March 12, 2014

Re: NMED Request for Information, WIPP Permit Section 1.7.8

Dear Messrs. Hellstrom, Franco, Cook, and Sharif:

On behalf of Secretary Flynn, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) requests written justification stating why the United States Department of Energy (DOE), and Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC (NWP), co-operators of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), and co-permittees under the WIPP Permit, have not invoked the RCRA Contingency Plan, WIPP Permit Attachment D.

We have discussed this issue on several conference calls, and now NMED requests a written explanation from DOE/NWP within two weeks or by close of business on March 27, 2014.

Yours truly,

Jeffrey M. Kendall
General Counsel
New Mexico Environment Department

Cc: Ryan Flynn, Secretary, NMED
Butch Tongate, Deputy Secretary, NMED
Tom Blaine, Environmental Health Division Director, NMED
John Kieling, Hazardous Waste Bureau Chief, NMED
Trais Kliphuis, WIPP Staff Manager, NMED