



Department of Energy
Carlsbad Field Office
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221
NOV 21 2011



Mr. John Kieling, Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303

Subject: Notification of Public Notice and Fact Sheets to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Mailing List - Permit Number NM4890139088-TSDF

Dear Mr. Kieling:

The purpose of this letter is to provide the New Mexico Environment Department with the information identified in 20.4.1.900 New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) incorporating 40 CFR 270.42(b)(2) regarding the Class 2 permit modification request entitled *Update Ventilation Language, Addition of a Shielded Container, and Revise the WIPP Groundwater Detection Monitoring Program Plan*. The information the Permittees mailed and published is included in Enclosures 1 and 2 and is summarized below:

Enclosure 1

- Public Notice for a Class 2 PMR entitled, "Public Information Meetings On a Requested Modification to the Hazardous Waste Facility Permit for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant"
- Fact Sheet for a Class 2 PMR entitled, "Department of Energy Proposes Modification to Hazardous Waste Facility Permit"

Enclosure 2 (Evidence of the mailing and publication including)

- Copy of the Public Notice from the Albuquerque Journal
- Copy of the Public Notice from the Carlsbad Current-Argus
- Copy of the receipt from Mail Service Center, indicating a mail out to the WIPP Facility Mailing List

We certify under penalty of law that this document and the enclosure were prepared under our direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on our inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of our knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. We are aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.



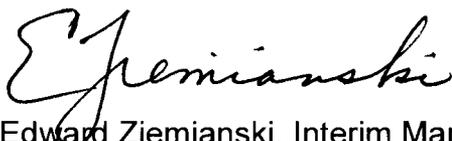
Mr. John Kieling

-2-

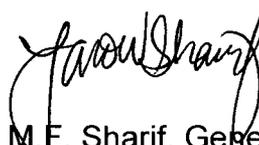
NOV 21 2011

If you have questions regarding this submittal, please contact Ms. Susan McCauslin at (575) 234-7349.

Sincerely



Edward Ziemianski, Interim Manager
Carlsbad Field Office



M.F. Sharif, General Manager
Washington TRU Solutions LLC

cc: w/enclosure

J. Davis, NMED *ED

C. Walker, Trinity Engineering ED

CBFO M&RC

*ED denotes electronic distribution

Enclosure 1

- **Public Notice for a Class 2 PMR entitled, “Public Information Meetings On a Requested Modification to the Hazardous Waste Facility Permit for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant”**
- **Fact Sheet for a Class 2 PMR entitled, “Department of Energy Proposes Modification to Hazardous Waste Facility Permit”**

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS



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

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

WHAT: DOE and WTS will conduct public meetings to provide information on the following permit modification request to the WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit.

WHEN:

WHERE:

Tuesday, October 25, 2011	Thursday, October 27, 2011
5 – 6 p.m.	2 – 4 p.m. & 6 – 8 p.m.
Skeen-Whitlock Building	Courtyard by Marriott
4021 National Parks Highway	3347 Cerrillos Road
Carlsbad, New Mexico	Santa Fe, New Mexico

WHY:

On September 30, 2011, DOE submitted three Class 2 permit modification requests to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). The permit modification requests propose to:

1. Revise the WIPP Groundwater Detection Monitoring Program Plan

This modification request is being submitted in accordance with the Groundwater Permit Modification Work Plan as approved by NMED on August 5, 2011. The requested change updates the WIPP Groundwater Monitoring Plan and clarifies Permit language.

2. Update Ventilation Language

The proposed changes will reduce the risk to workers in the underground by allowing them to use the shortest travel path to access ventilation control points thereby minimizing the time spent in the disposal area exhaust air stream. Additionally, it proposes to change a 7-day notification to annual reporting when the Permittees fail to achieve the required ventilation rates.

3. Add a gamma-shielded container for use at WIPP

This request is to add an additional container to the list of approved containers for disposal at WIPP. The container will allow the Permittees to handle waste that is packaged in a gamma-shielded container.

HOW:

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

COMMENTS:

Written comments for the record must be sent to the NMED contact person at the address below and received no later than 5 p.m. on December 5, 2011:

Mr. Tim Hall
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, N.M. 87505
Phone: 505-476-6049
Fax: 505-476-6060
E-mail: timothy.hall@state.nm.us

QUESTIONS:

The Permittees' compliance history during the life of the permit being modified is available from Mr. Hall at the New Mexico Environment Department.

