

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
CARLSBAD AREA OFFICE
WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT
P. O. BOX 3090
CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO 88221

DOENEWS:

September 23, 1994

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NM ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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MEDIA ADVISORY

WIPP SYSTEM PRIORITIZATION METHOD WORKSHOP SEPT. 28-29

Regulators, citizens groups and the scientific community will take part in the System Prioritization Method Workshop, to be hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Carlsbad Area Office, Sept. 28-29 in Carlsbad. The media are invited to attend the two-day event, or **schedule interview opportunities with workshop discussion leaders at 5 p.m., Sept. 29.**

The workshop, to take place at Quality Inn, 3706 National Parks Highway, is the second in a series of interactive meetings scheduled through January 1995 in which stakeholders may ask questions, voice concerns and provide suggestions regarding the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant's (WIPP) regulatory compliance process. Implementing DOE Secretary Hazel O'Leary's openness initiative, System Prioritization Method addresses stakeholder concerns early and throughout the WIPP Disposal Decision Plan.

Regulators, stakeholder groups and individuals invited to attend the two-day workshop include the New Mexico Environment Department, the Environmental Evaluation Group, Southwest Research and Information Center, Citizens for Alternatives to Radioactive Dumping, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the New Mexico Attorney General's Office.

A copy of the Workshop agenda can be obtained by calling Jerran L. White, manager of Technical Communications and Media Relations for the Westinghouse Waste Isolation Division, at (505) 234-8658. Please confirm your participation in the Workshop by 4 p.m., Sept. 27.

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