60-Day Extension of Public Comment Period

Requested Modification to the Hazardous Waste Facility Permit for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant


WHAT: DOE and NWP (Permittees) are extending the public comment period for the following permit modification request to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Hazardous Waste Facility Permit (Permit):

• Class 3 Permit Modification Request - Addition of a Concrete Overpack Container Storage Unit

WHY: On September 29, 2016, DOE submitted a Class 3 Permit Modification Request package to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). Public meetings were held on October 25 in Santa Fe and October 27 in Carlsbad. The Permit Modification Request proposes to:

• Provide a 65,280 cubic foot contact-handled (CH) transuranic (TRU) mixed waste hazardous waste container storage unit on the surface at the WIPP facility. This additional storage capacity is for waste in containers that are shipped in TRUPACT-II or HalfPACT shipping packages and are managed as CH TRU waste.

• Authorize the Permittees to store waste for up to 365 days in the proposed new Concrete Overpack Container Storage Unit. Containers of CH TRU mixed waste are proposed to be stored in concrete overpacks.

HOW: To obtain additional information about this permit modification request, contact Mr. Bobby St. John, NWP at 1-800-336-9477. The permit modification is also available on the WIPP web site at http://www.wipp.energy.gov and at the WIPP Information Center, Skeen-Whitlock Building, 4021 National Parks Highway, Carlsbad, N.M. A copy of the requested permit modification may also be obtained from NMED at the address listed below.

THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD HAS BEEN EXTENDED 60-DAYS

COMMENTS: Written comments for the record must be sent to the NMED contact person at the address below and received no later than 5 p.m. on February 3, 2017.

Mr. Ricardo Maestas
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, N.M. 87505
Phone: 505-476-6050
Fax: 505-476-6030
E-mail: ricardo.maestas@state.nm.us

The Permittees' compliance history during the life of the Permit being modified is available from Mr. Maestas at the NMED.

QUESTIONS: Any questions or comments to the Permittees regarding this permit modification request may be sent to Mr. Bobby St. John, P.O. Box 2078, Carlsbad, N.M. 88221, no later than January 27, 2017.

WIPP Permit Community Relations Plan

On-line: http://www.wipp.energy.gov / toll-free: 1-866-271-9640 / e-mail: communityrelations@wipp.ws