

**From:** [Athena Christodoulou](#)  
**To:** [Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to new WIPP expansion panels  
**Date:** Sunday, October 3, 2021 9:20:11 AM

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Dear Mr. Maestas of NMED,

As an environmental engineer and New Mexico resident, I oppose the two new proposed panels 11 and 12, part of the “Forever WIPP” expansion.

NMED should proceed with the scheduled WIPP permit renewal process. New Mexico needs to end WIPP waste shipment and disposal operations in 2024, as the permit provides. New Mexico must stay firm and require the federal government to have other deep geologic disposal sites. Otherwise, other states will play "out of sight, out of mind" games and OUR residents will bear the brunt to the land and our own wellbeing.

In addition, if the two new panels were added to the permit, Table 4.1.1 of the modification request shows that the total capacity would be more than 6.7 million cubic feet and breaks the promises and legal agreements with New Mexico.

For the sake of our future generations, I request that NMED proceed with the WIPP Permit Renewal process and maintain a date certain to end WIPP waste shipments and disposal operations. NMED should deny the Panels 11 and 12 Permit Modification Request.

Thank you for your careful consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,  
Athena Christodoulou  
Albuquerque, NM