



SUSANA MARTINEZ
Governor
JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Harold Runnels Building
1190 Saint Francis Drive, PO Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469
Telephone (505) 827-2855 Fax (505) 827-2836
www.env.nm.gov



RYAN FLYNN
Cabinet Secretary
BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

February 26, 2016

Todd A. Shrader, Manager
Carlsbad Field Office
Department of Energy
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-3090

Philip J. Breidenbach, Project Manager
Nuclear Waste Partnership, LLC
P. O. Box 2078
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-2078

**RE: AMENDMENT TO REPORTING REQUIREMENTS PERTAINING TO CY 2014
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS
WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT
EPA I.D. NUMBER NM4890139088**

Dear Messrs. Shrader and Breidenbach:

In 2014 the New Mexico Environment Department ("NMED") issued three Administrative Orders ("AO") to the U.S. Department of Energy ("DOE") and Nuclear Waste Partnership, LLC ("NWP"; collectively, with DOE the "Permittees") requiring the submittal of requested information pertaining to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant ("WIPP") in a report. AO1 was issued on February 27, 2014, AO2 on May12, 2014, and AO3 on May 20, 2014. Since this time the AOs have been modified on occasion to amend reporting requirements and frequency.

This letter hereby reduces the submittal frequency of the written reports from monthly to quarterly. This revised schedule shall be effective immediately, with the first quarterly report containing information for January, February, and March 2016 and will be due by April 30, 2016. The reports shall continue to be posted to the WIPP Information Repository within five working days.

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Additionally, the following reporting provisions found in AO1, AO2, and AO3, are modified as follows. The Item numbering is per the format of the existing monthly reports. All other provisions and requirements of AO1, AO2, and AO3, as modified, shall remain in full force and effect:

- 1) Item 1, "*Status of Permit-related surface and underground inspections for this reporting period, ...*", Attachment 1, "*Surface and Underground Inspections*": sort the spreadsheet so that all "*Not Current*" rows appear at the beginning of the table;
- 2) Item 3, "*Summary of shipment information and any other relevant records that document the site of origin, ...*" is no longer required;
- 3) Item 4, "*Location of any environmental monitoring equipment, ...*" shall remain in the report, but referencing the radiological-only monitoring is no longer required and revise Attachment 3 as necessary to incorporate this change;
- 4) Item 8, "*The Permittees shall provide documentation of the "as found" condition of Panel 7, ...*" is no longer required;
- 5) Item 9, "*The Permittees shall provide documentation of the "as found" condition of Panel 6, ...*" is no longer required;
- 6) The information provided in Items 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11 shall remain unchanged but may be re-numbered as necessary.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Ricardo Maestas of my staff at (505) 476-6050.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Roberts
Director
Resource Protection Division

cc: J. Kieling, NMED HWB
R. Maestas, NMED HWB
C. Smith, NMED HWB
S. Lucas-Kamat, NMED DOEOB
L. King, EPA Region 6
T. Peake, EPA ORIA
File: WIPP '16