December 28, 2011

Edward Ziemianski, Acting Manager
Carlsbad Field Office
Department of Energy
P.O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-3090

Dear Messrs. Ziemianski and Sharif:

On October 3, 2011, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received a Request for Class 2 Permit Modification to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Hazardous Waste Facility Permit from the Department of Energy’s Carlsbad Field Office and Washington TRU Solutions LLC (Permitees) dated September 29, 2011. This Class 2 modification included the following items:

- Update Ventilation Language
- Addition of Shielded Container
- Revise the WIPP Groundwater Detection Monitoring Program Plan

According to 20.4.1.900 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §270.42(b)(6)), NMED must take specific action on the modification request no later than ninety (90) days after receipt of the request. In this instance, the date for a decision would be December 31, 2011. By this letter, I am notifying you as the Permittees that NMED will decide on this modification request within the next thirty (30) days, as allowed by 20.4.1.900 NMAC (incorporating §270.42(b)(6)(i)(E)).
If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Trais Kliphuis of my staff at (505) 476-6051.

Sincerely,

James H. Davis, Ph.D.
Director
Resource Protection Division

cc: John Kieling, NMED HWB
    Trais Kliphuis, NMED HWB
    Thomas Kesterson, NMED DOE-OB/WIPP
    Laurie King, EPA Region 6
    Tom Peake, EPA ORIA
    Connie Walker, Trinity Engineering
    File: Red WIPP '11