October 15, 2019

To: Ricardo Maestas  
New Mexico Environment Department  
Ricardo.Maestas@state.nm.us

Dear Mr. Maestas:

My name is Joe Gant. My family and I have been supporters of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant since before the facility opened. I'm writing in support of WIPP's Class 3 Permit Modification Request calling for the Excavation of a New Shaft and Associated Connecting Drifts.

This new shaft will support the safety of our workers by reducing exposure to diesel exhaust and VOCs. It will also allow WIPP to prepare for potential additional disposal in the future.

The citizens of Carlsbad and Southeastern New Mexico proudly support WIPP and putting the facility to continued good use. This facility is being used to safely clean defense-generated TRU waste at generator sites around the nation and has been beneficial to the entire state.

The public is best served by expeditious resolution of this important Class 3 Permit Modification request, and we appreciate the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Joe Gant,