Any questions or comments to the Permittees regarding this permit modification may be sent to Mr. Bobby St. John, P.O. Box 2078, Carlsbad, N.M. 88221, no later than November 28, 2011.

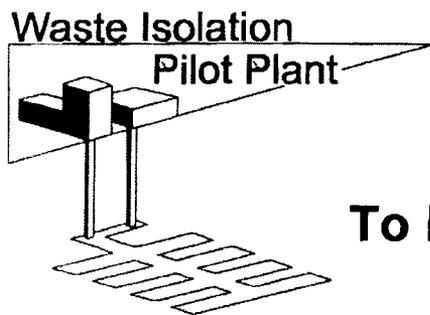
WIPP Permit Community Relations Plan

On-line: <http://www.wipp.energy.gov>

e-mail: communityrelations@wipp.ws

toll-free: 1-866-271-9640

October 5, 2011



Fact Sheet

DOE Proposes Modification To Hazardous Waste Facility Permit



Changes to the WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit

Background The U.S. Department of Energy Carlsbad Field Office (DOE) and Washington TRU Solutions LLC (WTS) submitted three Class 2 permit modification requests to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) to change the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Hazardous Waste Facility Permit (Permit). The NMED issued the Permit (Permit Number: NM4890139088-TSDF) in November 2010.

What is Proposed? The proposed modifications submitted to NMED on September 30, 2011, are:

1. Revise the WIPP Groundwater Detection Monitoring Program Plan
2. Update Ventilation Language
3. Addition of a Shielded Container

Revise the WIPP Groundwater Detection Monitoring Program Plan

This modification request is being submitted in accordance with the Groundwater Permit Modification Work Plan approved by NMED on August 5, 2011. The requested changes update the WIPP Groundwater Monitoring Plan and clarify Permit language.

The changes include:

- Revising specific elements of the permit to eliminate sources of confusion
- Identify wells that are used for specific types of measurements
- Clarify the need for and use of various procedures for both field and non-field work
- Remove Total Organic Halogen as a parameter for measurements
- Various editorial changes to update information
- Clarify sampling requirements
- Change frequency of groundwater sampling from semi-annual to annual
- Change frequency of reporting water level values from monthly to semi-annually
- Specify the methodology employed to generate the annual map indicating the rate and direction of groundwater flow

Update Ventilation Language

This modification increases the safety of workers when it is necessary to adjust ventilation in active disposal rooms. Adjusting ventilation allows the facility to direct air into specific areas. The ventilation adjustments ensure that adequate airflow is present where employees are conducting work. Currently, when adjusting ventilation in active disposal rooms, workers are required to travel long distances in the exhaust drift. The exhaust drift or tunnel is designated for air that has already traveled through underground openings, including over the emplaced waste containers. This modification will reduce the amount of time workers spend in the exhaust drift, by allowing them to enter the drift from an adjacent room.

Related to this, some clarification of the reporting requirement is proposed. Currently, there is a 7-day notification requirement whenever ventilation requirements are not met. The Permittees are proposing that the 7-day notification be changed such that these instances are reported annually in the Mine Ventilation Rate Monitoring Annual Report. This change will not reduce the safety or health of employees, the public or the environment.

Addition of a Shielded Container

The generator/storage sites are proposing to package a portion of the remote-handled (RH) transuranic (TRU) mixed waste inventory in gamma-shielded containers for disposal at the WIPP facility. The use of the shielded containers will enable DOE to reduce the time necessary for the packaging and management of RH TRU mixed waste. Shielded containers will be transported to the WIPP in the HalfPACT transportation package and comply with the U.S. Department of Transportation requirements for a Type 7A container. The RH TRU mixed waste that will be packaged in these containers is the same type of waste that is currently being disposed at the WIPP. This waste will continue to count against the total RH TRU waste volume allowed for disposal at the WIPP as specified in the Permit.

The gamma-shielded containers are similar to a 55-gallon drum, however they consist of approximately one-inch of lead shielding that is located between an inner and outer steel wall. A shipment will consist of a three-shielded container assembly. Once they arrive at the WIPP facility, employees will unload and process the shipment in the using existing CH-TRU mixed waste shipment equipment and procedures.

