



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



ENTERED

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OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Dr. Inés Triay, Acting Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Carlsbad Field Office  
P.O. Box 3090  
Carlsbad, NM 88220



Dear Dr. Triay:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has received and reviewed the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) notification of plans (letter dated November 16, 2004) to relocate the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Enriched Xenon Observatory Experiment (EXO) to the North Experimental Area in E-300 between N-1100 and N-1400. In the November 16, 2004 letter, DOE states that there would be no change to the EXO experiment, just the location. We agree that this new location will be advantageous since the experimental setup will be in a location that is more remote from WIPP transuranic waste emplacement activities. This move is minor and will not affect our previous determination that the experiment will not adversely affect long-term performance of the disposal system. Therefore, we approve DOE's plan to relocate EXO.

For questions on this topic please contact Chuck Byrum at 214-665-7555.

Sincerely,

  
Bonnie C. Gitlin, Acting Director  
Radiation Protection Division

- cc: Lynne Smith, DOE/HQ
- Russ Patterson, DOE/CBFO
- Steve Casey, DOE/CBFO
- ✓ Steve Zappe, NMED
- EPA WIPP Team
- EPA Docket

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