



Department of Energy

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

JUN 02 1995

*Steve & Set
Binkley K
File WIPP*

WIPP

Dear Colleague:

I am pleased to announce my decision resulting from the recent Systems Prioritization Method (SPM) analyses. The most recent technical and scientific information has been combined with your input provided during the series of SPM stakeholder meetings in 1994 and 1995. Using these inputs with the SPM process has helped the Carlsbad Area Office (CAO) prioritize the information gathering activities necessary to demonstrate compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements for the disposal of Transuranic (TRU) and TRU-mixed wastes.

The following activities have been selected because they provide the optimal combination of information that has a high likelihood of allowing the CAO to demonstrate compliance with the EPA standards, while assuring cost-effective use of limited resources. Many of these activities are already well underway, and all are on schedule to produce the necessary information required to demonstrate the compliance of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) and meet the Disposal Decision Plan.

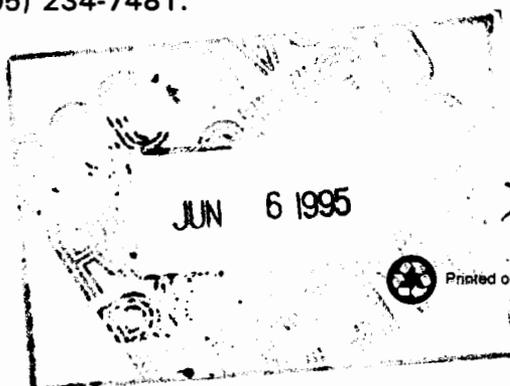
- Concentrations and Transport of Colloid Carriers (NS 8.1)
- Culebra Fracture/Matrix Flow- Laboratory Study (NS 2)
- Multi-Well Tracer Test (NS 4)
- Rock Mechanics (RM 1)
- Studies of Short and Long-Term Shaft Seal Components (SL 4)
- Blowout Releases (DR 2)
- Dissolved Actinide Solubilities for Oxidation States +III to +VI (AST 1.2)
- Chemical Retardation for Th, Np, Pu, U, and Am (NS 7)

These activities will provide the CAO with the information necessary to demonstrate that the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant will provide the nation with a safe means of disposal for TRU and TRU-mixed wastes. This set of activities is the set numbered 27,190 on the WIPP SPM-2 CD-ROM. The individual activity descriptions (NS 8.1, SL 4, etc) are also present on the CD-ROM should you wish additional details regarding the specific work to be completed.

I want to thank you for your participation in the SPM process over the past year. This process has allowed an unprecedented involvement of the stakeholders in an ongoing Department of Energy decision making process. I have valued your input and firmly believe the decision I have made has been enhanced by it.

If you have any questions regarding these activities, please contact Mr. Robert Bills of my staff at (505) 234-7481.

Sincerely,



George E. Dials
George E. Dials
Manager



Colleague

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JUN 02 1995

cc:

M. McFadden, CAO

D. Hurtt, CAO

L. Shephard, SNL, MS #1395