



Department of Energy
Carlsbad Field Office
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221
September 4, 2001

ENTERED

Mr. Frank Marcinowski
Office of Radiation and Indoor Air
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M. Street, S. W.
Washington, DC 20460



Dear Mr. Marcinowski:

On April 17, 2001 we submitted a request to you seeking approval of several proposed enhancements to the WIPP panel closure system. Based on communications with your staff during our recent working meetings, we respectfully withdraw our request for approval of those modifications. In view of the approval of our panel 1 utilization request and our current and projected throughput rates, we wish to re-evaluate our panel closure strategy.

At the conclusion of our evaluation, we expect to revisit this topic with the EPA. We appreciate the effort already expended by your staff in the review of our April submittal. If you or your staff have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Daryl Mercer at (505) 234-7452.

Sincerely,
Inés Triay

Dr. Inés R. Triay
Manager

cc:
D. Huizenga, EM
S. Monroe, EPA
S. Ghose, EPA
C. Byrum, EPA
N. Stone, EPA
S. Zappe, NMED
M. Silva, EEG

