



State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

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GARY E. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

PETER MAGGIORE
Secretary

August 20, 1998

Ray Schmidt
Route 6, Box 150-B
Santa Fe, NM 87501-8449

RE: Request to Extend Public Comment Period, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Hazardous Waste Draft Permit.

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has received your request to extend the public comment period for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) hazardous waste draft permit. NMED appreciates the time you have taken to be involved in the public process for the WIPP draft permit.

NMED received numerous comments concerning the WIPP draft permit. NMED will review each comment and may revise the WIPP draft permit to incorporate appropriate comments. NMED will provide public notice regarding any revisions to the WIPP draft permit and will make any revisions available for public review and comment. In addition, NMED will inform you at a later date of any decision to hold a public hearing.

The ninety (90) day public comment period noticed on May 15, 1998 closed on August 14, 1998. NMED has determined that no extension to the comment period is necessary. However, as explained above, you will have further opportunity for public comment upon revision of the WIPP draft permit.

If you have any questions, please call Susan McMichael at (505) 827-0127.

Sincerely,

Ed Kelley, Director
Water and Waste Management Division

cc: Susan McMichael, NMED OGC
WIPP File - Red '98

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