Mr. F. David Martin  
Secretary  
New Mexico Environment Department  
P.O. Box 5469  
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469  

Subject: NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE IN OPERATIONAL CONTROL AT WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT, HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY PERMIT, NUMBER NM4890139088-TSDF  

Dear Mr. Martin:  

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) and Washington TRU Solutions LLC (WTS), the co-permittees of Hazardous Waste Facility Permit (Permit) for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), (EPA I.D. Number NM4890139088), request the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) transfer the permit to a new co-permittee. DOE recently rebid the contract for the Management and Operation of WIPP. Operational control at the WIPP facility will change from WTS to a new contractor, Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC (NWP).  

The current contract between DOE and WTS expires on September 30, 2012. The new contract between DOE and NWP begins on October 1, 2012, and continues for five years, with a five year option. At midnight on September 30, 2012, WTS will cease operational control of the WIPP facility. At that time, NWP will assume operational control and will become the co-permittee of the WIPP facility with the DOE. NWP will assume all of the legal and regulatory liabilities and responsibilities as co-permittee at the WIPP facility. NWP will relieve WTS of all legal and regulatory liabilities and responsibilities as co-permittee at the WIPP facility as of that date.  

A Class 1 Permit Modification Notification of the Change Related to Operational Control of the WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility is also being submitted as required by 20.4.1.900 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR 270.40(b)).  

Please address all matters relating to the WIPP Permit to the U.S. Department of Energy Carlsbad Field Office and Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC as of October 1, 2012.
Mr. F. David Martin

If you have any questions concerning this change in operational control, please contact me at (575) 234-7400.

Sincerely,

M. F. Sharif
President and Project Manager
Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC

DNC:jlh

cc: G. T. Basabilvazo, CBFO
    J. R. France, CBFO
    G. Hellstrom, CBFO
    J. E. Kieling, NMED
    T. Kliphuis, NMED
    E. J. Ziemianski, CBFO