

From: [Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV](#)
To: [McLean, Megan, NMENV](#); [Biswell, David, NMENV](#)
Subject: FW: [EXT] Terminate expansion of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico
Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 4:00:20 PM

From: Charlene Woodcock <charlene.woodcock@protonmail.ch>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 3:56 PM
To: Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV <Ricardo.Maestas@state.nm.us>
Subject: [EXT] Terminate expansion of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico

As a person who became deeply concerned about the development of nuclear energy in 1963 once I became a parent, I write now to urge your serious reconsideration of any further facilitation of this extremely dangerous industry that threatens life on our small planet over the very long term. Instead, a responsible and moral decision would be to cease this development until a solution to the very long-term storage of radioactive waste is proven and in place.

I do not support construction of a new shaft and tunnels for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico. NM state officials should acknowledge that the best interests of the people of New Mexico are not served by this plan. To expand the site to receive even more extremely dangerous shipments of radioactive waste from all over the country does not benefit residents of New Mexico or all the people who live adjacent to the delivery routes of these shipments. The plan is untenable, given the potential for highway or rail accidents. To have allowed development of nuclear energy with no safe plan for the disposition of its radioactive waste was criminally irresponsible.

The specific problems in this instance are the failure to inform the public in advance of issuance of even a draft permit and well in advance of public hearings. This makes a shameful mockery of the scheduling of public hearings.

As is the case all over the country, this hazardous waste site is located in a low-income area, presumably on the assumption that poor people won't sue to protect their health and lives. This is unjust and unacceptable.

Clearly, the responsible action is to terminate construction of this new shaft and reject the permit, given without advance public hearings and offering no benefit to the public.

Sincerely,

Charlene M. Woodcock
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Berkeley CA 94709