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September 20, 2004
Immediate Release

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Environment Secretary Ron Curry Statement on Idaho Waste Shipments to WIPP

(Santa Fe, NM) —“I have agreed to allow shipments of waste from the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) to resume. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) may now ship this waste so long as it is appropriate for disposal at WIPP. I gave this approval to DOE on Friday and it is my understanding that some of these shipments were received by WIPP over the weekend.

While these shipments have resumed, NMED will continue to seek everything requested in the recent Compliance Order. This includes public access to the WIPP waste database, reports detailing the mistakes made, and fines surrounding this waste analysis failure.”

For further information contact Jon Goldstein, Communications Director, NMED at (505) 827-0314.

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