

State of New Mexico  
Environment Department  
Hazardous and Radioactive  
Materials Bureau

7:56 pm Tuesday, May 19, 1998  
2404 South Silver  
Denning, N.M. 88030

2044 Talistes 505-827-1557  
P.O. Box 26110 1561  
Santa Fe, N.M. 87502

Attention Mr. Steve Zappe:

Dear Sirs:

I am devastated that you are planning  
to start filling WIPP with radioactive  
waste. If you have a hearing, please  
play my song on this enclosed tape. It  
pretty well condenses why we shouldn't  
let WIPP fill with nuclear waste:

"The DOE paid Westinghouse  
to dig a hole in the ground  
Twenty-six miles from Carlsbad,  
A tourists' New Mexico town.  
But there's brine under pressure below it,  
And Karst to let water in above  
so it can't be a safe repository  
for plutonium waste and crud!

There's better things to do  
than take a chance on that salt bed tomb  
that may pollute the Rio Grande  
and seal Carlsbad Caverns, too.  
The smallest speck of plutonium  
can start a cancer in you,  
Let's not kill off our progeny  
for jobs that will soon be through!

(over)

980550



Let them store nuclear waste above ground  
At the site where it earned the Big Buck.  
They can check every cask and replace it  
to keep it a safe-sealed muck.  
No trucks will have to transport it  
So our roads will be safer, too,  
And we won't have to close the Caverns down  
In 2492! (Two thousand four nine two -

Besides the mentioned water access  
that would seep diluted nuclear waste to the  
surface, run into the intertwining salt/dry  
pond, and eventually to the Rio Grande,  
how have you solved the possibility  
of future oil well drilling that could  
quash the solution to the surface 2000 or 3000  
years from now when people don't remember  
what's buried there?

I won't be around to cope with  
the mess you are about to create, and  
probably you won't, either. But does that  
give us the right to wish this  
future annihilation on our great, great  
grandchildren?

Please do read this and play  
the tape <sup>there</sup> if you have a public hearing.  
I am as hard working in retirement  
as I was teaching school  
time to come to Santa Fe or elsewhere  
to voice my opinion.

Yours sincerely  
Virginia B. Hallock

