



Department of Energy
Carlsbad Field Office
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

March 16, 2009

Mr. Jonathan Edwards
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Radiation and Indoor Air
Room 507
1310 L Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

Subject: Notification of Implementation of the 1.2 Excess Factor for Magnesium Oxide
Emplacement at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

Dear Mr. Edwards:

This letter is to provide notification that implementation of the 1.2 excess factor for Magnesium Oxide (MgO) emplacement at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) will begin on March 20, 2009. Implementation of the 1.2 excess factor will begin in Panel 4, Room 2.

In accordance with the EPA approval letter of February 11, 2008, the DOE will continue to:

- calculate and track both the carbon disposed and the required MgO needed on a room-by-room basis
- annually verify the reactivity of the MgO and ensure that it is maintained at 96% +/- 2%

If you have any questions, please contact me at (575) 234-7457.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell Patterson".

R. L. Patterson
Compliance Certification Manager

cc:
D. Moody, CBFO *ED
V. Daub, CBFO ED
G. Basabilvazo, CBFO ED
C. Byrum, EPA ED
T. Peak, EPA ED
N. Stone, EPA ED
CBFO M&RC
*ED denotes electronic distribution