



**Department of Energy**

Carlsbad Field Office  
P. O. Box 3090  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

**MAY 21 2004**



James P. Bearzi, Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2905 E. Rodeo Park Drive, East, Bldg. 1  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303

Subject: Request for Emergency Permit for the Storage of Additional TRUPACT-IIs in the Parking Area Unit

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

The purpose of this letter is to request an emergency permit for the storage of a total of twenty-eight TRUPACT-IIs in the permitted Parking Area Unit of the WIPP facility. The permit currently allows the Permittees to store 12 TRUPACT-IIs in the parking area. This request is needed to address an off-normal event (a waste hoist conveyance malfunction) and is authorized by the WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit, Attachment M1-1e, and by 20.4.1.900 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR § 270.61).

Yesterday morning, the waste hoist conveyance malfunctioned. As a result we are currently storing one TRUPACT-II less than the permitted storage capacity for the WIPP with six additional shipments (17 TRUPACT-II) scheduled to arrive this weekend. Receipt of these additional shipments would result in a total of twenty-eight TRUPACT-IIs in the permitted Parking Area Unit, sixteen more than the permitted capacity. The Parking Area Unit has sufficient space available to manage these additional TRUPACT-IIs. Therefore the Permittees request an emergency permit to allow the temporary storage of the additional TRUPACT-IIs in the Parking Area Unit. Permit conditions specifying requirements for management of TRU mixed waste in the Parking Area Unit will continue to be met, including aisle space, inspections, and venting requirements. The maximum period of time necessary for this additional storage is not anticipated to exceed ninety days.

The Permittees believe it is likely that the waste hoist will be back in operation by May 24. If it is not, Permittees will contact you. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Detwiler at 505-706-0133 or Steve Warren at 505-234-7400.

Sincerely,

R. Paul Detwiler, Acting Manager  
Carlsbad Field Office  
U.S. Department of Energy

Steven D. Warren, General Manager  
Washington TRU Solutions, LLC



James P. Bearzi

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cc:

H. E. Johnson, CBFO  
C. A. Zvonar, CBFO  
H. L. Plum, CBFO  
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