



ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION GROUP

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

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October 3, 1997

Mr. Steve Zappe
New Mexico Environment Department
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, NM 87502-6110



Dear Steve:

As you requested, enclosed are the following documents relating to the WQSP monitoring wells from our files.

- Meeting minutes of a May 3, 1994 meeting to determine the location of the six WQSP monitoring wells, prepared by J.J. Cotton, Manager, Westinghouse Environmental Monitoring Program, dated June 6, 1994 (with attachments).
- Letter from NMED to DOE dated April 11, 1994, regarding "Comment on Proposed Environmental Surveillance Wells Constructed to Commercial and DOE/EH-0173T Standards for Monitoring Wells" and with an attachment titled, "NMED/WIPP Issues Concerning Drilling, Placement and Configuration of Proposed Ground Water Monitoring Wells". Unfortunately, only page 1 of the letter is in our files; the other pages are missing. If you have the complete letter in your files, we will appreciate a copy.

It appears that the DOE did not accept the NMED suggestions outlined in the attachment to the NMED April 11, 1994 letter.

- An informal map showing the location of the six WQSP wells.

Please let me know if you need any other information regarding this.

Sincerely,

Lokesh Chaturvedi
Deputy Director

LC:js
Enclosures

*originals filed
under appropriate dates*



File WPCV 12-1
ERAM 1-1
and AGOR 20-2-6
WC 5/9
State of New Mexico

~~LOST~~
Judith Espinosa
Secretary
Ron Curry
Deputy Secretary



ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Bureau

NMED/DOE Oversight
and Environmental Surveillance
WIPP Project Site, P.O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221
1-505-234-8947

April 11, 1994

Mr. Mike McFadden
Carlsbad Area Office
WIPP Site
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

Re: Comment on Proposed Environmental Surveillance Wells Constructed to Commercial and DOE/EH-0173T Standards for Monitoring Wells.

New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) staff at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) concur with the rationale presented in the Transition Plan (DOE/WIPP 94-009) for replacing existing Water Quality Sampling Program (WQSP) wells. NMED/WIPP staff also agree with the need to demonstrate the comparability of existing wells with those constructed to commercial and regulatory standards for monitoring wells. This is especially critical for validating baseline data for radiological and heavy metal constituents. Existing iron-cased wells have corroded to $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2$ or $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_3$, materials that are known to adsorb and appreciably affect analytical measurements of trace quantities of these constituents.

Enclosed are comments regarding the drilling, placement and configuration of proposed environmental surveillance wells. These comments largely reiterate several observations and recommendations previously communicated to the Department of Energy (DOE) Carlsbad Area Office (CAO) in various NMED/AIP technical reports and NMED comments on the Land Management Plan. These reports include:

- "RCRA Facility Assessment for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant" background report (NMED/WIPP 93-001),
- "Assessment of Off-Site Radioactivity Surveillance Systems at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant" (NMED/WIPP 93-002), and
- "Initial Assessment of the Ground Water Monitoring Program at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant" (NMED/WIPP 94-001 in preparation).

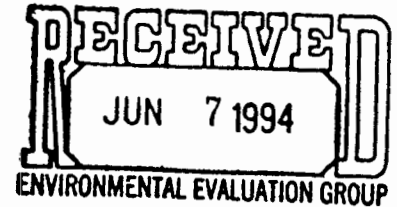
Staff understand the wells are not required under non-DOE regulatory requirements;

COPY



From : Environment, Safety, Health and Regulatory Compliance
WIN : 234-8268
Date : June 6, 1994
Subject: MEETING MINUTES

DA:94:7092



To : R. Neill, EEG

Enclosed are the minutes to the meeting held on May 3, 1994, to discuss the location of six proposed new monitoring wells. Your participation and willingness to contribute ideas and concerns during the meeting was greatly appreciated.

