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Environmental  
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March 29, 1996

## PRESS ADVISORY

Following is a regional development which may be of interest to you. If you need more information on this subject call the Office of External Affairs at (214) 665-2200.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced the availability of the Compliance Application Guidance (CAG). The CAG is the content and format guide that will assist EPA in determining if the Department of Energy (DOE) has submitted a complete compliance certification application for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP).

The WIPP, located near Carlsbad, New Mexico, is a potential geologic repository for disposal of transuranic (TRU) radioactive waste generated as by-products of nuclear weapons production. The CAG provides DOE with EPA's specific guidelines regarding the format and content of the compliance certification application. The guidance provided in the CAG is within the framework established by EPA's final compliance criteria that provide the basis on which EPA will evaluate compliance with the Agency's radioactive waste disposal regulations. The guidance provided in the CAG is also under the authority of the WIPP Land Withdrawal Act of 1992.

DOE must apply to EPA for approval to dispose of radioactive waste, and, if WIPP is allowed to open, EPA must recertify WIPP's compliance with the disposal standards at five-year intervals thereafter. To obtain a copy of the CAG call EPA's WIPP Information Line at 1-800-331-WIPP and leave your request along with your name and complete mailing address or contact Rafaela Ferguson at 202-233-9362.

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