

FW: Public comment for DOE/NWP permit modification request

Kliphuis, Trais, NMENV
Sent: Friday, April 19, 2013 3:24 PM
To: Allen, Pam, NMENV
Cc: Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV



From: Russell Hardy [mailto:rhardy@cemrc.org]
Sent: Friday, April 19, 2013 8:40 AM
To: Kliphuis, Trais, NMENV
Cc: Russell Hardy; 'bobby.stjohn@wipp.ws'
Subject: Public comment for DOE/NWP permit modification request

Good morning, my name is Russell Hardy and I am a life-long citizen of southeast New Mexico and the Director of the Carlsbad Environmental Monitoring and Research Center (CEMRC), an entity of New Mexico State University that performs an independent environmental monitoring program of the WIPP site on behalf of the citizens of southeast New Mexico. Based on my personal and professional ties to the region, I wholeheartedly support the first two portions of the proposed permit modification request, specifically the items pertaining to modifying the panel closure system and the reconfiguration of the repository for waste panels 9 and 10. I believe that both of these portions of the permit request represent reasonable, scientific-based, and cost effective changes to the current hazardous waste permit issued by the NMED and should be approved as presented.

However, since my company (CEMRC) currently performs analytical services in support of the volatile organic compound (VOC), hydrogen, and methane program currently in progress within the waste repository at WIPP, I do not believe that I should comment on the third aspect of the proposed permit modification request as my comment could be perceived as being biased due to a potential conflict of interest. Therefore, I am withholding any comment, for or against, in regards to the third aspect of the proposed permit modification request that deals with modifying aspects of the volatile organic compound program within the repository at WIPP.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this class three permit modification request and I look forward to the decision submitted by your department on these important issues.

Russell Hardy, Director
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