



County of Eddy  
State of New Mexico

 ENTERED

February 22, 2018

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Mr. Ricardo Maestas  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Via: [Ricardo.maestas@state.nm.us](mailto:Ricardo.maestas@state.nm.us)

Dear Mr. Maestas:

On behalf of the Eddy County Board of Commissioners, I am writing you in support of the proposed WIPP Permit Modification. The WIPP Permit Modification clarifies and distinguishes how waste is counted and should be considered a Class 2 Permit Modification.

This proposed modification uses a dual approach to tabulating volume of the overpack containers that is simple and easily understood. Using this common-sense tabulation of volume would reduce the current Land Withdrawal Act (LWA) total volume from approximately 90,000 cubic meters to approximately 60,000 cubic meters, thus increasing the waste volume capacity of WIPP by one-third.

We do appreciate WIPP packaging transuranic (TRU) mixed waste responsibly. Using the overpack containers provides the best protection and safety for the citizens of Eddy County and our great State of New Mexico. WIPP should not be penalized for providing protection and safety and their volume capacity overstated by tabulating "air waste" of the overpacks in the total volume capacity.

The Eddy County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests that the WIPP Permit Modification be considered as a Class 2 permit modification in tabulating the actual volume of waste.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this important request.

Sincerely,

Susan Crockett  
Commission Chairman  
Eddy County Board of Commissioners

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