

WIPPER



2175 Tasman Av
Idaho Falls, ID 83404
208-529-5605
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Dr. Robert S. Dinwiddie,
Manager, RCRA Permits Program
Hazardous and Radioactive Materials Office
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Dr. Dinwiddie:

The draft RCRA Part B permit for operation of the WIPP proposes many requirements that are more stringent than those required by the EPA for burial of mixed plutonium waste at the WIPP, and totally unnecessary from any health and safety standpoint.

The requirement for certification of the generator sites by New Mexico, after that has been already done by DOE and EPA, the extra analyses required, the prohibition of even minor amounts of free liquids, the demand for overpacking of the drums, etc., all seem designed to raise the cost to the nation's taxpayers and to delay the project.

There is no reason why New Mexico should feel put upon by accepting any kind of waste in a 200 million year old salt cavern half a mile deep in the ground. I hope that DOE will vigorously contest this permit as it now stands.

cc: DOE/Carlsbad

John E. Tanner, Jr.

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