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

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

Sincerely

Edward Ziemianski, Interim Manager
Carlsbad Field Office

cc: w/enclosure
J. Davis, NMED  *ED
C. Walker, Trinity Engineering  ED
CBFO M&RC
*ED denotes electronic distribution

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

Sincerely

Edward Ziemianski

M. F. Sharif

Edward Ziemianski, Interim Manager
Carlsbad Field Office

Sincerely

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

- 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


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: Tuesday, October 25, 2011, 5-6 p.m.

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

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


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

WHERE: Tom, Wednesday October 9, 2011

5 - 6 p.m.
2 - 3 p.m.

WHERE: U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Carlsbad Field Office, Carlsbad, New Mexico

WHERE: NNSL Hazardous Waste Facility Permit

On September 30, 2011, DOE submitted a Class I permit modification request to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMEC). The permit modification requests propose to:

1. Revise the NNSL Groundwater Recovery and Treatment Program Plan
2. Permit groundwater recovery and treatment
3. Permit an alternative groundwater recovery and treatment facility

The revised plans require that the facility be located in the ground to ensure that the groundwater is protected and that the groundwater is not contaminated. The revised plans also require that the groundwater is recovered and treated on a regular basis.

The revised plans require that the groundwater is recovered and treated on a regular basis.

To obtain additional information about the permit modification request, contact DOE at 928.34.6477. The permit modification is also available on the NNSL web site at http://www.epa.gov/nnsl.

WAC Talent
Carlsbad, NM
CA. A copy of the requested permit modification addendum may be obtained from NMEC at the address listed below.

COMMENTS

Written comments for the report may be sent to the NNSL contact person at the address below and received by August 15, 2011.

NNSL Talent
Carlsbad, NM
CA.

A copy of the requested permit modification addendum may be obtained from NMEC at the address listed below.

Please contact us to obtain a copy of the requested permit modification addendum.

WAC Talent
Carlsbad, NM
CA.

A copy of the requested permit modification addendum may be obtained from NMEC at the address listed below.

WAC Talent
Carlsbad, NM
CA.

A copy of the requested permit modification addendum may be obtained from NMEC at the address listed below.
On a Requested Modification to the Hazardous Waste Facility Permit for the Waste isolation Pilot Plant


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: Tuesday, October 25, 2011
       Thursday, October 27, 2011
      5 - 6 p.m.       2 - 4 p.m. & 6 - 6 p.m.
Steen-Whitlock Building Courtyard by Marriott
4021 National Parks Highway 3347 Cerillos 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 airstream. 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 1-800-338-9477. The permit modification is also available on the WIPP web site at http://www.wipp.energy.gov and at the WIPP Information Center, Steen-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: 505-476-8048
   Fax: 505-476-6800
   E-mail: timothy.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 2076, 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
Unitt: d
States
Postal Service
Service
Postage Statement—Standard
Mail
522 W. MERMOD
CARLSBAD, NM 88220
CAPS Cust. Ref. No. 

Post Office of Mailing:
Carlsbad
Processing Category:
Letters
Minimum Mailing Date: 10/05/11
Wt. of a Single Piece: 0.5-1.5 lb
Permit #:
10,607,020,011

Rated Weight:

Statement No.:
Mail Service Center

Mail:

Dept. of Energy

PS Form 3602-R1, June 2011 (Page 1 of 14) PSN 7530 07 000-0208 This form and mailing standards available on Postal Explorer at http://www.usps.com