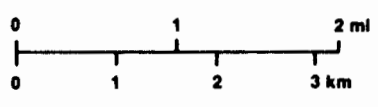
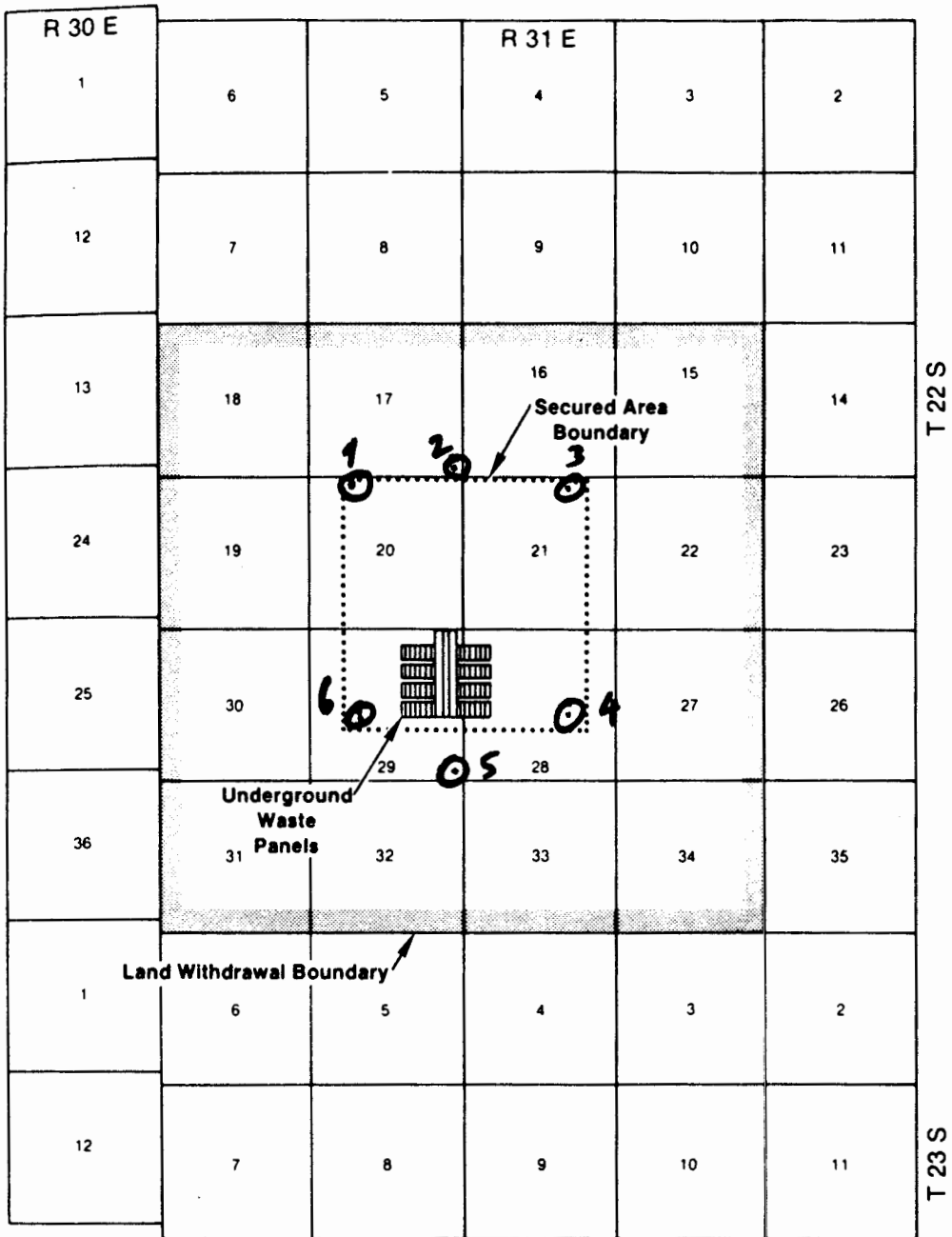
Thank you for taking time out of your evening and please feel free to contact me at Extension 8268, if I can be of further assistance.

J. J. Cotton, Manager
Environmental Monitoring

mw

Enclosures

New Monitoring Wells



TRI-6330-6-4

Figure 1-2. Position of the WIPP waste panels relative to WIPP boundaries and surveyed section lines (US DOE, 1989).