 2001.

NMED subsequently received requests to extend the public comment period from Mr. Scott Monroe of the US Environmental Protection Agency on July 17, 2001 and from representatives of numerous citizen organizations on June 28, 2001. Based upon these requests, NMED has decided to extend the public comment period for this Class 3 modification request by an additional 45 days beyond the current end of the comment period, until September 27, 2001 at 5:00 pm MDT.

NMED is also directing the Permittees to notify the WIPP mailing list of this decision to extend the public comment period. Please ensure that such notification is postmarked no later than five (5) working days following your receipt of this letter.

010768



Dr. Inés Triay  
Mr. John Lee  
July 26, 2001  
Page 2

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact either Steve Zappe at (505) 428-2517 or me at (505) 827-1758.

Sincerely,



Gregory J. Lewis  
Director  
Water and Waste Management Division

cc: Paul Ritzma, NMED  
James Bearzi, NMED HWB  
John Kieling, NMED HWB  
Susan McMichael, NMED OGC  
Steve Zappe, NMED HWB  
Scott Monroe, EPA ORIA  
David Neleigh, EPA Region 6  
Connie Walker, TechLaw  
File: Red WIPP '01