Comments

Comments for the record must be sent to Mr. Tim Hall, New Mexico Environment Department, 2905 Rodeo Park Drive, Building 1, Santa Fe, NM 87505. They also may be e-mailed: timothy.hall@state.nm.us or faxed to 505-476-6060. Only written comments

will be accepted and must be received no later than 5 p.m. (MDT) on December 5, 2011. A copy of the permit modification may be viewed or copied at the NMED offices of Mr. Hall. To be placed on the WIPP mailing list, contact Mr. Hall at the address above.

***For more
Information***

For more information about transuranic waste shipments and procedures, call the WIPP Information Center at 1-800-336-WIPP (9477). This permit modification request is available for review in the Information Repository located on the WIPP home page at www.wipp.energy.gov. Comments to the Permittees regarding this permit modification may be sent to Mr. Bobby St. John, Washington TRU Solutions LLC, P.O. Box 2078, Carlsbad, NM 88221.

Enclosure 2

- Copy of the Public Notice from the Albuquerque Journal
- Copy of the Public Notice from the Carlsbad Current-Argus
- Copy of the receipt from Mail Service Center, indicating a mail out to the WIPP Facility Mailing List

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS

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



WHO: U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Carlsbad Field Office and Washington TRU Solutions LLC (WTS)
WHAT: DOE and WTS will conduct public meetings to provide information on the following permit modification request to the WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit.

WHERE:
Tuesday, October 25, 2011
5 - 6 p.m.
Sloan-Wallock Building
4021 National Parks Highway
Carlsbad, New Mexico

Thursday, October 27, 2011
2 - 4 p.m. & 6 - 8 p.m.
Courtney by Marriott
3047 Carrizosa Road
Santa Fe, New Mexico

WHY: On September 30, 2011, DOE submitted three Class 2 permit modification requests to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). The permit modification requests propose to:

1. **Review the WIPP Groundwater Detection Monitoring Program Plan**
The modification request is being submitted in accordance with the Groundwater Permit Modification Work Plan as approved by NMED on August 5, 2011. The requested change updates the WIPP Groundwater Monitoring Plan and clarifies Permit language.

2. **Update Ventilation Language**
The proposed changes will reduce the risk to workers in the underground by allowing them to use the shortest travel path to access ventilation control points thereby minimizing the time spent in the disposal area exhaust air stream. Additionally, it proposes to change a 7-day notification to annual reporting when the Permittees fail to achieve the required ventilation rates.

3. **Add a gamma-shielded container for use at WIPP**
This request is to add an additional container to the list of approved containers for disposal at WIPP. The container will allow the Permittees to handle waste that is packaged in a gamma-shielded container.

HOW: To obtain additional information about the permit modification request, contact Mr. Bobby St. John, WTS, at 1-800-335-9477. The permit modification is also available on the WIPP web site at <http://www.wipp.energy.gov> and at the WIPP Information Center, Sloan-Wallock Building, 4021 National Parks Highway, Carlsbad, N.M. A copy of the requested permit modification also may be obtained from NMED at the address listed below.

COMMENTS: Written comments for the record must be sent to the NMED contact person at the address below and received no later than 5 p.m. on December 5, 2011.

Mr. Ted Hall
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, N.M. 87506
Phone: 505-476-6048
Fax: 505-476-6000
E-mail: ted.hall@state.nm.us

The Permittees' compliance history during the life of the permit being modified is available from Mr. Hall at the New Mexico Environment Department.

QUESTIONS: Any questions or comments to the Permittees regarding this permit modification may be sent to Mr. Bobby St. John, P.O. Box 2078, Carlsbad, N.M. 88221, no later than November 28, 2011.

WIPP Permit Community Relations Plan

On-line: <http://www.wipp.energy.gov> e-mail: communityrelations@wipp.wts toll-free: 1-888-271-9640

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS



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

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

WHAT: DOE and WTS will conduct public meetings to provide information on the following permit modification request to the WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit.

