

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS

On 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 Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC (NWP)
- WHAT:** DOE and NWP will conduct public meetings to provide information on the following permit modification request to the WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit (Permit).
- WHEN:** Tuesday, May 14, 2013 3 – 5 p.m. Thursday, May 16, 2013 5 – 6 p.m.
- WHERE:** Courtyard by Marriott 3347 Cerrillos Road Santa Fe, New Mexico Skeen-Whitlock Building 4021 National Parks Highway Carlsbad, New Mexico
- WHY:** On April 8, 2013, DOE submitted a Class 2 permit modification request to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). The permit modification requests the following change and proposes to:

Revise the WIPP permit to modify the prohibition with respect to "excluded waste." Excluded waste is transuranic (TRU) waste that has been managed as high-level waste and waste from specific tanks identified in the Permit. In some instances, TRU waste tanks were located in the same tank farm that stored high-level waste and were managed with the same radioactive waste management practices. The radioactive characteristics, including the radioactive classification, of the wastes are not regulated by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous waste regulations that govern the Permit. The prohibition for disposal of high-level waste at the WIPP facility is stipulated in the WIPP Land Withdrawal Act. Therefore, the excluded waste prohibition in the Permit is inappropriate and unnecessary because it is outside of the RCRA hazardous waste regulations. The Permit already requires the Permittees to verify that all waste disposed of at the WIPP facility meets the WIPP Waste Acceptance Criteria prior to being shipped to the WIPP facility.

HOW: To obtain additional information about this permit modification request, contact Mr. Bobby St. John, NWP, at 1-800-336-9477. The permit modification request 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 permit modification request may also 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 June 10, 2013:

Ms. Trais Kliphuis
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, N.M. 87505
Phone: 505-476-6051
Fax: 505-476-6060
E-mail: trais.kliphuis@state.nm.us

The Permittees' compliance history during the life of the permit being modified is available from Ms. Kliphuis 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 May 28, 2013.

WIPP Permit Community Relations Plan

