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MEMORANDUM

To: Steve Zappe, HRMB
Through: Marcy Leavitt, Chief GWQB
From: Clint Marshall, Geologist, GWQB
Subject: WIPP Biennial Environmental Compliance Report
Date: April 9, 1999

Pursuant to Water Quality Control Commission Regulation 3104 (20 NMAC 6.2.3104), the Department of Energy is required to have an approved discharge plan for the discharge of domestic effluent and non-hazardous brine waters to a series of synthetically lined evaporation lagoons at the WIPP site. The non-hazardous brine waters are generated from mine dewatering activities, pumping of groundwater wells and other non-hazardous sources.

The discharge plan was first approved on January 16, 1992 and renewed on July 3, 1997. As a requirement for discharge plan approval, the WIPP must submit quarterly monitoring reports for nitrogen species, total dissolved solids, and several radioactive elements. To date, all monitoring reports have been submitted on time and the WIPP is in compliance with all conditions and requirements of their discharge permit.

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