



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

ENTERED

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OCT 29 1992

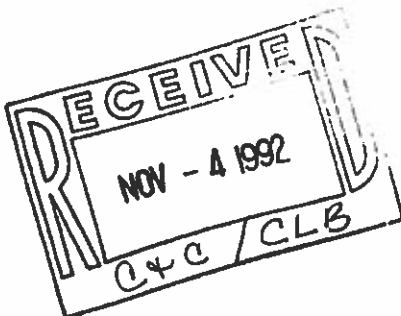
Mr. Benito J. Garcia
New Mexico Environment Department
Hazardous and Radioactive Waste Bureau
525 Camino de los Marquez
P. O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Dear Mr. Garcia:

The purpose of this letter is to transmit responses to the request for information regarding Chapters D and I, and the request for additional information regarding Chapter B of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit B application (Enclosure 1). These comments were provided to the Department of Energy (DOE) and Westinghouse by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) in your letters dated September 29, 1992 and October 20, 1992, respectively.

Also enclosed are revisions to Chapter D and I of the permit application (Enclosure 2). A revised Chapter B and Part A of the application will be provided on November 13, 1992. The enclosed revisions reflect the guidance given by the NMED and focuses the permit application on the Test Phase activities. The revisions include bin-scale testing with Type 1 bins. The permit application currently is for a waste quantity equal to 0.5 percent of the capacity of the WIPP facility, or 4,250 drum equivalents. Only new appendices for Chapters D and I are included. Old appendices remain valid and will be reproduced for the final submittal in January, 1993. We are also enclosing a new drawing #41-D-009-014 to be incorporated in Appendix D3.

One major change in the application is the specification of portions of the Waste Handling Building (WHB) as a permitted container storage unit. While this change necessitates significant revisions to the permit application, our practice has always been to manage wastes in the WHB in accordance with the container management requirements of RCRA.



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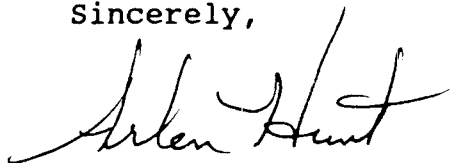
Mr. Benito J. Garcia

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If you have any questions regarding the materials attached to this letter, please contact Dr. J. A. Mewhinney of my staff at 887-8143.

Sincerely,



Arlen E. Hunt, Manager
WIPP Project Site Office

Enclosures

cc w/o enclosures:

A. Trego, WID

K. Griffith, DOE/AL

cc w/enclosures:

D. Mercer, DOE/WPIO



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