



Department of Energy

Carlsbad Area Office
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221
March 12, 1999

ENTERED

Received

MAR 15 1999
Energy, Environment & Natural
Resources Department
Office of the Secretary

Mr. Chris Wentz, Coordinator
NM Radioactive Waste Consultation
Task Force
2040 Pacheco St.
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Dear Mr. Wentz:

In accordance with commitments to the State of New Mexico, tribal governments, and the Western Governors' Association, the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Carlsbad Area Office (CAO) is providing an update to its 14-day notification (issued on March 1, 1999) of the first shipment to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) on the established shipment corridor from the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL).

We have completed a hearing in the District of Columbia District Court, and are awaiting the judge's ruling on the matter. We expect him to rule no later than March 23, 1999, and therefore anticipate that the first shipment of non-mixed transuranic waste will occur no later than March 26, 1999. The 16 subsequent shipments from LANL will continue thereafter at the rate of one shipment per week.

As with all WIPP shipments, the DOE's Transportation Tracking and Communication System (TRANSCOM, supplemented by electronic mail) will provide updates of the "Rolling Eight-Week Schedule," including the "7-day Pre-notification" of each shipment. The enclosure provides detailed information about this shipment.

Thank you for your continued support in making the WIPP transportation program a success. If you have any additional questions concerning this notification or other WIPP programs, please contact me at (505) 234-7300.

Sincerely,


Keith A. Klein
Acting Manager

Enclosure



Initial Notice of Shipment
(10 CFR 71.97)

Shipper University of California
Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL)
P. O. Box 1663
MS J-594
Los Alamos, NM 87545
505-665-5291

Carrier CAST Transportation, Inc.
9850 Havana
Henderson, CO 80640-8443
800-353-6377

Receiver Westinghouse Electric Company
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
370 WIPP Road
Carlsbad, NM 88221
505-885-6883

Typical Transportation Information

Proper Shipping Name: Radioactive Material, n.o.s.; 7; UN2982

Additional Description: Pu238
Solid, Elemental
~ 0.4 Tera-bequerels (~ 11.73 curies) per package
Fissile Excepted
Radioactive Yellow II Label
TI=0.4 minimum

Point of Origin: Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM
Period: Beginning no later than March 26, 1999, and continuing for 17 total shipments.

Destination: Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, Carlsbad, NM
Period: Beginning no later than March 26, 1999, and continuing for 17 total shipments.

Points of Contact for current shipment information:

George Vigil	505-665-5291
Keith Lacy	505-667-2980
LANL 24-hour Number	505-667-7080
Central Monitoring Room Operator	505-885-6883 or 505-234-8457/8125