

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS

On a Revised Modification Request to the Hazardous Waste Facility Permit for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant



ENTERED



WHO: U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Carlsbad Field Office and Washington TRU Solutions LLC (WTS).

WHAT: Public Information Meetings to provide information and answer questions regarding a revised, consolidated permit modification request that DOE and WTS submitted to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) on April 29, 2005.

WHEN: Tuesday, May 17, 2005
5 – 7 p.m.

WHERE: Skeen-Whitlock Building
4021 National Parks Highway
Carlsbad, New Mexico

Thursday, May 19, 2005
2 – 4 p.m. & 6 – 8 p.m.
Courtyard by Marriott
3347 Cerrillos Road
Santa Fe, New Mexico



WHY: By letter dated March 29, 2005, NMED directed DOE and WTS to submit the revised, consolidated permit modification request. This revised, consolidated permit modification request incorporated the following:

- Implementation of Section 311 of Public Law 108-137*—On January 9, 2004, DOE and WTS submitted an initial permit modification request to NMED to implement Pub. L. No. 108-137, §311. NMED issued a Notice of Deficiency on December 30, 2004. The revised permit modification request proposes to include the option of using a combination of acceptable knowledge (AK) and sampling and analysis of a representative population of transuranic waste or using AK alone if NMED determines it is sufficient to characterize the waste. This proposed revision also changes the method for demonstrating compliance with the environmental performance standards for volatile organic emissions in the disposal rooms at WIPP.
- Authorization for remote-handled transuranic mixed waste*—On June 28, 2002, DOE and WTS submitted an initial permit modification request to NMED for authorization to dispose of remote-handled waste. NMED issued Notices of Deficiency on March 5, 2003 and March 29, 2005. The revised permit modification request proposes to expand the waste analysis program to include remote-handled wastes and details the receipt, management, storage, and disposal of remote-handled waste at WIPP.
- Increased container storage capacity*—On January 7, 2004, DOE and WTS submitted an initial permit modification request to NMED for container management improvements. The revised permit modification request would increase storage capacities in the container Parking Area Unit and Waste Handling Building Unit and designate staging areas for waste containers awaiting or undergoing waste acceptance verification and examination prior to storage and disposal.

HOW: To obtain additional information concerning this revised consolidated permit modification request, contact Mr. Bobby St. John, WTS, at 1-800-336-9477. The revised permit modification is also available on the WIPP Web site at <http://www.wipp.ws> and at the WIPP Information Center, Skeen-Whitlock Building, 4021 National Parks Highway, Carlsbad, New Mexico. A copy of the requested permit modification revision may also be obtained from NMED at the address listed below.

COMMENTS: The public is encouraged to submit written comments for the record by 5:00 p.m. on July 5, 2005 to:
Mr. Steve Zappe
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Phone: 505-428-2517
Fax: 505-428-2567
E-mail: steve_zappe@nmenv.state.nm.us

QUESTIONS: Any questions or comments for DOE or WTS regarding this revised permit modification request may be sent to Mr. Bobby St. John, P.O. Box 2078, Carlsbad, NM 88221.

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