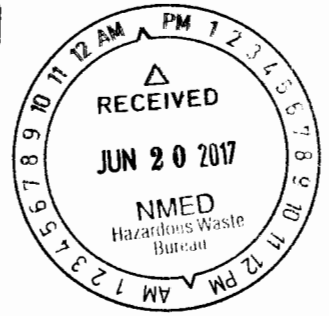




ENTERED

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



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

JUN 15 2017

**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 Plan (WIPP) located at Carlsbad, New Mexico (EPA I.D. No. NM4890139088).**

Dear Mr. Shrader:

We are in receipt of your letter of May 30, 2017, in which you requested an additional extension of storage time until June 30, 2018, for PCB TRU and PCB TRU mixed waste beyond the current deadline of June 30, 2017, approved in our letter of June 21, 2016. This extension request was submitted because of the limited storage time options, while the WIPP continues to work toward disposal of the stored PCB waste. Your request is hereby approved.

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. Normal operations resumed on January 4, 2017. The WIPP facility Documented Safety Analysis (DSA) has been revised, and an enhanced chemical compatibility evaluation and Basis of Knowledge review is now required to be performed on waste received before February 14, 2014, and stored in the Waste Handling Building (WHB). In order for EPA to stay informed of the WIPP's progress in resolving the storage issues, please send a copy of the quarterly update you are required to submit to New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) in accordance with the effective Administrative Order to the attention of Mr. James Sales, Region 6 PCB Coordinator, Mail Code 6MM-RP.

If a PCB storage approval extension is required beyond the expiration date of June 30, 2018, please submit your request by May 30, 2018. Please contact me if you have any questions, or have your staff contact Mr. Sales at (214) 665-6796.

Sincerely,

Wren Stenger  
Director  
Multimedia Division

cc: John E. Keiling, NMED

