



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 17 2002

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Dr. Inés R. Triay  
Manager  
Carlsbad Field Office  
Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 3090  
Carlsbad, NM 88221



Dear Dr. Triay:

Thank you for your letter, dated May 30, 2002, requesting the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) approval of changes to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) performance assessment. EPA has completed its evaluation of the Department of Energy's (DOE) request to use a single parameter set, based primarily on parameter values used in the Performance Assessment Verification Test (PAVT), as the compliance baseline for future performance assessments. As I stated in my April 24, 2002, letter to you, we agree that this approach will streamline computational efforts and will facilitate EPA future reviews.

EPA acknowledges that two errors have also been corrected as noted in your letter. EPA also understands and agrees that as your program develops and matures you will propose possible changes to the PA in the future. With this letter, EPA approves your proposal to use a single parameter set in future PA calculations. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Monroe at (202) 564-9712.

Sincerely,

Frank Marcinowski, Director  
Radiation Protection Division

cc: Cindy Zvonar, CBFO  
Matthew Silva, EEG  
Steve Zappe, NMED

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