



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

OCT 17 2012



Mr. F. David Martin, Secretary
 New Mexico Environment Department
 1190 St. Francis Drive
 Harold Runnels Building
 Santa Fe, NM 87505



Subject: 2012 Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Biennial Environmental Compliance Report

Dear Mr. Martin:

Enclosed are four copies of the 2012 Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Biennial Environmental Compliance Report (BECR). As required by Section 9(a)(2) of the WIPP Land Withdrawal Act, the DOE must submit, every two years, documentation of continued compliance with laws pertaining to public health and the environment that are applicable to the WIPP project, to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and with regard to compliance with the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U. S. C. 6901 et seq.) to the State of New Mexico. The enclosed report addresses compliance with applicable laws during the two year period beginning April 1, 2010, and ending March 31, 2012. You are receiving this copy on behalf of the State of New Mexico.

A copy of the BECR has also been sent to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the U.S. Department of Transportation, the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Land Management and Fish and Wildlife Service, and DOE Headquarters Office of NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) Policy and Assistance for their review, comment, and confirmation of compliance with respect to laws they enforce.

If you need any additional information or have any comments, please contact Susan E. McCauslin at (575) 234-7349.

Sincerely,


 Jose R. Franco, Manager
 Carlsbad Field Office

Enclosures (4)

1 included with this letter
3 distributed to WIPP Group
RM 12-13-12

cc:
 J. Kieling, NMED *ED
 N. Stone, EPA ED
 CBFO M&RC
 *ED denotes electronic distribution

