



**Department of Energy**  
 Carlsbad Area Office  
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 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

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*Kathey*

ENVIRONMENTAL

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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Ms. Judith Espinosa  
 Secretary  
 New Mexico Environment Department  
 Camino de Los Marquez #4  
 P.O. Box 26110  
 Santa Fe, NM 87502

Dear Ms. Espinosa:

The CAO has developed a tool for identifying sets of activities such as <sup>2</sup>experiments, <sup>2</sup>modeling, <sup>3</sup>engineering design, and <sup>4</sup>waste acceptance criteria that will lead to a demonstration of compliance with applicable environmental regulations for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). This approach is referred to as the System Prioritization Method (SPM).

The SPM, is designed to:

- Address regulator and stakeholder concerns early and throughout the process of regulatory compliance.
- Lead to a scientifically sound Performance Assessment (PA) used in demonstrating regulatory compliance.
- Use taxpayer dollars in an efficient manner.

I am sending you position papers regarding radionuclide source term, hazardous constituents, and gas generation because the CAO is committed to keeping project stakeholders abreast of pertinent information. These topics will be discussed during a System Prioritization Method Workshop to be held in Carlsbad on December 8 and 9 at the Holiday Inn.

One additional workshop is planned to be held on January 9, 1995 to discuss Non-Salado Fluid Flow. If you have any questions regarding the System Prioritization Method, please contact Mr. Bob Bills of my staff at (505) 234-7481.

Sincerely,

*George E. Dials*  
 George E. Dials  
 Manager

*Enclosure  
not  
found*

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