WHEN:

WHERE:

Tuesday, October 25, 2011 5 - 6 p.m. Skeen-Whitlock Building 4021 National Parks Highway Carlsbad, New Mexico	Thursday, October 27, 2011 2 - 4 p.m. & 6 - 8 p.m. Courtyard by Marriott 3347 Cerrillos Road Santa Fe, New Mexico
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WHY:

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1. **Revise the WIPP Groundwater Detection Monitoring Program Plan**
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WIPP Permit Community Relations Plan

On-line: <http://www.wipp.energy.gov>

e-mail: communityrelations@wipp.ws

toll-free: 1-866-271-9840

ATTN: Bobby St. John

United States Postal Service

Postage Statement—Standard Mail

Post Office: Note Mail Arrival Date & Time (Do Not Round-Stamp)

Mailer	Permit # MAIL SERVICE CENTER 0900 Email Address 522 W. MERMOD CARLSBAD, NM 88220 CAPS Cust. Ref. No. CRID	Name and Address of Mailing Agent (if other than permit holder)	Telephone	Name and Address of Individual or Organization for Which Mailing is Prepared (if other than permit holder)
				Dept of Energy

Mailing	Post Office of Mailing Carlsbad	Processing Category <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Letters <input type="checkbox"/> First <input type="checkbox"/> Priority - Machine <input type="checkbox"/> Priority - Irregular <input type="checkbox"/> CMM <input type="checkbox"/> NFM <input type="checkbox"/> Catalog	Mailing Date 10/05/11	Federal Agency Code	Statement Seq. No.	No. and type of Containers Sacks 1 ft. Letter Tray 2 ft. Letter Tray 6MM Letter Tray Flat Tray Flatlet Other
	Type of Postage <input type="checkbox"/> Permit Imprint <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-cancelled Stamp <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metered	Weight of a Single Piece 0.0519 pounds	Combined Mailing <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed Class <input type="checkbox"/> Single Class	Total # of Pieces in Mailing 212	Or total pieces, if with simplified addressing	

Permit # For Mail Enclosed within Another Class Periodicals If Sacked, Based on Total Weight **PM**

Bound Printed Matter Library Mail Media Mail Patient Post 125 pcs 15 lbs () both

For Automation Please Enter Date of Address Matching and Coding **10/05/11**

For Carrier Route Pieces, Enter Date of Address Matching and Coding

For Carrier Route Pieces, Enter Date of Carrier Route Encumbrance

For pieces bearing a simplified address enter date of delivery restriction (if an alternative method)

Move Update Method:
 Ancillary Service Endorsement FASTForward NCOALink ACS Alternative Method Multiple OneCode ACS No Alternative Address Format

Parts Completed (Select all that apply) A B C D E F G H I J K L M S

Multipiece is a product sample
 Letter-size or first multipiece contains DVD/CD or other disk. **1**

Subtotal Postage (Add Parts Totals) 57.64

2 Price at Which Postage Affixed (Check one) Complete if the mailing includes pieces bearing metered or pre-cancelled stamps.
 Correct Lowered Neither **212** pcs. x \$ **0.57** Postage Affixed **54.484**

3 Incentive/Fee (% or \$0.00) x Total Postage or Pieces as applicable **1/-**

4 Incentive/Fee (% or \$0.00) x Total Postage or Pieces as applicable **1/-**

5 Permit # **Net Postage Due (Line 1 +/- Lines 2, 3, 4) 3.16**

Additional Postage Payment (State reason)
 For postage affixed, add to total postage due for pieces in this mailing (if applicable, if postage is to total postage)
 Postmaster Report Total Postage Due **AIC 130**

Incentive Claimed:
 The mailer's signature certifies acceptance of liability for and agrees to pay any deficiency. In addition, agents may be liable for any deficiencies resulting from information furnished on this form is accurate, truthful, and complete and that the mailing does not contain false or misleading information on this form or who omits information requested on this form may be subject to criminal and/or civil penalties, including fines and imprisonment.
 Privacy Notice: For information regarding our Privacy Policy visit www.usps.com.

Signature of Mailer or Agent **Eugene Santo** Telephone **887-0900**

USPS Use Only To be completed in non-Postal/OnSite sites	Weight of Single Piece	Are postage (grams) and volume (cc) quantities entered? (If yes, reason)	USPS Use Only To be completed in non-Postal/OnSite sites
	Total Pieces Total Weight Total Postage	Additional Mailing (Required) Physical Data	
USPS Use Only To be completed in non-Postal/OnSite sites	Is this a return or postage paid item? (If required)	Date Mailing Mailed	USPS Use Only To be completed in non-Postal/OnSite sites
	I CERTIFY that this mailing has been prepared for: (1) liability for postage piece charges (2) proper preparation (and postage when required) (3) proper preparation of postage meter receipt (4) payment of annual fee and (5) payment of postage due (if required) USPS Employee's Signature	Contact (If Initials) Time AM PM Print USPS Employee's Name	