



**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CENTER**  
A Division of The National Safety Council  
1025 Connecticut Avenue, NW • Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20036  
<http://www.nsc.org/ehc>

October 17, 1997

Steve Zappe  
RCRA Permit Writer  
New Mexico Environment Department  
Hazardous Materials  
2044 Galisteo  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Dear Mr. Zappe:

I'm writing to invite a representative from NMED to participate in two informational meetings that the National Safety Council is sponsoring in December. We will hold evening meetings in Roswell and Albuquerque on December 8 and 9, 1997 respectively.

The objective of the meetings is to educate 20-25 individuals on the regulatory process related to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). There will be speakers from each regulatory agency presenting at the meeting including the U.S. EPA, U.S. DOT, NRC and the New Mexico Radiological Task Force. We hope an appropriate representative from NMED can make a brief (5-10 minute) presentation on the RCRA permitting process and then answer a few questions afterwards.

The 20-25 individuals will be drawn from pools of librarians, teachers, health professionals, emergency service organizations, etc. These individuals may not have much knowledge on WIPP but may be asked questions about issues related to WIPP through their professions. Our goal is to educate these individuals on the regulatory process and also to provide them with resources and contacts to refer individuals to if questions arise in the future. The meetings will also include a training component which will instruct people on effective ways of communicating with the public on controversial issues. We hope that after these meetings the participants will be able to serve as resource contacts in their communities.

Please free to contact me at 202-974-2487 if you have any questions. If you are not available, I hope that you can send a colleague in your place. Thanks for you consideration.

Sincerely,  
  
Kimberly C. McCauley  
Senior Program Leader