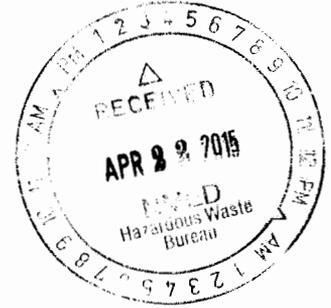




Department of Energy
 Carlsbad Field Office
 P. O. Box 3090
 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

ENTERED

APR 22 2015



Ms. Wren Stenger, Director
 Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division
 EPA Region 6
 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
 Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Subject: Request for Additional Extension of Storage Time for Polychlorinated Biphenyl at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

Reference: EPA Region 6 Memorandum from Wren Stenger to Jose R. Franco dated January 13, 2015, Subject: 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)

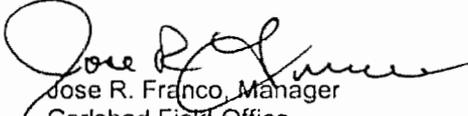
Dear Ms. Stenger:

In compliance with your letter of January 13, 2015, the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) facility would like to request an additional extension of the storage time for Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) Transuranic (TRU) and PCB TRU mixed waste currently stored in the Waste Handling Building (WHB) at the WIPP. In April 2015, the Accident Investigation Board (AIB) issued the Accident Investigation Report Phase 2. The AIB identified that the cause of the energetic release to be an exothermic reaction from a single drum of nitrate salt bearing waste. In December, 2014, the interim performance measurement baseline (PMB) was approved by the U.S. Department of Energy. The PMB presents the scope, cost, and schedule activities that comprise the WIPP recovery and return to operations. Under work breakdown structure Element 1.7.6, emplacement of the above ground stored waste is anticipated to be completed by June 30, 2016. Therefore, consistent with this schedule, the WIPP facility requests an extension of storage time for PCB TRU and PCB TRU mixed waste currently stored in the WIPP WHB until June 30, 2016.

In our previous storage extension requests, we discussed the limited alternative storage options available for the PCB TRU and PCB TRU mixed waste currently in storage at the WIPP facility. Since our December 1, 2014 letter, there has been no new information regarding the storage options that would impact the conclusions in that letter. Continuing to store the waste in the WIPP WHB minimizes risk to human health and the environment since the waste will not need to be handled, moved, or transported to another location.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Susan McCauslin at (575) 234-7349.

Sincerely,


 Jose R. Franco, Manager
 Carlsbad Field Office

cc:
 J. Sales, EPA Region 6 * ED
 L. Roberts, EPA Region 6 ED
 T. Peake, EPA ED
 K. Roberts, NMED ED
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CBFO M&RC

*ED denotes electronic distribution

