Mr. Ricardo Maestas, Manager  
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Group  
New Mexico Environment Department  
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303

Subject: Comment on the August 15, 2019, Class 3 Permit Modification Request entitled “Excavation of a New Shaft and Associated Connecting Drifts” for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Number NM4890139088-TSDF


Dear Mr. Maestas:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with the enclosed comment on the August 15, 2019 Class 3 Permit Modification Request entitled “Excavation of a New Shaft and Associated Connecting Drifts” for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Hazardous Waste Facility Permit.

We certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under our direction or supervision according to a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on our inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of our knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. We are aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.
Mr. Maestas

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Michael R. Brown at (575) 234-7476.

Sincerely,

Kirk D. Lachman, Acting Manager
Carlsbad Field Office

Sean Dunagan, President and Project Manager
Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC

Enclosure
cc: w/enclosure
D. Biswell, NMED     *ED
J. Kieling, NMED     ED
M. McLean, NMED     ED
CBFO M&RC
*ED denotes electronic distribution
Comment on the August 15, 2019, Class 3 Permit Modification Request entitled “Excavation of a New Shaft and Associated Connecting Drifts” for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Number NM4890139088-TSDF

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The Shaft #5 (S#5) design is one of two projects referred to as the Permanent Ventilation System upgrades needed to support on-going activities in the underground. Because of the ubiquitous nature of underground ventilation, S#5 and the connecting drifts in conjunction with the New Filter Building will be capable of supporting current underground activities by providing improved working conditions for underground workers as they perform mining, maintenance, closure, and waste handling and supporting future disposal units by providing the airflow needed to mine, maintain and subsequently emplace waste in new units. For additional information, please see the March 4, 2019 response to Question 8 of the Response to the Referenced Information Request, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Number: NM4890139088-TSDF.