



Department of Energy  
 Carlsbad Field Office  
 P. O. Box 3090  
 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221  
 September 9, 2008



The Honorable Bill Richardson  
 Governor of New Mexico  
 State Capitol Building, Room 400  
 Santa Fe, NM 87501

Subject: Shipments of Transuranic Waste from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

Dear Governor Richardson:

In accordance with the Department of Energy's (DOE's) commitments to the Southern States Energy Board, the Western Governor's Association and the Council of State Governments, DOE is providing 14-day prior notification of the first three of five shipments of transuranic nuclear waste from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. These will be the first of approximately 550 scheduled shipments made to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in Carlsbad, New Mexico. The first shipment is planned to occur on September 24, 2008. The next two shipments are scheduled for September 29, 2008, and October 1, 2009. This shipment schedule was developed after receiving approval of the ORNL CH certification audit report from the New Mexico Environment Department, approval of the baseline inspection report from the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Carlsbad Field Office certification of the Central Characterization Project at ORNL to perform characterization, certification and shipment of CH TRU waste for disposal at the WIPP. You will be notified of the next two shipments once they have been scheduled. If there is cause for delay or reschedule, you will be notified and informed of subsequent shipping plans through receipt of an updated 8-week Rolling Schedule, as soon as schedule changes are determined.

Each of these shipments will be via truck utilizing a Type B shipping cask, which has been certified by the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the transport of nuclear materials.

Shipments from ORNL will travel primarily using the U.S. interstate highway system; on surface roads to Tennessee 162 to Interstate 40/75 south to Interstate 75 south to Interstate 24 (around Chattanooga, TN) to Interstate 59 south to Interstate 459 (around Birmingham, AL) to Interstate 20/59. The shipment will continue south on Interstate 20/59 until Meridian, Mississippi where it continues west on Interstate 20 across Texas to Pecos, Texas, where it will turn north on US 285 into New Mexico. The shipment will continue north on US 285 to Carlsbad, NM where it will turn east on US 62/180 to the WIPP access route. This route has been agreed upon with state representatives and emergency response training has been provided upon request.

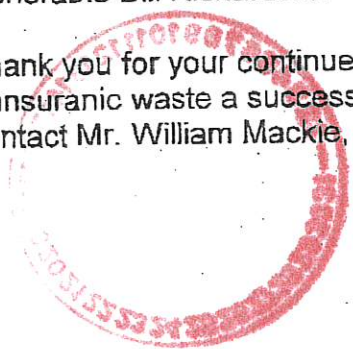
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Honorable Bill Richardson

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Thank you for your continued support in making the clean up and transportation of transuranic waste a success. If you have questions concerning this notification, please contact Mr. William Mackie, Institutional Affairs Manager, at (575) 234-7335.



Sincerely,

David C. Moody  
Manager

*Email me pd f*



# DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY CARLSBAD FIELD OFFICE

OFFICE OF BUSINESS

P.O. Box 3090

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Office of the Governor

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## FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL ROUTING SHEET FAX NUMBER (575) 234-7061

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To: Governor Bill Richardson From: William B. Mackie

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