



DOE Carlsbad Area Office Extends Public Comment Period On WIPP's Estimated Waste Particle Size

The U.S. Department of Energy's Carlsbad Area Office has extended to May 27 the deadline for submittal of written public comments on the waste particle diameter parameter used in the Waste Isolation Pilot (WIPP) Compliance Certification Application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The DOE is conducting an Expert Elicitation on the waste particle diameter parameter May 5-9. A panel of experts will meet at the Pecos River Village Conference Center in Carlsbad to forecast likely sizes of radioactive waste particles that could be released due to a hypothetical borehole intrusion.

The panel members will consider all available information, including public comments, in developing their judgment. The public is invited to make comments to the expert panel on the issue of estimated waste particle size. Although the panel is scheduled to issue its preliminary conclusion by May 12, the DOE will continue to accept written public comments until May 27. The panel will consider any additional written comments received by that date in preparing its final conclusion and report.

To request more information, or to request a copy of the expert panel's preliminary conclusion and/or final report, please call the WIPP Information Center at 1-800-336-WIPP (1-800-366-9477). Written comments should be submitted to:

Ms. Pat Kilgore
U.S. Department of Energy
Carlsbad Area Office
P.O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, NM 88221-3090

Comments may be faxed to (505) 887-5419.



Important Notice to WIPP Stakeholders:

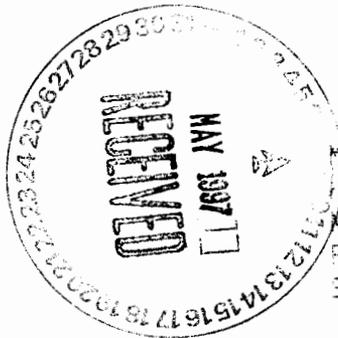
The comment period for the expert elicitation
on the waste particle diameter parameter
has been extended.

See details inside.



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Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

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Questions?

WIPP Information Center
1-800-336-WIPP
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**National Transuranic Waste
Program Home Page**
<http://www.wipp.carlsbad.nm.us>

