

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

*To Brito
Steve
Are you
going to attend
Beno*

DOENEWS:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED FOR WIPP ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

CARLSBAD, N.M., Oct. 6 -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is extending until Oct. 16, 1995, the public scoping period for a second Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP).

The purpose of the scoping process is to ensure, through public input, that all appropriate topics to be reviewed in the second Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement document are identified.

The DOE's Carlsbad Area Office, which administers the WIPP program, is also holding an additional public scoping session from 7 to 9 p.m., Oct. 11, at the Broomfield Recreation Center, 300 Community Park Drive, Broomfield, Colo. The meeting is in response to a request received by stakeholders in the Denver Metro Area. Public scoping opportunities were previously held Sept. 7-20 in Carlsbad, Albuquerque and Santa Fe, N.M., Denver, Colo., and Boise, Idaho.

The second supplement will update the information contained in the first Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, completed in 1990, and the original 1980 WIPP Environmental Impact Statement. Generally, this study will evaluate new information and any changes related to the environmental impacts of waste characterization, treatment, and certification; packaging and transportation; site operations and waste emplacement; and long-term performance of the repository.

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**Comment Period Extended For WIPP
Environmental Impact Statement**

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Comments should be postmarked no later than Oct. 16. to Harold Johnson, DOE NEPA Compliance Office, c/o Battelle, 200 Randolph Road SE, #105, Albuquerque, NM 87106. Comments may also be faxed to (505) 224-8030.

The WIPP, located 26 miles east of Carlsbad, N.M., is designed to demonstrate the safe, permanent disposal of transuranic radioactive waste left from the production of nuclear weapons. Project facilities include excavated rooms 2,150 feet below the earth's surface in an ancient, stable salt formation.

For more information on the second Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement process or the WIPP, please call the WIPP Information Center, toll free, at 1-800-336-WIPP (9477).

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