

**FW: WIPP Panel Closure**

Kliphuis, Trais, NMENV  
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2013 10:01 AM  
To: Allen, Pam, NMENV  
Cc: Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV



-----Original Message-----

From: Susan Crockett [mailto:[scrockett@co.eddy.nm.us](mailto:scrockett@co.eddy.nm.us)]  
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2013 9:21 AM  
To: Kliphuis, Trais, NMENV  
Subject: WIPP Panel Closure

Dear Ms. Kliphuis:

My name is Susan Crockett, and I represent District 5 on the Eddy County Commission. Thank you for visiting Carlsbad this week to hold a hearing on WIPP's proposed Class 3 permit modification. I was unable to attend due to a prior commitment, so I wanted to submit something in writing.

I've always been proud of WIPP and happy with its safety record, but I have been unfamiliar with many aspects of the project until recently. Now that I'm an elected official, I'm doing everything I can to make sure I understand all aspects of this unique Department of Energy facility.

While I'm fairly new to issues of radioactivity, I have been working for a cleaning company for the past 14 years, so I feel very comfortable discussing chemicals and hazardous materials monitoring. WIPP's proposal to make changes to its VOC monitoring process is therefore the subject I feel the most comfortable discussing.

WIPP's job is to do the best it can to monitor VOCs in the underground to make sure these hazardous materials are not dangerous to workers. The DOE now has more inventory than it did when this process was first established, so it better understands what chemicals, how and where it needs to monitor.

There are other waste shipments down the road that are not identical to what is being sent to WIPP today. That means the potential for a slightly different mixture of chemicals. How will WIPP handle this change? As I understand it, the DOE "picks-up" on all chemicals. So if there is a new hazardous material detected in the WIPP underground that is not on the target list, WIPP will be able to quickly add it to the list thanks to this modification.

These proposed changes to monitoring make more sense, as they do a better overall job of making sure workers are not at risk. Thank you for your consideration.

Susan Crockett  
Eddy County Commissioner District 5  
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