



## Department of Energy

Carlsbad Area Office  
P.O. Box 3090  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

APR 12 1994

Honorable Bruce King  
Governor  
State of New Mexico  
State Capitol, Rm. 400  
Santa Fe, NM 87503

Dear Governor Bruce King:

I am pleased to provide the Department of Energy (DOE) Carlsbad Area Office Experimental Program Plan (EPP) for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). The plan provides a synopsis of activities currently underway or proposed to show how the DOE plans to comply with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations that govern the WIPP project. It also outlines the methods to be used to gather needed confirmatory information about repository performance. This information will be used to show compliance with regulations and provide information for regulatory and technical discussions with the EPA and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED).

The EPP is based on DOE's understanding of applicable regulations and laws currently required by our regulators. Because the EPA has not yet established criteria for certification of compliance with the final disposal regulations, please be aware that this plan will be revised or modified as the requirements evolve.

The key governing regulations for the WIPP are the final disposal regulations, 40 CFR 191 subparts B and C, which define environmental standards for disposal of transuranic waste, and 40 CFR 268.6, which defines standards for disposal of hazardous constituents of waste.

The 40 CFR 191 subparts B and C regulations call for 10,000-year containment capabilities for the disposal system, i.e., the repository, etc.; and define limits on radioactive releases to the accessible environment. They specify individual protection requirements, which limit annual doses of radioactivity for humans; and groundwater protection requirements, which limit radioactivity in underground water sources. The 40 CFR 268.6 defines acceptable limits of "migration" (or movement) of hazardous constituents from the WIPP underground repository to the unit boundary.

More detailed information on individual tests can be found in other documents referenced in the EPP that are available in DOE WIPP reading rooms (list enclosed).

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Honorable Bruce King

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Additional information regarding WIPP's regulatory compliance efforts will be made available as it is completed. If you have questions, comments or would like further information, please contact Vernon Daub of my staff at 505-234-7337.

Sincerely,

  
George E. Dials  
Manager

2 Enclosures

### List of WIPP Reading Rooms

Name	Address
DOE-HQ Public Reading Room	Forrestal Building Room 1E-190 1000 Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20585
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board	625 Indiana Ave., NW Suite 700 Washington, DC 20004
Department of Energy - Reading Room	55 Jefferson Oak Ridge, TN 37830
Thomas Brannigan Memorial Library	200 E. Picacho Las Cruces, NM 88001
New Mexico State Library	325 Don Gaspar Southwest Room Santa Fe, NM 87503
Pannell Library, New Mexico Junior College	5317 Lovington Highway Hobbs, NM 88240
Carlsbad Public Library, Public Document Room	101 S. Halagueno Carlsbad, NM 88220
Zimmerman Library, Government Publications, University of New Mexico	Roma Ave. and Yale Blvd. Albuquerque, NM 87131
National Atomic Museum, Public Reading Room	Kirtland Air Force Base Wyoming Blvd., South Albuquerque, NM 87115
U.S. Department of Energy-Nevada Public Reading Room	2753 South Highland Street Las Vegas, NV 89109
U.S. Department of Energy-Oak Ridge Public Reading Room	200 Administration Road Federal Building Oak Ridge, TN 37830
U.S. Department of Energy-Idaho Public Reading Room, Univ. Place	1776 Science Center Drive Idaho Falls, ID 83402
U.S. Department of Energy-Richland Public Reading Room	Hanford Science Center 825 Jadwin Avenue Richland, WA 99352
U.S. Dept. of Energy-Savannah River FOI Publication/Document Room	Gregg-Graniteville Library 171 University Parkway Aiken, SC 29801
U.S. Department of Energy-Chicago Public Reading Room	9800 South Cass Avenue Building 201 Argonne, IL 60439

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<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
Ms. Patricia Trujillo-Oviedo Los Alamos National Laboratory	P.O. Box 1663 MS P355 Los Alamos, NM 87545
U.S. Dept. of Energy-San Francisco Public Reading Room	1333 Broadway 7th Floor Oakland, CA 94612
U.S. Dept. of Energy-Rocky Flats Public Reading Room	Front Range Community College 3645 West 112th Ave. Westminster, CO 80030
New Mexico Tech Library	New Mexico Institute of Mining Socorro, NM 87801