



Department of Energy
Albuquerque Operations Office
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Project Office
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

AUG 28 1992

Mr. Benito Garcia, Bureau Chief
Hazardous Waste & Radioactive Materials Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, NM 87502



Dear Mr. Garcia,

As a result of the meeting in Albuquerque on August 27, 1992, between the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), the Department of Energy (DOE), and Westinghouse Electric Corporation, Waste Isolation Division (WID) to discuss the Notice of Deficiencies (NODs) on Chapter C of the WIPP Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Part B permit application, the DOE is requesting additional clarification of the following:

1. General Comments 2 through 4, that pertains to acceptance of "process knowledge" for classifying waste as hazardous/non-hazardous and the level of "process knowledge" that would be acceptable.
2. Last part of General Comment 10 pertaining to the need to provide the sampling and analysis plans, used at the generator sites, to classify wastes as hazardous/non-hazardous.
3. In the Specific Comments, second paragraph of the sixth comment under "C-1 Chemical and Physical Analyses", in the summary table that has been requested, please clarify what the "listing of waste constituents" refers to. Does it refer to all waste constituents that may be in the wastes, or does it apply only to the constituents of the hazardous waste that are expected to be in the wastes?
4. In the Specific Comments, second comment under "C-2 Waste Analysis Plan", second comment under "C-2b Test Methods", and fourth comment under "C-2c Sampling Methods", please clarify the comments pertaining to use of referencing sampling and analytical procedures/methods that are still in the process of being developed.
5. In the Specific Comments, comment identified as "Page C-42, Lines 1 through 40" under "C-2e Additional Requirements for Wastes Generated Off-Site," please clarify the comment concerning management of wastes that would be generated in response to a release and the subsequent decontamination.

920812



AUG 28 1992

Mr. Benito Garcia

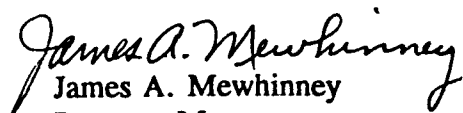
-2-

6. In the Specific Comments, comment identified as "Figure C-1" under "C-2e Additional Requirements for Wastes Generated Off-Site," please clarify the extent of the information that is being requested to be included in Figure C-1.
7. In the Specific Comments, comment identified as "C-3f(2) Exemption From a Prohibition", please clarify whether the underground units at WIPP are, or are not, defined as land disposal under HWMR-6, Pt. IX (land disposal restrictions) and clarify the applicability of the LDRs to the waste to be used in the Test Phase.

The DOE and WID staff working on preparation of responses to the NODs for Chapter C are available to discuss these clarifications and to respond in written form at your convenience.

If there are any questions concerning the information provided in this letter, please contact Daryl Mercer at (505) 887-8107.

Sincerely,


James A. Mewhinney
Program Manager
Environment, Safety and Health

cc:

D. Mercer, WPIO



