

**From:** [Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV](#)  
**To:** [McLean, Megan, NMENV](#); [Biswell, David, NMENV](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXT] PUBLIC NOTICE #2020-03 - New Shaft at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)  
**Date:** Sunday, August 9, 2020 2:40:06 PM

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**From:** De Pree, Thomas <tad2135@tc.columbia.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 8, 2020 9:03 AM  
**To:** Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV <Ricardo.Maestas@state.nm.us>  
**Subject:** [EXT] PUBLIC NOTICE #2020-03 - New Shaft at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)

Dear Mr. Maestas,

It is imperative that you withdraw the current Temporary Authorization (TA) that allowed the drilling of the Utility "ventilation" shaft at WIPP without a complete public process.

It is your job as WIPP Group Manager to protect the land and people of New Mexico.

It is clear that this TA and the Department of Energy (DOE) permit application to continue operations indefinitely at WIPP put all New Mexicans and our enchanted homelands at severe risk.

You must not allow New Mexico to become the nation's nuclear dumping ground; as no other permanent repository has been created.

You must not bow to political pressure to sacrifice the future of all New Mexicans on the altar of the military/nuclear industrial complex.

I firmly believe that this WIPP expansion is part of the DOE's plan to continue nuclear weapons production.

Halt the drilling, abide by required public processes, deny the WIPP expansion permit. Demand that the DOE keep the promises they made to the People of New Mexico and close WIPP in 2004.

Most sincerely,

Thomas A. De Pree, Ph.D., M.S.  
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