





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
 REGION 6
 1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
 DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

Travis

MAY 29 2014

RECEIVED

JUN 2 2014

Jose R. Franco
 Manager
 U.S. Department of Energy
 Carlsbad Field Office
 P.O. Box 3090
 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

Hazardous Waste

RE: The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 Approval of Additional Extension of Storage Time for Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) located at Carlsbad, New Mexico (EPA I.D. No. NM4890139088).

Dear Mr. Franco:

We are in receipt of your letter of May 6, 2014, in which you requested an additional extension of storage time for PCB TRU and PCB TRU mixed waste beyond the 105 days approved in our letter of March 25, 2014, until February 1, 2015, due to limited alternative storage options while the WIPP continues its incident investigations.

On March 11, 2014, you requested that the current maximum PCB waste storage time of 60 days, as required by the EPA PCB Conditions of Approval (COA) dated May 21, 2013, Sections III.C. and III.D.5., be extended to 105 days, due to an underground vehicle fire which resulted in a suspension of normal operations. On May 16, 2014, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) granted an additional 60 days of storage time until July 15, 2014. In order to be consistent with the NMED, we hereby approve an additional 60 days of PCB storage time until July 15, 2014, with the added condition that no new off-site generated PCB waste may be received at the WIPP until normal operations resume. These conditions are added pursuant to condition III-B of our COA dated May 21, 2013, and 40 CFR 761.75(c)(3)(ii). We believe these conditions are necessary to ensure the landfill operations do not present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or to the environment. We will evaluate additional storage time extension requests in coordination with the NMED as the need arises.

You previously informed us that the WIPP experienced a vehicle fire in the underground, which required disposal operations to be temporarily halted. On February 14, 2014, the WIPP experienced a radiological incident. Until investigations and corrective actions have been completed, the WIPP will be unable to resume normal operations, which will require an emergency extension of approved storage time. In order for EPA to stay informed of the WIPP's progress in resolving the storage issues, please send a copy of the report you are currently required to submit to NMED, in accordance with the effective Administrative Order to the attention of Mr. James Sales, Region 6 PCB Coordinator, Mail Code 6PD-A.



Please contact me if you have questions, or have your staff contact Mr. Sales at
(214) 665-6796.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wren Stenger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "W" and a long, sweeping underline.

Wren Stenger
Director
Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division

cc: Trais Kliphuis, NMED