July 22, 2015

Dear Messrs. Bryson and Breidenbach:

On March 18, 2013 the New Mexico Environment Department ("NMED") received a Class 3 modification request ("Request") to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant ("WIPP") Hazardous Waste Facility Permit ("Permit") from the Department of Energy Carlsbad Field Office and Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC ("the Permittees"). The Request included three modifications to the WIPP Permit: 1) WIPP Panel Closure; 2) Repository Reconfiguration of Panels 9 and 10; and 3) Revise Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) Target Analyte List and Other Changes to the VOC Monitoring Program.

The NMED issued a draft permit for this Request, in accordance with the requirements of 20.4.1.901 NMAC, on February 14, 2014 and was in the public comment process until withdrawn by NMED on March 21, 2014 due to the February 2014 incidents at the facility.

NMED has commenced review of the Request and, at this time, regards the Request as technically incomplete due to the ongoing facility changes resulting from the incidents. Therefore, NMED requests that the Permittees update their Request to reflect current conditions.
at the facility and resubmit the Request to NMED. NMED will determine, upon resubmittal, if the request is administratively and technically complete.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (505) 476-6035 or Ricardo Maestas at (505) 476-6050.

Sincerely,

John E. Kieling
Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc: K. Roberts, NMED RPD
    R. Maestas, NMED HWB
    S. Holmes, NMED HWB
    C. Smith, NMED HWB
    S. Lucas-Kamat, NMED DOEOR
    T. Peake, EPA ORIA
    L. King, EPA Region 6
    File: WIPP 2015